Goncalves Joana Form 4 October 24, 2018

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Goncalves Joana

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Middle)

Cara Therapeutics, Inc. [CARA]

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

(First)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 10/22/2018

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

Chief Medical Officer

C/O CARA THERAPEUTICS. INC., 4 STAMFORD PLAZA, 107 ELM STREET, 9TH FL

(Street)

(State)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

below)

STAMFORD, CT 06902

(City)

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3)

(Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of Derivative

Conversion

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

5. Number of TransactionDerivative

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date**

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities**

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8	3)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)				(Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 19.27	10/22/2018		A		250,000		<u>(1)</u>	10/22/2028	Common Stock	250,00

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Goncalves Joana C/O CARA THERAPEUTICS, INC. 4 STAMFORD PLAZA, 107 ELM STREET, 9TH FL STAMFORD, CT 06902

Chief Medical Officer

Signatures

/s/ Darren DeStefano, Attorney-in-Fact

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

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).
- One-fourth (1/4th) of the shares shall vest and become exercisable on October 22, 2019; the balance of the shares shall vest and become exercisable in a series of 36 successive equal monthly installments measured from October 22, 2019, subject to the reporting person's continuous service with the issuer as of each such date.

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.

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