

Viking Therapeutics, Inc.
 Form 4
 June 01, 2015

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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, 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 *
**LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS
 INC**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

11119 NORTH TORREY PINES
 ROAD, SUITE 200

(Street)

LA JOLLA, CA 92037

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Viking Therapeutics, Inc. [VKTX]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

05/28/2015

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (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)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	05/28/2015		J ⁽¹⁾	V Amount 228,105 ⁽²⁾	A \$ 0 4,780,964 ⁽³⁾	D	

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

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 (9-02)

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

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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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 6)
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC
 11119 NORTH TORREY PINES ROAD, SUITE 200
 LA JOLLA, CA 92037

X

Signatures

/s/ Charles S.
 Berkman

06/01/2015

**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).

- The shares of Common Stock were acquired as partial consideration for licenses granted to the Issuer by Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated ("Ligand") pursuant to the Master License Agreement, dated May 21, 2014, among Ligand, Metabasis Therapeutics, Inc. ("Metabasis"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ligand, and the Issuer, as amended by the First Amendment to Master License Agreement, dated September 6, 2014 and the Second Amendment to Master License Agreement, dated April 8, 2015.
- (1) Includes 55,060 shares acquired by Metabasis.
 - (2) Includes 882,474 shares held by Metabasis.

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.