IDENIX PHARMACEUTICALS INC

Form 4

February 23, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB Number:

3235-0287

January 31, Expires: 2005

OMB APPROVAL

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

Check this box

SECURITIES Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

may continue. See Instruction

Symbol

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

NOVARTIS AG

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

	-		IDENIX PHARMACEUTICALS INC [IDIX]				_S	(Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle) LICHSTRASSE 35			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/23/2012					Director 10% Owner Officer (give titleX Other (specify below) Indirect 10% Owner			
DAGEL WO	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Form filed by One Reporting Person _X_ Form filed by More than One Reporting			
BASEL, V8							Person				
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned								
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Da (Month/Day/Year	e) Execution any	med on Date, if Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit on(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4)	sposed	of (D)	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	02/23/2012			P	35,735	A	\$ 2.41	33,271,516	I	See Footnote (1)	
Common Stock	02/23/2012			P	366	A	\$ 2.47	33,271,882	I	See Footnote (1)	
Common Stock	02/23/2012			P	2,493	A	\$ 2.56	33,274,375	I	See Footnote (1)	
Common Stock	02/23/2012			P	997	A	\$ 2.69	33,275,372	I	See Footnote	

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								<u>(1)</u>
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	997	A	\$ 2.78	33,276,369	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	1,321	A	\$ 2.85	33,277,690	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	3,117	A	\$ 2.9	33,280,807	I	See Footnote
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	8,960	A	\$ 2.96	33,289,767	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	427	A	\$ 2.97	33,290,194	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	232	A	\$ 3.04	33,290,426	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	4,336	A	\$ 3.17	33,294,762	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	3,093	A	\$ 3.79	33,297,855	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	39	A	\$ 5.1	33,297,894	I	See Footnote
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	11,433	A	\$ 5.11	33,309,327	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	7,402	A	\$ 5.46	33,316,729	I	See Footnote
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	883	A	\$ 5.79	33,317,612	I	See Footnote
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	436	A	\$ 5.8	33,318,048	I	See Footnote
Common Stock	02/23/2012	P	493	A	\$ 6.52	33,318,541	I	See Footnote

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Common Stock 02/23/2012 P 2,133 A \$ 33,320,674 I Footnote (1)

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

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 control number.

SEC 1474

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9. Nu

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

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 1. Title of 6. Date Exercisable and 5. 7. Title and 8. Price of Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionNumber **Expiration Date** Amount of Derivative Security or Exercise Code (Month/Day/Year) Underlying Security Price of Securities (Instr. 5) (Instr. 3) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Derivative Derivative Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) Security Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Amount Expiration Title Number Date Exercisable Date of Shares Code V (A) (D)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

NOVARTIS AG

LICHSTRASSE 35 Indirect 10% Owner

BASEL, V8 CH4002

NOVARTIS PHARMA AG

LICHSTRASSE 35 X

BASEL, V8 CH4002

Signatures

/s/ Marc Ceulemans, Head Strategic Venture Capital Fund & Pharma
Equities 02/23/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

/s/ Felix Eichhorn, Authorized Signatory 02/23/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reporting Owners 3

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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) These securities are owned directly by Novartis Pharma AG, a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Novartis AG. Novartis AG is indirect beneficial owner of these securities. See attachment.

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.