

METABASIS THERAPEUTICS INC

Form 4

December 15, 2008

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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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 *
Erion Mark D2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading
Symbol
METABASIS THERAPEUTICS
INC [MBRX]5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
11119 NORTH TORREY PINES
ROAD3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/11/2008☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify
below) Chief Executive Officer(Street)
LA JOLLA, CA 920374. 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

(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			

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

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information contained in this form are not
required to respond unless the form
displays a currently valid OMB control
number.**SEC 1474
(9-02)**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction	5. Number of Derivative	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 and 4)			
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 0.45	12/11/2008	A		150,000		<u>(1)</u>	12/11/2018	Common Stock	150,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Erion Mark D 11119 NORTH TORREY PINES ROAD LA JOLLA, CA 92037			Chief Executive Officer	

Signatures

Trisha Millican, by power of attorney
12/15/2008

**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 shares vest at 25% on the first anniversary of the grant date, and the remaining shares vest in equal monthly installments over the following three years.

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.