FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| Check this box if no longer subject to<br>Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5<br>obligations may continue. See<br>Instruction 1(b). |
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## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

**OMB APPROVAL** OMB Number: 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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person*  Khan Fazal R.  ———————————————————————————————————  |   |            |   |            |   | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol  MERRIMACK PHARMACEUTICALS  INC [ MACK ] |     |  |                    |   |   |  | of Reporting<br>cable)<br>or<br>(give title  | g Perso | on(s) to Issu<br>10% Ow<br>Other (sp                                     | ner  |  |
|--|---|------------|---|------------|---|---|-----|--|--------------------|---|---|--|--|---------|--|--|--|
| C/O MERRIMACK PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.  |   |            |   |            | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/23/2012 |   |     |  |                    |   |   | X Officer (give title Other (specify below) SVP of Manufacturing |  |         |  |  |  |
| ONE KENDALL SQUARE, SUITE B7201  |   |            |   |            | If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)       |   |     |  |                    |   |   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable            |  |         |  |  |  |
| (Street) CAMBRIDGE MA 02139  |   |            |   |            |   |   |     |  |                    |   | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |  |  |         |  |  |  |
| (City)   | (S  | tate)      | (Zip)   |            |   |   |     |  |                    |   |   | 1 61301  | '  |         |  |  |  |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned   |   |            |   |            |   |   |     |  |                    |   |   |  |  |         |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date)  |   |            |   |            | Execution Date,   |   |     | Code (Instr. 5)  |                    |   | ed (A) or<br>tr. 3, 4 and   | Beneficia  | s Form<br>ally (D) o<br>ollowing (I) (Ir   |         | n: Direct<br>or Indirect<br>nstr. 4)                                     | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)  |  |
|  |   |            |   |            |   |   |     | Code V   | Amount             | (A) or (D)  | Price   | Transact<br>(Instr. 3 a  | on(s)  |         | "  | nstr. 4)   |  |
| 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)  | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security |            | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Code (Inst |   |   |     | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and Amount<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)              | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficiall<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | ly      | 10.<br>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>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares  |  |  |         |  |  |  |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)   | \$7.53  | 08/23/2012 |   | A          |   | 75,000  |     | (1)  | 08/22/2022         | Common<br>Stock   | 75,000  | \$0  | 75,000   | )       | D  |  |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. This option vests as to 1/12th of the total number of shares on 11/23/12 and an additional 1/12th of the total number of shares at the end of each successive three month period thereafter until 8/23/15.

/s/ Jeffrey A. Munsie, attorney-08/27/2012 in-fact

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person 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.