

Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
 Form 4
 March 20, 2017

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Gerst Diane G.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
 [AMPH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 03/16/2017

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
 EVP, QA & Regulatory Affairs

C/O AMPHASTAR
 PHARMACEUTICALS,
 INC., 11570 6TH STREET

(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
 ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

RANCHO
 CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

(City) (State) (Zip)

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)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	03/16/2017		A	10,861 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	37,056	D
Common Stock	03/17/2017		F	1,194 ⁽²⁾	\$ 13.75	35,862	D

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 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.35	03/16/2017		A	27,088	⁽³⁾ 03/16/2027	Common Stock	27,088

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Gerst Diane G. C/O AMPHASTAR PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 11570 6TH STREET RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730			EVP, QA & Regulatory Affairs	

Signatures

/s/ Ken Stupak, by power of attorney
03/20/2017

__Signature of Reporting Person Date

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) The reported shares are represented by restricted stock units, or RSUs, which vest in four equal annual installments beginning on March 16, 2018.
- (2) The reported shares were withheld to satisfy the reporting person's tax liability in connection with the vesting of RSUs.
- (3) Shares subject to the option vest in four equal annual installments beginning on March 16, 2018.

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.