

IWAKI YUICHI  
Form 4  
January 27, 2009

**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 \*  
IWAKI YUICHI

(Last) (First) (Middle)

4350 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE,  
SUITE 950

(Street)

SAN DIEGO, CA 92122

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
MEDICINOVA INC [MNOV]

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

01/23/2009

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)

Chief Executive Officer

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  | (A) or (D)   | Price                             |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 | 01/23/2009                           |  | P                              |   | 2,200   | A  | \$ 2.149<br>(1)                   |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 | 01/26/2009                           |  | P                              |   | 1,650   | A  | \$ 2.151<br>(2)                   |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 | 01/27/2009                           |  | P                              |   | 1,200   | A  | \$ 2.193<br>(4)                   |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | See footnote (3)                  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | See Footnote (3)                  |

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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 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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |                         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                 | Other |
| IWAKI YUICHI<br>4350 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, SUITE 950<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92122 | X             |           | Chief Executive Officer |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Shintaro Asako,  
Attorney-in-Fact

01/27/2009

\*\*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 price is the weighted average price of the 2200 shares purchased. The prices actually paid for the shares of the Company's Common Stock purchased ranged from \$2.04 to \$2.17. The reporting person will provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer or the SEC Staff, upon request, information regarding the number of shares purchased at each price within the range of prices actually paid.

(2) This price is the weighted average price of the 1650 shares purchased. The prices actually paid for the shares of the Company's Common Stock purchased ranged from \$2.10 to \$2.17. The reporting person will provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer or the SEC Staff, upon request, information regarding the number of shares purchased at each price within the range of prices actually paid.

(3) 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.

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This price is the weighted average price of the 1200 shares purchased. The prices actually paid for the shares of the Company's Common

- (4) Stock purchased ranged from \$.15 to \$.20. The reporting person will provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer or the SEC Staff, upon request, information regarding the number of shares purchased at each price within the range of prices actually paid.

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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