FORM 4	4
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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).

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting I SIMON NICHOLAS J III	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol RIGEL PHARMACEUTICALS INC [RIGL]						5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) _X_ Director _X_ 10% Owner			
(Last) (First) C/O MPM ASSET MANAGI HUNTINGTON AVENUE, 3	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/20/2004						Officer (give title below)	Other (specify b	pelow)	
(Street) BOSTON, MA 02199	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)						6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City) (State)	Т	able I - N	on-D	erivative S	ecuri	ties Acquir	iired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned			
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	Date I (Month/Day/Year) a	Execution Date, if	Code	on	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		Ď)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		Beneficial Ownership
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
Common Stock	05/20/2004		S		139,313 (<u>1</u>)	D	\$ 17.2479	3,536,258	Ι	See Footnote (2)

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

	(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)														
1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction	3A. Deemed	4.		5.		6. Date Exer	cisable	7. Tit	le and	8. Price of	9. Number of	10.	11. Nature
Derivative	Conversion	Date	Execution Date, if	Transacti	on	Numl	ber	and Expirati	on Date	Amou	unt of	Derivative	Derivative	Ownership	of Indirect
Security	or Exercise	(Month/Day/Year)	any	Code		of		(Month/Day	/Year)	Unde	rlying	Security	Securities	Form of	Beneficial
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)		Deriv	ative			Secur	rities	(Instr. 5)	Beneficially	Derivative	Ownership
	Derivative					Secur	rities			(Instr	. 3 and		Owned	Security:	(Instr. 4)
	Security					Acqu	ired			4)			Following	Direct (D)	
						(A) o							1	or Indirect	
						Dispo							Transaction(s)	< / <	
						of (D	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)	
						(Instr	· · · ·								
						4, and	15)								
											Amount				
								Data	Expiration		or				
								Date Exercisable	*	Title	Number				
								Exercisable	Date		of				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)				Shares				

Reporting Owners

	Relationships							
Reporting Owner Name / Address	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
SIMON NICHOLAS J III C/O MPM ASSET MANAGEMENT 111 HUNTINGTON AVENUE, 31ST FLOOR BOSTON, MA 02199	Х	Х						

Signatures

/s/ Nicholas J. Simon, III	05/21/2004
**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).
- The shares were sold as follows: 7,797 by MPM BioVentures III, L.P. ("BVIII"); 115,967 by MPM BioVentures III-QP, L.P. ("BVIII QP"); 9,801 by MPM BioVentures III
 (1) GmbH & Co. Beteiligungs KG ("BVIII KG"); 3,502 by MPM Bioventures III Parallel Fund, L.P. ("BVIII PF"); and 2,246 by MPM Asset Management Investors 2003 BVIII
 (1) LLC ("BVAM LLC"). MPM BioVentures III GP, L.P. ("BVIII GP") and MPM BioVentures III LLC ("BVIII LLC") are the direct and indirect partners of BVIII, BVIII QP,
- (1) LLC ("BVAM LLC"). MPM BioVentures III GP, L.P. ("BVIII GP") and MPM BioVentures III LLC ("BVIII LLC") are the direct and indirect partners of BVIII, BVIII QP, BVIII PF and BVIII KG.
- (2) The shares are held as follows: 197,925 by BVIII; 2,943,662 by BVIII QP; 248,776 by BVIII KG; 88,902 by BVIII PF; and 56,993 by BVAM LLC. The Reporting Person is a member of BVIII LLC and BVAM LLC. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

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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