Valera Pharmaceuticals Inc Form 4

May 25, 2006

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

OMB APPROVAL

Number:

3235-0287

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obligations

Check this box

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

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Last)

Security

(Instr. 3)

C/O VALERA

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SPITZNAGEL JOHN T

(First)

(Street)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Valera Pharmaceuticals Inc [VLRX]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Check all applicable)

(Middle)

(Month/Day/Year)

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

05/23/2006

PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., 7

CLARKE DRIVE

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

(Instr. 4)

Following

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

CRANBURY, NJ 08512

(City) (State) (Zip) 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

3. 4. Securities (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D)

(Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (I) Ownership

(Instr. 4)

(9-02)

Reported (A) Transaction(s)

or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

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

(Month/Day/Year)

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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 Derivative Conversion

5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date

7. Title and Amount of 8. l Underlying Securities

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code Year) (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/	Year)	(Instr. 3 and	4)	Se (Ir
			Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Stock Option	\$ 8.85	05/23/2006	A	7,500	<u>(1)</u>	05/23/2016	Common Stock	7,500	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SPITZNAGEL JOHN T
C/O VALERA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
7 CLARKE DRIVE
CRANBURY, NJ 08512

Signatures

/s/ David S. Tierney, M.D., Attorney in Fact for John T.
Spitznagel 05/25/2006

**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 completely vests on 5/23/07.
- (2) This is an option grant for which there is no purchase price.

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.

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