

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

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hours per response: 0.5Filed 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>Elston George</u>	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 03/07/2008	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) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)	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
(Last) (First) (Middle) <u>124 CHATHAM STREET</u>			
(Street) <u>CHATHAM NJ 07928</u>			
(City) (State) (Zip)			

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)

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>09/07/2008</u>	<u>03/07/2018</u>	<u>Common Stock</u>	<u>17,879⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>8.16</u>	<u>D</u>	

Explanation of Responses:

1. As of March 7, 2008 (the "Effective Date"), George Elston beneficially owns options to purchase 17,879 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the "Shares"), of AVANT Immunotherapeutics, Inc. Options to purchase 11,368 Shares are exercisable as of the Effective Date. Options to purchase 6,511 Shares will be exercisable on the six-month anniversary of the Effective Date.

/s/ George Elston03/17/2008

** 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.