

FORM 4

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

| OMB APPROVAL | |
|--|-----------|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
| Estimated average 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 OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * ELAN CORP PLC | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC [LGND] | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) ____ Director _____ 10% Owner ____ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) | | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/11/2003 | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ 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 | (A) or (D) | | | |

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

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 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 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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| ELAN CORP PLC | | X | | |

Signatures

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|------------|
| Shane M. Cooke, Ex. VP and CFO | | 07/15/2003 |
| 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) Shrs bene owned ind by Elan, plc and directly by whly-ownd sub, Elan Int. Serv., Ltd.
- (2) Exhibit 99-Joint Filer Information

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.

Joint Filer Information

Name: Elan International Services, Ltd.

Address: 102 St. James Court
Flatts, Smiths FL 04
Bermuda

Designated Filer: Elan Corporation, plc

Issuer & Ticker Symbol: Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (LGND)

Date of Event

Requiring Statement: 07/11/03

Signature: /s/ Kevin Insley

Title: President

ELAN INTERNATIONAL SERVICES, LTD.