IWAKI YUICHI Form 4

January 27, 2009

FORM 4

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

Check this box if no longer subject to

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue. See Instruction STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **IWAKI YUICHI**

Symbol

MEDICINOVA INC [MNOV]

(Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

4350 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, 01/23/2009 **SUITE 950**

(First)

(Last)

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Chief Executive Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

Person

SAN DIEGO, CA 92122

(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, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)				
Common Stock, par value \$0.001	01/23/2009		P	2,200	A	\$ 2.149 (1)	639,322	D			
Common Stock, par value \$0.001	01/26/2009		P	1,650	A	\$ 2.151 (2)	640,972	I	See footnote		
Common Stock, par vlaue \$0.001	01/27/2009		P	1,200	A	\$ 2.193 (4)	642,172	I	See Footnote (3)		

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

> 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene

Follo Repo Trans (Insti

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Titl	e and	8. Price of	9
Derivativ	e Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration Date		Amount of	Derivative	J	
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	,
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative			Securities	(Instr. 5)]	
	Derivative			Securities				(Instr.	3 and 4)		(
	Security				Acquired						J
					(A) or						J
					Disposed						-
					of (D)						(
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
							Expiration Date	of of			
				Code V	(A) (D)						
				Code V	(A) (D)		*	Title	Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

IWAKI YUICHI

4350 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, SUITE 950 X Chief Executive Officer

SAN DIEGO, CA 92122

Signatures

/s/ Shintaro Asako, Attorney-in-Fact 01/27/2009

**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).
- This price is the weighted average price of the 2200 shares purchased. The prices actually paid for the shares of the Company's Common (1) Stock purchased ranged from \$2.04 to \$2.17. The reporting person will provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer or the SEC Staff, upon request, information regarding the number of shares purchased at each price within the range of prices actually paid.
- This price is the weighted average price of the 1650 shares purchased. The prices actually paid for the shares of the Company's Common (2) Stock purchased ranged from \$2.10 to \$2.17. The reporting person will provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer or the SEC Staff, upon request, information regarding the number of shares purchased at each price within the range of prices actually paid.
- The reported securities are held by the Iwaki Family Limited Partnership. The reporting person is the general partner of the partnership (3) that owns the reported securities. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the reported securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

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This price is the weighted average price of the 1200 shares purchased. The prices actually paid for the shares of the Company's Common (4) Stock purchased ranged from \$2.15 to \$2.20. The reporting person will provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer or the SEC Staff, upon request, information regarding the number of shares purchased at each price within the range of prices actually paid.

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.