

Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
 Form 4
 August 19, 2016

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2015
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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 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 *
 Gerst Diane G.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
 [AMPH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 08/19/2016

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EVP, QA & Regulatory Affairs

C/O AMPHASTAR
 PHARMACEUTICALS,
 INC., 11570 6TH STREET

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

RANCHO
 CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

(City) (State) (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. 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)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount Price			
Common Stock	08/19/2016		M	10,046 A \$ 14.23	39,031	D	
Common Stock	08/19/2016		M	14,000 A \$ 10.93	53,031	D	
Common Stock	08/19/2016		S ⁽¹⁾	24,046 D \$ 19.28	28,985	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)

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)	Amount or Number of Shares
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.23	08/19/2016		M	10,046	<u>(2)</u> 12/22/2021	Common Stock	10,046
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 10.93	08/19/2016		M	14,000	<u>(2)</u> 07/30/2023	Common Stock	14,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Gerst Diane G.
C/O AMPHASTAR PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
11570 6TH STREET
RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

EVP, QA & Regulatory Affairs

Signatures

/s/ Ken Stupak, by power of attorney

08/19/2016

__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).

(1) The sale reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the Reporting Person on March 17, 2016.

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(2) Shares subject to the option are fully vested and immediately exercisable.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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