FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPRO              | JVAL      |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:            | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burd | en        |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:    | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  SATO VICKI L  (Last) (First) (Middle)  C/O VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED  130 WAVERLY STREET |   |  |  |         | V                                | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INC / MA [ VRTX ] |   |            |                         |   |                    |  |   |  |           | eck all applic<br>Directo<br>Officer                | ationship of Reporting<br>k all applicable)<br>Director<br>Officer (give title<br>below)                         |   | on(s) to Iss<br>10% Ov<br>Other (s<br>below)                             | vner  |
|--|---|--|--|---------|----------------------------------|--|---|------------|-------------------------|---|--------------------|--|---|--|-----------|---|--|---|--|---|
|  |   |  |  |         |                                  | Date o   |   | est Trar   | nsact                   | tion (Mo                                | onth/E             | ay/Year)   |   | ,                                      | President |   |  |   |  |   |
|  |   |  |  |         | - 4. li                          | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                             |   |            |                         |   |                    |  |   |  | Line      | ·   |  |   |  |   |
| (Street)  CAMBRIDGE MA 02139   |   |  |  |         |                                  |  |   |            |                         |   |                    |  |   |  |           | Form f  | Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting  Person                                |   |  |   |
| (City)   | (S  | itate)                                     | (Zip)  |         |                                  |  |   |            |                         |   |                    |  |   |  |           |   |  |   |  |   |
|  |   | Tab  | le I - No                                      | n-Deriv | vativ                            | e Se   | curit   | ies A      | cqu                     | ired,                                   | Dis                | osed o   | f, o  | r Ben                                  | eficial   | y Owned   |  |   |  |   |
| Date   |   |  |  | Date    | ransaction<br>e<br>nth/Day/Year) |  | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |            | е,                      | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |                    | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3,<br>5) |   |  |           | Benefici<br>Owned                                   | es<br>ally<br>Following  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |
|  |   |  |  |         |                                  |  |   |            |                         | Code                                    | v                  | Amount   |   | (A) or<br>(D)                          | Price     | Reporte<br>Transac<br>(Instr. 3                     | tion(s)  |   |  | (Instr. 4)  |
| Common Stock 12/2:   |   |  |  | 12/2    | 9/200                            | /2004  |   |            |                         | M                                       |                    | 7,000  | ) A :   |  | \$9.5     | 115   | 115,108  |   | D  |   |
| Common Stock 12/29   |   |  |  | 9/200   | /2004                            |  |   |            | <b>S</b> <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 7,000 D            |  | D   | \$10.6                                 | 108,108   |   |  | D   |  |   |
| Common   | Common Stock  |  |  |         |                                  |  |   |            |                         |   |                    |  |   |  |           | 8,  | 084  |   | I  | 401(k)  |
|  |   | -  | Table II -                                     |         |                                  |  |   |            |                         |   |                    | sed of,<br>onvertil  |   |  |           | Owned   |  |   |  |   |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deeme<br>Execution<br>if any<br>(Month/Day | Date,   |                                  | ransaction<br>Code (Instr.   |   | of E       |                         | Date Exe<br>Diration I<br>Donth/Day     | Date               |  | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Sec<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |  | Security  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Numbe<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | e<br>s<br>lly   | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)               |
|  |   |  |  | Cod     | Code                             | v  |   | Dat<br>Exe | e<br>ercisable          |   | expiration<br>Date | Title  |   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |           |   |  |   |  |   |
| Stock  | \$9.5   | 12/29/2004                                 |  |         | M                                |  |   | 7,000      | 03/1                    | 14/1996 <sup>0</sup>                    | (2)                | 2/13/2005  | Con   | nmon                                   | 7,000     | \$0   | 1,034,8  | 19  | D  |   |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Transaction made pursuant to Dr. Sato's company approved trading plan established under Rule 10b5-1.
- 2. Right to buy under 1994 Stock and Option Plan, vesting quarterly over 5 years from 12/14/1995.

## Remarks:

Kenneth S. Boger, Attorney-In-12/30/2004

**Fact** 

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.