| FORM 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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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 Person [*] | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Zhou Rong | Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc. [AMPH] | Director 10% Owner | | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) | X_Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Other (specify below) | | | | | |
| C/O AMPHASTAR PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., 11570 6TH STREET | 3/16/2021 | | | | | | |
| (Street) | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 (City) (State) (Zip) | | X _ 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

| - ••• | | | currenes ri | equi | cu, D15] | joseu o | , 01 D | enemenany owned | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---|------------------|------|--|---------------|---------|---|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Trans. Date | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | (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) | | Beneficial |
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 3/16/2021 | | F ⁽¹⁾ | | 3303 | D | \$18.44 | 74281 | D | |
| Common Stock | 3/17/2021 | | Α | | 21984 <u>(2)</u> | Α | \$0.00 | 96265 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 99668 | I | See footnote <u>(3)</u> |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 5000 | I | See footnote <u>(4)</u> |

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

| 1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3) | | Exercise Date, if any Date, if any Date, if any | Execution | 4. Trans. Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | • | | Securities Underlying | | Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | Ownership Form of Derivative | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|---------|---|-----------|---------------------------------|-----|--|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| | | | Code | v | (A) | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | Amount or Number of Shares | Reporte Transac | | Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$17.99 | 3/17/2021 | | А | | 51621 | | <u>(5)</u> | 3/17/2031 | Common Stock | 51621 | \$0 | 51621 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) The reported shares were withheld to satisfy the reporting person's tax liability in connection with the vesting of restricted stock units, or RSUs.
- (2) The reported shares are represented by RSUs which vest in four equal annual installments beginning on March 17, 2022.
- (3) The shares are held of record by the Zhou Family Trust for which the reporting person serves as a trustee.
- (4) The shares are held of record by the reporting person's spouse.
- (5) Shares subject to the option vest in four equal annual installments beginning on March 17, 2022.

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | | Relationships | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|---------------|------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | | | |
| Zhou Rong C/O AMPHASTAR PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 11570 6TH STREET RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 | | | EVP, Production Center | | | | | | |

**Signature of Reporting Person

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

Date

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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.