

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

OMB APPROVAL	
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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>Newbold Ronald C</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>20 HILLCREST ROAD</u>  (Street) <u>MARTINSVILLE NJ 08836</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) <u>03/07/2008</u>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS INC [ AVAN ]</u>	
		4. 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>Senior VP, Business Dev.</u>	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)  6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
<u>Stock Option (right to buy)</u>	<u>03/07/2008<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>03/07/2018</u>	<u>Common Stock</u>	<u>107,485<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>8.16</u>	<u>D</u>	

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. As of March 7, 2008 (the "Effective Date"), Dr. Ronald C. Newbold beneficially owns options to purchase 107,485 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the "Shares"), of AVANT Immunotherapeutics, Inc. Options to purchase 14,210 Shares are exercisable as of the Effective Date. Options to purchase 19,119 Shares will be exercisable on the first anniversary of the Effective Date. Of the remainder, options to purchase one twenty-sixth (1/26) of 16,794 Shares and options to purchase one thirty-sixth (1/36) of 57,359 Shares will become exercisable on each subsequent month following the Effective Date.

/s/ Ronald C. Newbold                      03/17/2008

\*\* 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 5 (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.