

AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS INC  
 Form 3  
 March 17, 2008

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *			2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â MEDAREX INC			(Month/Day/Year)	AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS INC [AVAN]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	03/07/2008	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
707 STATE ROAD				(Check all applicable)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
(Street)				<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
PRINCETON,Â NJÂ 08540				<input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	5,312,539 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	Â

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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.**

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	

Shares (I)  
(Instr. 5)

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MEDAREX INC 707 STATE ROAD PRINCETON, NJ 08540	^	^ X	^	^

## Signatures

/s/Christian Scade, CFO on behalf of  
Medarex, Inc. 03/14/2008

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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 Board of Directors of AVANT Immunotherapeutics, Inc., approved a 1-for 12 reverse stock split of AVANT's common stock, which became effective as of March 7, 2008. As a result of the reverse stock split, each twelve shares of AVANT common stock were combined (1) and reclassified into one share of AVANT common stock. The number of shares reported on this form is reflected on a post-split basis. The common stock will trade under the symbol "AVAND" for 20 trading days beginning on March 10, 2008 to designate that it is trading on a post-reverse split basis, and will remain trading under the symbol "AVAN" after the 20-day period has expired.

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.