NOVARTIS AG Form 4 August 23, 2010

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

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OMB APPROVAL

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5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

NOVARTIS AG			Symbol IDENIX PHARMACEUTICALS INC [IDIX]						Issuer (Check all applicable)				
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	(Month/D	- -					Director 10% Owner Officer (give titleX Other (specify below)				
LICHSTRASSE 35			08/23/2010						Indirect 10% Owner				
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)						6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Form filed by One Reporting Person				
BASEL, V8	CH 4002								_X_ Form filed by Person	More than One R	eporting		
(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned													
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction D (Month/Day/Yea	r) Execution	ned n Date, if Day/Year)	3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or Code V Amount (D) Price				of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)			
Common Stock	08/23/2010			P		36,048	A	\$ 2.41	31,360,235	I	See footnote (1)		
Common Stock	08/23/2010			P		262	A	\$ 2.96	31,360,497	I	See footnote (1)		
Common Stock	08/23/2010			P		91	A	\$ 3.04	31,360,588	I	See footnotes (1)		
Common Stock	08/23/2010			P		813	A	\$ 3.79	31,361,401	I	See footnote (1)		

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

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

1. Title o	f 2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	7. Title	e and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivativ	e Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Year) Execution Date, if		onNumber	Expiration Date		Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	(Year)	Underl	lying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivativ	e		Securit	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities	3		(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	·				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	or		
									Number		
									of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

NOVARTIS AG

LICHSTRASSE 35 Indirect 10% Owner

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NOVARTIS PHARMA AG

LICHSTRASSE 35 X

BASEL, V8 CH 4002

Signatures

/s/ Ramon

Zapata-Gomez 08/23/2010

**Signature of Reporting Date

Person

/s/ Felix Eichhorn 08/23/2010

**Signature of Reporting Date

Person

Explanation of Responses:

* 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).

(1)

Reporting Owners 2

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These securities are owned directly by Novartis Pharma AG, a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Novartis AG. Novartis AG is an indirect beneficial owner of these securities. See attachment.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.