FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 OMB APPROVAL
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| hours per response: | 0.5 |
| | |

| 1. Name and Addre | ess of Reporting Perso | on* | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INC / MA [VRTX] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------|--|--|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/23/2003 | A below) below) below) President |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) |
| (City) (State) | | (Zip) | | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Code (| | 4. Securities Disposed Of 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---|---|---|
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
| Common Stock | 07/23/2003 | | М | | 3,800 | A | 7.88 | 107,454 | D | |
| Common Stock | 07/23/2003 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | | 3,800 | D | 15.7 | 103,654 | D ⁽²⁾ | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transa Code (8) | | of Deri Secu Acq (A) o Disp of (E (Inst | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------|--|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Stock Option | 7.88 | 07/23/2003 | | М | | | 3,800 | 03/31/1994 ⁽³⁾ | 11/30/2003 | Common Stock | 3,800 | \$ <u>0</u> | 1,247,500 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Transaction made pursuant to Dr. Sato's company approved trading plan established under Rule 10b5-1.

2. Includes 7,046 (I) shares 401(k).

3. Right to buy under 1991 Stock and Option Plan, vesting in 20 equal quarterly installments from 12/01/1993.

Valerie L. Andrews, Attorney-In-Fact 07/24/2003

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

 \ast If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).