FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, | D.C. | 20549 |
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|-------------|------|-------|

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

|   | OMB APPROVAL             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| F | OMB Number: 3235-0287    |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Estimated average burden |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | hours per response:      | 0.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

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*     IWAKI YUICHI  |   |            |                  |                              |               | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MEDICINOVA INC [ MNOV ]  |   |  |                    |   |  |                        |  | Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)     X Director 10% Owner |  |                                       |  |            |  |
|---|---|------------|------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--|---|--|--------------------|---|--|------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|------------|--|
| ı   | DICINOVA  | ,          | (Middle)         |                              |               | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/09/2021  |   |  |                    |   |  |                        |  |   | Officer (circa title Other (creatify                                   |                                       |  |            |  |
| (Street) LA JOLI (City)   |   | tate)      | 92037<br>(Zip)   |                              | _             | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)      5. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicate)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |  |                    |   |  |                        |  |   |  | on                                    |  |            |  |
| 4 700 - 66  | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned  1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transaction 2. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) or 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of |            |                  |                              |               |  |   |  |                    |   |  |                        |  |   |  |                                       |  |            |  |
| Date  |   |            | Date<br>(Month/I |                              | ay/Year) if a |  | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |  | Transaction Dispos |   | ties Acquired (A) o<br>d Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 |                        | 5. Amoun<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned Fo   | i<br>Ily  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)      |                                       | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |            |  |
|   |   |            |                  |                              |               |  |   |  |                    | v   | Amount                                       | (A) or<br>(D)          | Price  | Transaction (Instr. 3 and   |  |                                       |  | (Instr. 4) |  |
| Common Stock 07/09/2  |   |            |                  |                              | 9/2021        | 1  |   |  | М                  |   | 39,583                                       | В А                    | \$2.54   | 966,  | 933  |                                       | D  |            |  |
| Common Stock  |   |            |                  |                              |               |  |   |  |                    |   |  | 125,                   | 125,000  |   | 1 1  | See<br>Footnote <sup>(1)</sup>        |  |            |  |
|   | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)  |            |                  |                              |               |  |   |  |                    |   |  |                        |  |   |  |                                       |  |            |  |
| 1. Title of Derivative Conversion or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of Derivative Security  1. Title of Date Conversion of Exercise Price of Derivative Security  2. Conversion Date (Month/Day/Year)  3. Transaction Date Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) |   |            | Date,            | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |               | n of   |   | 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) |  | Derivative<br>Security | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) |   | 10.<br>Ownershi<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4 | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |            |  |
|   |   |            |                  |                              | Code          | v  | (A)   | (D)  | Date<br>Exercisa   | able  | Expiration<br>Date                           | Title                  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares   |   |  |                                       |  |            |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)  | \$2.54  | 07/09/2021 |                  |                              | М             |  |   | 39,583   | (2)                |   | 07/12/2021                                   | Common<br>Stock        | 39,583   | \$0   | 0  |                                       | D  |            |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. The reported securities are held by the Iwaki Family Limited Partnership. The reporting person is the general partner of the partnership that owns the reported securities. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the reported securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- 2. The option vested over a period of 4 years in equal monthly installments from the 7/13/2011 date of grant and is now fully vested.

/s/ Yuichi Iwaki

07/23/2021

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- $^{\star}$  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.