

CORTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INC/DE/

Form 4

December 16, 2008

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

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,
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section
30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
Number: 3235-0287
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Johnson Steven Andrew

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol

CORTEX PHARMACEUTICALS
INC/DE/ [COR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

15241 BARRANCA PARKWAY

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)

12/15/2008

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)

VP, Preclinical Development

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

IRVINE, CA 92618

(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)
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				(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	12/15/2008		M	8,750	A \$ 0.375

30,762 D

Common
Stock

2,350

I

Consists of
shares
beneficially
owned by
spouse

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
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SEC 1474
(9-02)

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. Fair Value of Derivative Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock options	\$ 0.375	12/15/2008		M	8,750	<u>(1)</u> 12/22/2008	Common Stock	8,750

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Johnson Steven Andrew 5241 BARRANCA PARKWAY RVINE, CA 92618			VP, Preclinical Development	

Maria S. Messenger, Attorney
in fact

12/15/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

* 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 option became fully vested and exercisable as of December 22, 2000.

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.