

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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>Vetticaden Santosh</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>12390 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 150</u> (Street) <u>SAN DIEGO CA 92130</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>Mast Therapeutics, Inc. [MSTX]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Chief Medical Officer & SVP</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>01/02/2014</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			

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
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$0.47	01/02/2014		A		295,100		(1)	01/02/2024	Common Stock	295,100	\$0.00	295,100	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. This option has a January 2, 2014 vesting commencement date and vests and becomes exercisable in 48 substantially equal monthly installments over the 48-month period following the vesting commencement date, subject to the reporting person's continued service with the issuer.

Remarks:

/s/ Santosh J. Vetticaden 01/03/2014

** 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.

LIMITED POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR SECTION 16 REPORTING

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby makes, constitutes and appoints Brian M. Culley, Patrick L. Keran, and Brandi L. Roberts, and each of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact (the "Attorney-in-Fact"), with full power of substitution and resubstitution, each with the power to act alone for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name, place and stead, in any and all capacities to:

1. prepare, execute in the undersigned's name and on the undersigned's behalf, and submit to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") a Form ID, including amendments thereto, and any other documents necessary or appropriate to obtain codes and passwords enabling the undersigned to make electronic filings with the SEC of reports required or considered advisable under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") or any rule or regulation of the SEC;

2. prepare, execute and submit to the SEC, any national securities exchange or securities quotation system and Mast Therapeutics, Inc. (the "Company") any and all reports (including any amendment thereto) of the undersigned required or considered advisable under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder, with respect to the equity securities of the Company, including Forms 3, 4 and 5; and

3. seek or obtain, as the undersigned's representative and on the undersigned's behalf, information regarding transactions in the Company's equity securities from any third party, including the Company and any brokers, dealers, employee benefit plan administrators and trustees, and the undersigned hereby authorizes any such third party to release any such information to the Attorney-in-Fact.

The undersigned acknowledges that:

1. this Limited Power of Attorney authorizes, but does not require, the Attorney-in-Fact to act at his or her discretion on information provided to such Attorney-in-Fact without independent verification of such information;

2. any documents prepared or executed by the Attorney-in-Fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Limited Power of Attorney will be in such form and will contain such information as the Attorney-in-Fact, in his or her discretion, deems necessary or desirable;

3. neither the Company nor the Attorney-in-Fact assumes any liability for the undersigned's responsibility to comply with the requirements of Section 16 of the Exchange Act, any liability of the undersigned for any failure to comply with such requirements, or any liability of the undersigned for disgorgement of profits under Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act; and

4. this Limited Power of Attorney does not relieve the undersigned from responsibility for compliance with the undersigned's obligations under Section 16 of the Exchange Act, including, without, limitation, the reporting requirements under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.

The undersigned hereby grants to the Attorney-in-Fact full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite, necessary or convenient to be done in connection with the foregoing, as fully, to all intents and purposes, as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that the Attorney-in-Fact, or his or her substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by authority of this Limited Power of Attorney.

This Limited Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 4 or 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in equity securities of the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the Attorney-in-Fact.

This Limited Power of Attorney shall be governed and construed in accordance the laws of the State of California without regard to conflict-of-law principles.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Limited Power of Attorney as of January 2, 2014.

Signature: /s/ Santosh J. Vetticaden

Printed Name: Santosh J. Vetticaden