

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Tajak Richard J.</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O NANTKWEST, INC.</u> <u>3530 JOHN HOPKINS COURT</u> (Street) <u>SAN DIEGO CA 92121</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>NantKwest, Inc. [NK]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Chief Financial Officer</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/23/2016</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	12/23/2016		M		5,000	A	\$0.00 ⁽¹⁾	11,575	D	
Common Stock	12/23/2016		F		1,717	D	\$6.15	9,858	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. 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 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				
Restricted Stock Units	(1)	12/23/2016		M			5,000	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	5,000	\$0.00	5,000	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Each restricted stock unit ("RSU") represents a contingent right to receive one share of NantKwest, Inc. common stock.

2. Subject to the reporting person's continuing to be a Service Provider (as defined in the 2015 Equity Incentive Plan) through each applicable vesting date, the restricted stock units ("RSUs") will vest as follows: 1/4th of the RSUs subject to the award shall vest 3 months following the vesting commencement date on the same day of the month as the vesting commencement date, and 1/4th of the RSUs subject to the award shall vest every 3 months thereafter on the same day of the month as the vesting commencement date such that the award shall be fully vested on March 23, 2017. The vesting commencement date for this award is March 23, 2016.

Remarks:

/s/ Daniel Horwood, as
Attorney-in-Fact 12/28/2016

** 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.