

AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS INC
 Form 3
 March 17, 2008

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
 OMB Number: 3235-0104
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * | | | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | |
| Â MEDAREX INC | | | (Month/Day/Year) | AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS INC [AVAN] | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 03/07/2008 | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |
| 707 STATE ROAD | | | | (Check all applicable) | |
| (Street) | | | | ___ Director | ___X___ 10% Owner |
| PRINCETON,Â NJÂ 08540 | | | | ___ Officer | ___ Other |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | (give title below) | (specify below) |
| | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) |
| | | | | | __X__ Form filed by One Reporting Person |
| | | | | | ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock | 5,312,539 ⁽¹⁾ | D | Â |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

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 control number.

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| | Date Exercisable | Title | Amount or Number of | | |

Shares (I)
(Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| MEDAREX INC 707 STATE ROAD PRINCETON, NJ 08540 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/Christian Scade, CFO on behalf of
Medarex, Inc. 03/14/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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).

The Board of Directors of AVANT Immunotherapeutics, Inc., approved a 1-for 12 reverse stock split of AVANT's common stock, which became effective as of March 7, 2008. As a result of the reverse stock split, each twelve shares of AVANT common stock were combined (1) and reclassified into one share of AVANT common stock. The number of shares reported on this form is reflected on a post-split basis. The common stock will trade under the symbol "AVAND" for 20 trading days beginning on March 10, 2008 to designate that it is trading on a post-reverse split basis, and will remain trading under the symbol "AVAN" after the 20-day period has expired.

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.