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## 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(b).

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

# OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden

hours per response:	0.5
Estimated average burden	

			3				
1. Name and Address of R	1 8	2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol IONIS PHARMACEUTICALS INC [ IONS	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)				
HOUGEN ELIZA	<u>BETH L</u>			Director	10% Owner		
(Loot) (Fire	t) (Middlo)	_ 1	X	Officer (give title below)	Other (specify below)		
C/O IONIS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/01/2016		SVP, Finance & CFO			
2855 GAZELLE COU	JRT						
		4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Indiv Line)	vidual or Joint/Group Filir	ng (Check Applicable		
(Street)			X	Form filed by One Rep	porting Person		
CARLSBAD CA	92010			Form filed by More that Person	an One Reporting		
(City) (Stat	e) (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. Transa Code ( 8)	ction	4. Securities Disposed Of (			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	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	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	07/01/2016	07/01/2016	<b>J</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	v	217(1)	Α	\$20.757	6,548	D	

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transa Code ( 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/\	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

Explanation of Responses:

1. Reporting 217 shares acquired under the Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Amended and Restated 2000 Employee Stock Purchase Plan on July 1, 2016. These 217 shares may not be sold until January 2, 2017. **Remarks:** 

### <u>/s/B. Lynne Parshall, attorney-</u> <u>in-fact</u> <u>07/01/2016</u>

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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.