

SYNAPTIC PHARMACEUTICAL CORP  
 Form 4  
 December 17, 2002

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 4

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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

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(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
 Estimated average burden hours per response .... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol		6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)	
BVF Partners L.P.			Synaptic Pharmaceutical Corp. ("SNAP")		<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner  <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (Voluntary)	4. Statement for Month/Day/Year		
				December 13, 2002		
227 West Monroe Street, Suite 4800					5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)	
(Street)					7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)	
Chicago,	Illinois	60606			<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 at End of Month (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	12/13/02		S		378,000	D	\$6.30
Common Stock	12/13/02		S		251,000	D	\$6.30
Common Stock	12/13/02		S		578,000	D	\$6.30

504,233

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).

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 CONTROL NUMBER.

FORM 4 (Continued)

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 Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)														
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date											
<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="89 968 507 1050">7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)</td> <td data-bbox="523 968 735 1050">8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)</td> <td data-bbox="762 968 986 1150">9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)</td> <td data-bbox="1023 968 1235 1100">10. Ownership Form of Derivative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)</td> <td data-bbox="1272 968 1495 1073">11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="197 1188 240 1215">Title</td> <td data-bbox="328 1188 501 1239">Amount or Number of Shares</td> <td colspan="3"></td> </tr> </table>											7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)																
Title	Amount or Number of Shares																			

Explanation of Responses:

(1) The shares reported in this response are beneficially owned by BVF Partners L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Partners"), the designated filer of this joint filing on Form 4, and by its general partner, BVF Inc., a Delaware corporation ("BVF Inc."), which is also an investment advisor to Partners. Partners is the general partner of Biotechnology Value Fund, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("BVF, L.P.") and Biotechnology Value Fund II, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("BVF2, L.P."), both investment limited partnerships. Partners also is the manager of BVF Investments, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company ("Investments"). Pursuant to the operating agreement of Investments, Partners is authorized, among other things, to invest the funds of Ziff Asset Management, L.P., the majority member of Investments, in the shares of Common Stock reported in Table I as being beneficially owned by Investments. Mark N. Lampert is the sole shareholder and sole director of BVF Inc., and is an officer of BVF Inc. This joint filing on Form 4 shall not be deemed an admission that Mark N. Lampert is, for purposes of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise, the beneficial owner of any equity securities covered by this joint filing.

(2)

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Shares beneficially owned by BVF, L.P.

(3) Shares beneficially owned by BVF2, L.P.

(4) Shares beneficially owned by Investments.

BVF Partners L.P.

By: BVF Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

December 17, 2002

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*\* 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.

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 Control Number.

**FORM 4 (Continued)**

1. Biotechnology Value Fund, L.P.  
227 West Monroe Street, Suite 4800  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

BIOTECHNOLOGY VALUE FUND, L.P.

By: BVF Partners L.P., its general partner

By: BVF Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

December 17, 2002

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
Authorized Signatory

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

2. Biotechnology Value Fund II, L.P.  
227 West Monroe Street, Suite 4800  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

BIOTECHNOLOGY VALUE FUND II, L.P.

By: BVF Partners L.P., its general partner

By: BVF Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

December 17, 2002

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
Authorized Signatory

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

3. BVF Investments, L.L.C.  
227 West Monroe Street, Suite 4800  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

BVF INVESTMENTS, L.L.C.

By: BVF Partners L.P., its manager

By: BVF Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

December 17, 2002

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
Authorized Signatory

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

4. BVF Inc.  
One Sansome Street, 31st Floor

BVF INC.

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San Francisco, California 94104

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

December 17, 2002

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
Authorized Signatory

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

5. Mark N. Lampert  
One Sansome Street, 31st Floor  
San Francisco, California 94104

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

December 17, 2002

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
Authorized Signatory

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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