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. See
Instruction 1(b).

## 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*     GAMMANS RICHARD E SR						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MEDICINOVA INC [ MNOV ]							5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner  Officer (give title Other (speci			
(Last) (First) (Middle) 4350 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, SUITE 950					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/30/2009							helow)		pmei	below)	:pecity
(Street) SAN DIEGO CA 92122 (City) (State) (Zip)				4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)							Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ne)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date)				ate	Execution Date,			Code (Ins	4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 5)  Amount (A) or (D)			Beneficia Owned F Reported Transact	s ally following I ion(s)	,		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
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. Conversi or Exerci Price of Derivativ Security		3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date if any (Month/Day/Ye	Cod	nsactio le (Insti			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 derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	ly	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Cod	le V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiratior Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares					
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$2.2	01/30/2009		A		60,000		(1)	01/29/2019	Common Stock	60,000	\$0	60,000	)	D	

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. The option vests over a four (4) year period commencing January 30, 2009, in equal monthly installments.

/s/ Shintaro Asako, Attorney-

02/03/2009 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.