FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

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 APPRC | VAL |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
| Estimated average burde | en |
| hours per response: | 0.5 |

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* | | | | suer Name and Ticke ESTCOR PH | 0 | ymbol <u>UTICALS INC</u> [| 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------|--------------|---|----------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|--|--|
| <u>PALEFSKY HOWARD D</u> | | | QSO | | | <u> </u> | X | Director | 10% | Owner | | |
| (Last) (First) 2500 SAND HILL ROAD, SUITE | | | | 1 | | 1 | Officer (give title below) | Other below | (specify | | | |
| | | (Middle) | | te of Earliest Transa | ction (Month/E | | below) | Delow | ') | | | |
| 2500 SAND HIL | LL ROAD, SUITI | £ 215 | 01/0 | 1/2005 | | | | | | | | |
| , (Street) | | | 4. If . | Amendment, Date of | Original Filed | (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indi Line) | vidual or Joint/Grou | p Filing (Check A | Applicable | | |
| MENLO PARK | CA | 94025 | | | | | X | Form filed by On | e Reporting Pers | son | | |
| (City) (State) | | (Zip) | | | | | | Form filed by Mo Person | ore than One Rep | porting | | |
| | . , | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Т | able I - Noi | n-Derivative | Securities Acq | uired, Disp | osed of, or Benefi | cially | Owned | | | | |
| 1 | (, , , ,) | | | | | | | | | | | |

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | Transaction Code (Instr. | | 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) | | (1130.4) | |

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

| | (e.g., puts, cans, 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) | | 5. Numb of Derivati Securiti Acquire (A) or Dispose of (D) (II 3, 4 and | ed ed nstr. | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 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 (Right to Buy) ⁽¹⁾ | \$0.53 | 01/01/2005 | | Α | | 15,000 | | (2) | 12/31/2014 | Common Stock | 15,000 | (1) | 15,000 | D | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) ⁽¹⁾ | \$0.53 | 01/01/2005 | | Α | | 10,000 | | (3) | 12/31/2014 | Common Stock | 10,000 | (1) | 10,000 | D | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) ⁽¹⁾ | \$0.53 | 01/01/2005 | | A | | 7,500 | | (3) | 12/31/2014 | Common Stock | 7,500 | (1) | 7,500 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Options granted under the Questcor Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 2004 Non-Employee Director Equity Incentive Plan.

2. Options vest monthly over 48 months from the date of grant.

3. Options vest 100% at time of grant.

/s/ Howard D. Palefsky

** Signature of Reporting Person

01/04/2005

Date

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.