## FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL              |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: 3235-028      |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated av erage burden |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:       | 0.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Lippa Arnold</u>                           |   |  |          |                                  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol RespireRx Pharmaceuticals Inc. [ RSPI ] |  |                  |  |           |        |   |  | (Che        | ck all app   | 10% O   | wner   |     |  |  |
|---|---|--|----------|----------------------------------|---|--|------------------|--|-----------|--------|---|--|-------------|--|---|--|-----|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O RESPIRERX PHARMACEUTICALS INC. 126 VALLEY ROAD, SUITE C |   |  |          |                                  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/22/2020                         |  |                  |  |           |        |   |  | <b>)</b>    | X Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)  Exec. Chairman, CEO, CSO   |   |  |     |  |  |
| (Street) GLEN ROCK NJ 07452  (City) (State) (Zip)                                   |   |  |          |                                  |   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) |                  |  |           |        |   |  | Appl        | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |  |     |  |  |
|   |   | Table                                      | I - No   | n-Deriva                         | tive S  | Secui  | rities           | Acq                                      | uired     | , Dis  | posed of                                  | or   | Bene        | ficial   | ly Own  | ed   |     |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transact Date (Month/Day                        |   |  |          |                                  | ion 2A Deemed Execution Date  |  | ate,             | 3. 4. Securities A Disposed Of (I and 5) |           |        | es Acquired (A) or<br>Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 |  |             | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following   |   | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4)   |     | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)    |  |
|   |   |  |          |                                  |   |  |                  |  | Code      | v      | Amount                                    |  | A) or<br>D) | Price  | Transa  | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)   |     |  |  |
| Common Stock 03/22/2  |   |  |          |                                  | 2020  |  | J <sup>(1)</sup> |  | 4,500,000 | ,000 A |   | (1)  | 4,500,598   |  | D   |  |     |  |  |
| Common Stock 03/22/2  |   |  |          |                                  | 2020  |  | G <sup>(2)</sup> |  | 4,500,000 | )      | D   | \$ <mark>0</mark>  | \$0 598     |  | D   |  |     |  |  |
|   |   | Tat  | ole II - |                                  |   |  |                  | -  |           | -      | osed of, o                                |  |             | -  | Owne  | d  | ,   |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                                 | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | if any   | emed<br>ion Date,<br>i/Day/Year) |   | 5.<br>Number (Instr. of Deri                             |                  | vative<br>rities<br>ired<br>osed<br>)    | 6. Date   | ion D  |   | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)  Amoun or Numbe of |             | o D S (I   | Price<br>f<br>f<br>erivative<br>ecurity<br>nstr. 5) | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficiall<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | y [ | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>I) (Instr. | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |

## Explanation of Responses:

1. On March 21, 2020, Dr. Lippa agreed to forgive a portion of the accrued but unpaid compensation to which he was entitled pursuant to his employment agreement with RespireRx Pharmaceuticals Inc. (the "Company") equal to \$153,000. On March 22, 2020, the Company issued to Dr. Lippa 4,500,000 shares of the Company's common stock, in exchange for the forgiveness of \$153,000 of accrued and unpaid compensation, which equates to a per share value of \$0.034 per share, the closing share price of the Company's common stock on Friday, March 20, the last business day prior to the transaction.

2. Dr. Lippa gifted these securities into a family trust for estate planning purposes. He is not the trustee and does not exercise voting or investment control over shares held in the trust, but he is a beneficiary of the trust

/s/ Arnold Lippa

03/24/2020

\*\* 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.