## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Check this box if no longer subject to<br>Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 | STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP                           |
|--|--|
| obligations may continue. See  |  |
| Instruction 1(b).  | Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 |

| OMB APP                  | ROVAL     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response       | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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                              |  |  |      | VI      | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INC / MA [ VRTX ] |   |                |                                   |                  |  |                    |                     |  | (Check all ap  |   | licable)                                   | ,  | erson(s) to Issuer  10% Owner Other (specify                      |   |  |
|---|--|--|------|---------|--|---|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|--|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED                     |  |  |      |         |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/06/2004 |                |                                   |                  |  |                    |                     |  |  | X Officer (give title Offier (specify below)  President |  |  |   |   |  |
| 130 WAVERLY STREET  (Street)  CAMBRIDGE MA 02139                                    |  |  |      | 4. If   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                             |   |                |                                   |                  |  |                    |                     |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |  |  |   |   |  |
| (City)  | (  |  | Zip) | n-Deriv | ative  | So  | curitie        |                                   | nuired           | Die  | nosed o            | of or               | Rene   | aficia   | ally C  | )wne                                       |  |   |   |  |
| Table I - Non-Deriva  1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date) |  |  |      | action  | tion 2A. Deemed Execution Date   |   | ned<br>n Date, | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr. |                  | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4<br>5) |                    |                     |  | or 5. Am<br>4 and Secul<br>Bene  |   | ount of<br>ities<br>icially<br>d 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                |  |                    | (A) or<br>(D)       | Price  | Trans  |   | action(s)<br>3 and 4)                      |  |   | (Instr. 4)  |  |
| Common Stock 05/06/2  |  |  |      | /2004   | 2004   |   | A              |                                   | 87,500(1)        |  | A                  | \$ <mark>0</mark> . | \$0.01   |  | 88,108  | D  |  |   |   |  |
| Common Stock  |  |  |      |         |  |   |                |                                   |                  |  |                    |                     | 7,125  |  | I   |  | 401(k)   |   |   |  |
|   | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |  |      |         |  |   |                |                                   |                  |  |                    |                     |  |  |   |  |  |   |   |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                                 | rivative Conversion Date Execution Date, curity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any  |  |      |         |  | Transaction Code (Instr. 3)                                 |                | of E                              |                  | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year)   |                    |                     | tle and<br>ount of<br>urities<br>erlying<br>vative<br>urity (Ins<br>4) | str. 3   |   |  | 9. Number o<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |   | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|   |  |  |      |         | Code   | v   | (A)            | (D)                               | Date<br>Exercisa |  | Expiration<br>Date | Title               | or<br>Nun<br>of  | nber   |   |  |  |   |   |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. Stock grant made under 1996 Stock and Option Plan, vesting 50% on May 6, 2009, subject to acceleration upon achievement of a performance-based milestone based on Company profitability, and 50% on May 6, 2007.

## Remarks:

Valerie L. Andrews, Attorney-

05/10/2004

In-Fact

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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

- \* 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.