FORM 4

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

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Vashington, | D.C. | 20549 |  |
|-------------|------|-------|--|
|             |      |       |  |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

| OMB APPROVAL             |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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|  |        |   |                                 |                                 | <u> </u>  | 000.0           |     | ., 0                                |                   |  | ipariy Act         | 0. 20.0           |   |  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
|--|--------|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|-----------------|-----|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--|--------------------|-------------------|---|--|-------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Nagao Hideki   |        |   |                                 |                                 | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MEDICINOVA INC [ MNOV ] |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) |  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
|  |        |   |                                 |                                 | million [ million ]   |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   | 7   | C Director   | r           |  | 10% Ov                                | vner         |   |
| (Last)   | `      | ,   | (Middle)                        |                                 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/06/2020         |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   | 1   | Officer<br>below)  | (give title |  | Other (s<br>below)                    | pecify       |   |
| C/O MEDICINOVA, INC.   |        |   |                                 |                                 |   |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   |   |  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
| 4275 EXECUTIVE SQUARE, SUITE 300   |        |   |                                 |                                 | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)            |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   |   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
| (Street)   |        |   |                                 |                                 |   |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   |   |  |             | led by One   | Repo                                  | orting Perso | n |
| LA JOLI  | LA C   | A   | 92037                           |                                 |   |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person                            |  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
| (City)   | (S     | tate)   | (Zip)                           |                                 |   |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   |   |  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned   |        |   |                                 |                                 |   |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   |   |  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
| Date   |        |   | 2. Transac<br>Date<br>(Month/Da | Execution Date,                 |   | Code (Instr. 5) |     |                                     |                   |  |                    | Form<br>ly (D) or |   | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
|  |        |   |                                 |                                 |   |                 |     | Code                                | v                 | Amount   | (A) or<br>(D) Pi   |                   | Price   | Transact<br>(Instr. 3  | tion(s)     |  |                                       | (Instr. 4)   |   |
| Common Stock 08/06   |        |   | 08/06/                          | i/2020                          |   | М               |     | 15,00                               | 15,000 A S        |  | \$2.58             | 16,000            |   |  | D           |  |                                       |              |   |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |        |   |                                 |                                 |   |                 |     |                                     |                   |  |                    |                   |   |  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
| Derivative Conversion Date Execution Security or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any  |        | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Da<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/ | ate, Tra                        | te, Transaction<br>Code (Instr. |   | n of            |     | Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                   | 7. Title and Amoun<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                    | curity            | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)                     | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | i<br>illy   | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |              |   |
|  |        |   |                                 | Co                              | de V  | ,               | (A) |                                     | Date<br>Exercisal |  | expiration<br>Date | Title             | or<br>Nu<br>of  | ımber  |             |  |                                       |              |   |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to   | \$2.58 | 08/06/2020  |                                 | N                               | И   |                 |     | 15,000                              | 10/15/20          | 13 1   | 0/14/2023          | Commo<br>Stock    | n 15  | 5,000  | \$0         | 0  |                                       | D            |   |

**Explanation of Responses:** 

/s/ Yuichi Iwaki, attorney-in-

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

fact

08/07/2020

Date

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

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.

<sup>\*</sup> If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).