

FORM 4

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

Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

**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

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | |
| Williams David Michael | | | Merck & Co., Inc. [MRK] | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) EVP,Chief Info&Digital Officer | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) | | | | | |
| MERCK & CO., INC., 126 EAST LINCOLN AVENUE | | | 2/6/2026 | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY) | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | |
| RAHWAY, NJ 07065 | | | | | | <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. Trans. Date | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 3. Trans. 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 | 2/6/2026 | | M | | 5,000 | A | \$77.62 | 35,837.743 | D | |
| Common Stock | 2/6/2026 | | S | | 5,000 | D | \$121.905 | 30,837.743 | D | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Trans. Date | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Trans. 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 | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (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 | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$77.62 (1) | 2/6/2026 | | M | | 5,000 | | 5/3/2020 (2) | 5/2/2029 | Common Stock | 5,000 | \$0 | 4,600 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- Exercise price and holdings reflect the adjustments that occurred as of June 2, 2021 in connection with the Organon & Co. ("Organon") spin-off as described in the registration statement on Form 10 filed with the SEC by Organon (the "Form 10"). As reported in the Form 10, all Merck stock option awards outstanding as of immediately prior to the distribution date were converted on the distribution date into adjusted Merck awards for Merck employees to preserve the same intrinsic value and general terms and conditions (including vesting) as were in place immediately prior to the adjustments.
- The option vests and becomes exercisable in three equal installments on 5/3/2020, 5/3/2021 and 5/3/2022.

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Williams David Michael MERCK & CO., INC. 126 EAST LINCOLN AVENUE RAHWAY, NJ 07065 | | | EVP,Chief Info&Digital Officer | |

Signatures

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.

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