

Dresser James van B.
Form 4
August 27, 2012

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 *
Dresser James van B.

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O MERRIMACK
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., ONE
KENDALL SQUARE, SUITE
B7201

(Street)

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
MERRIMACK
PHARMACEUTICALS INC
[MACK]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
08/23/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

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. 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 | (D) | Price |

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

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 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) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 7.53 | 08/23/2012 | | A | 21,300 | (1) 08/22/2022 | Common Stock | 21,300 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Dresser James van B. C/O MERRIMACK PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. ONE KENDALL SQUARE, SUITE B7201 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/ Jeffrey A. Munsie,
attorney-in-fact
Date: 08/27/2012

**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) This option vests as to 1/4th of the total number of shares on 11/23/12 and an additional 1/4th of the total number of shares at the end of each successive three month period thereafter until 8/23/13, provided that such option shall vest in full on the date that is one business day prior to the date of the issuer's next annual meeting of stockholders (if earlier than 8/23/13) or in the event of a change in control (as determined by the issuer's board of directors).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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