FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: 3235-02 | | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | | | |

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

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* SNYDERMAN RALPH | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol TARGACEPT INC [TRGT] | | | | | | | | | | k all applic | tionship of Reportin all applicable) Director | | 10% Ov | vner |
|--|--|--|---|-----------|--|--|--------------------|---|--|---------|-----------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O TARGACEPT, INC. | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/07/2012 | | | | | | | | | | below) | (give title | | Other (s below) | респу |
| 200 EAST FIRST STREET, SUITE 300 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (Street) WINSTON- SALEM NC 27101 | | | | - 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ne) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| (City) | (St | ate) (| (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date) | | | | | | ar) E | Execution f any | A. Deemed kecution Date, any lonth/Day/Year) | | | | ities Acquired (A) d Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 | | Securition Securition Benefici | | es ally Following | Form (D) o | : Direct r Indirect str. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | | | С | ode V | | Amount (A) or (D) | | Pri | се | Transact | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | (Instr. 4) |
| | 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. Transactio Code (Inst 8) | | | | 6. Date Exercisable Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | | and 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4) | | D S (I | Price of erivative ecurity nstr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4) | ly | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exerc | cisable | Ex _I | piration te | Title | Amou or Numb of Share | er | | | | | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$4.16 | 06/07/2012 | | | A | | 7,500 | | (| (1) | 06/ | /06/2022 | Common Stock | 7,50 | 00 | \$0 | 7,500 | | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. This stock option vests and becomes exercisable in full on the earlier of (i) June 7, 2013 or (ii) the business day immediately preceding the date of the issuer's annual meeting of stockholders that occurs in 2013, provided that the reporting person remains in service as a director on such earlier date.

Remarks:

/s/ Peter A. Zorn, Attorney-in-Fact for Ralph Snyderman 06/08/2012

** 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.