

VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INC / MA
 Form 4
 December 16, 2004

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 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 *
 SATO VICKI L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INC / MA [VRTX]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)
 Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 President

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 C/O VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED, 130 WAVERLY STREET

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/15/2004

(Street)
 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount Price			
Common Stock	12/15/2004		M	7,000 A \$ 9.5	115,108	D	
Common Stock	12/15/2004		S ⁽¹⁾	7,000 D \$ 11.32	108,108	D	
Common Stock					8,084	I	401(k)

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

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(9-02)

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. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option	\$ 9.5	12/15/2004		M	7,000	03/14/1996 ⁽²⁾ 12/13/2005	Common Stock	7,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SATO VICKI L C/O VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED 130 WAVERLY STREET CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139			President	

Signatures

Valerie L. Andrews, 12/16/2004
Attorney-In-Fact

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) Transaction made pursuant to Dr. Sato's company approved trading plan established under Rule 10b5-1.
- (2) Right to buy under 1994 Stock and Option Plan, vesting quarterly over 5 years from 12/14/1995.

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.