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 1(h)                       |

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

**OMB APPROVAL** OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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*  BENNETT C FRANK                   |   |  |  |         |                                 | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  ISIS PHARMACEUTICALS INC [ ISIS ] |            |   |                         |   |                     |  |   |                      | ck all applic<br>Directo   | able)   | g Pers  | on(s) to Issu<br>10% Ow<br>Other (s                                      | ner   |
|---|---|--|--|---------|---------------------------------|--|------------|---|-------------------------|---|---------------------|--|---|----------------------|--|---|---|--|---|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O ISIS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 1896 RUTHERFORD ROAD |   |  |  |         |                                 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/21/2007                    |            |   |                         |   |                     |  |   |                      | below)   | below) Vice President   |   |  |   |
| (Street) CARLSBAD CA 92008  (City) (State) (Zip)                            |   |  |  |         | 4. 11                           | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                       |            |   |                         |   |                     |  |   |                      | Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |   |  |   |
|   |   | Tak  | le I - Noi                                     | า-Deriv | ative                           | e Se   | curit      | ies Ac  | quire                   | l, Dis  | sposed o            | of, or B   | enefi   | icially              | / Owned  |   |   |  |   |
| Dat   |   |  |  | Date    |                                 |  |            | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                         | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8)               |                     | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4<br>5) |   |                      |  | es<br>ally<br>Following   | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |
|   |   |  |  |         |                                 |  |            |   | Cod                     | e v   | Amount              | (A)<br>(D)   | or P  | rice                 | Reported<br>Transact<br>(Instr. 3  | ion(s)  |   |  | (Instr. 4)  |
| Common Stock 08/21  |   |  |  |         |                                 | 2007 08  |            | 21/2007   | M <sup>(1</sup>         |   | 10,000              | <b>)</b> (1)   | 4   | \$6.25               | 10,  | ,197  |   | D  |   |
| Common Stock 08/21  |   |  |  |         | 21/2007                         |  | 08/21/2007 |   | <b>S</b> <sup>(2)</sup> |   | 10,000              | <b>)</b> <sup>(2)</sup> ]  | )   | \$12.5               | 1  | 97  |   | D  |   |
|   |   | -  | Table II -                                     |         |                                 |  |            |   |                         |   | osed of<br>converti |  |   |                      | Owned  |   |   |  |   |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                         | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deeme<br>Execution<br>if any<br>(Month/Day | Date, 1 | ransaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>) |  | of         |   | Expirat                 | 5. Date Exercisa<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Yea |                     | of Secu<br>Underly<br>Derivat                                    | 7. Title and Amount<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                      | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)                              | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | ly  | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)               |
|   |   |  |  |         | Code                            | v  | (A)        | (D)   | Date<br>Exercis         | able  | Expiration<br>Date  | Title  | or  | ount<br>mber<br>ares |  |   |   |  |   |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(right to                                    | \$6.25  | 08/21/2007                                 | 08/21/20                                       | 007     | М                               |  |            | 10,000  | 01/01/2                 | :004  | 12/31/2009          | Commo<br>Stock   | n 10,   | ,000                 | \$0  | 500   |   | D  |   |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. The purchase reported on this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on 6/5/07.
- 2. The sale reported on this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on 6/5/07.

## Remarks:

/s/C. Frank Bennett

08/23/2007

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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

- \* 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 Number.