

FORM 4

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

| OMB APPROVAL | |
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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

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

(Print or Type Responses)

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Koppikar Utpal | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc. [ATRA] | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) Chief Financial Officer | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O ATARA BIOTHERAPEUTICS, INC., 611 GATEWAY BLVD., SUITE 900 | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/01/2021 | | | | | |
| (Street) SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94080 | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> 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) | Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 03/01/2021 | | A | | 45,258 (1) | A | \$ 0 | 175,804 | 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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | Code | V | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 17.105 | 03/01/2021 | | A | | 68,314 | (2) | 02/28/2031 | Common Stock | \$ 0 | 68,314 | D | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Koppikar Utpal C/O ATARA BIOTHERAPEUTICS, INC. 611 GATEWAY BLVD., SUITE 900 SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94080 | | | Chief Financial Officer | |

Signatures

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------|
| /s/ David Tucker, Attorney-in-Fact for Utpal Koppikar | | 03/03/2021 |
| <small>Signature of Reporting Person</small> | | <small>Date</small> |

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) These restricted stock units vest in 16 equal quarterly installments on each Company Quarterly Vesting Date (as defined below), with the initial installment vesting on May 15, 2021, subject to the reporting person's continuous service. Company Quarterly Vesting Date means March 1, May 15, August 15 and November 15 of each year.
- (2) 1/48th of the shares subject to the stock option vest and become exercisable each month with the initial installment vesting on April 1, 2021, subject to the reporting person's continuous service.

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.