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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| (Print or Ty | pe Response | s) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--------|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--------------------------|--------------|---|----------------------------|--|---|-------------|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* SIMON NICHOLAS J III | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol RIGEL PHARMACEUTICALS INC [RIGL] | | | | | | | GL] | 5 | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director X 10% Owner | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O MPM ASSET MANAGEMENT, 111 HUNTINGTON AVENUE, 31ST FLOOR | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/24/2004 | | | | | | | - | Office | r (give title belo | ow) | Other (specify | below) | |
| BOSTON | N, MA 021 | (Street) | | 4. If Amendmo | ent, l | Date (| Origin | nal Fi | led(Mont | h/Day/Year | r) | | X_Form fil | ed by One Repo | Group Filing orting Person One Reporting | • • • | ble Line) |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | 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, is any (Month/Day/Year | _ | (Instr. 8) | | ction | 4. Securities Acqui (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | d of (I | (D) Benefic | | unt of Securities ially Owned Following d Transaction(s) and 4) | | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | Со | ode | V | Amoun | ount (A) or (D) Price | | | | | or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4) | | |
| Common Stock 05/24/ | | 05/24/2004 | S | | S | | 3,300 (1) | D | \$ 17.3 | 35 | 3,532,958 | | | I | See Footnote | | |
| Reminder: | Report on a s | separate line fo | | Derivative Secu | ıriti | es Ac | quire | Pers cont the f | ons whained if | no responding this for this for this for the second number of the second | orm a a cur enefic | are rrent | not requ tly valid | | ormation spond unle trol numbe | ss | 1474 (9-02) |
| 1 75'41 . C | 2 | 2 75 4 | | e.g., puts, calls | | | s, op | | | | | | 1 1 | 0 D : C | 0.37 1 | C 10 | 11.37 |
| Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | cise (Month/Day/Year) any (Month/Day/Year) Code (Instr. 8) of Derivative Securities | | A U S (I | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | | Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | Owners Form of Derivat Security Direct (or Indir | Beneficial Ownershi (Instr. 4) D) ect | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exer | cisable | Expirati Date | ion T | Γitle | Amount or Number of 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 | X | X | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Nicholas J. Simon, III | 05/26/2004 | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|--|--|--|
| **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: 185 by MPM BioVentures III, L.P. ("BVIII"); 2,747 by MPM BioVentures III-QP, L.P. ("BVIII QP"); 232 by MPM BioVentures III GmbH
- (1) & Co. Beteiligungs KG ("BVIII KG"); 83 by MPM Bioventures III Parallel Fund, L.P. ("BVIII PF"); and 53 by MPM Asset Management Investors 2003 BVIII 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: 197,740 by BVIII; 2,940,915 by BVIII QP; 248,544 by BVIII KG; 88,819 by BVIII PF; and 56,940 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.

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.