FORM 4

Check this box if no longer subject

to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See

Instruction 1(b).

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, I | D.C. 20549 |
|---------------|------------|
|---------------|------------|

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

**OMB APPROVAL** 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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>CHALMERS DEREK T</u>   |   |       |              |   |   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Cara Therapeutics, Inc. [ CARA ]                                      |  |  |                 |         |   |               |                         |  |  | ship of Reporting<br>applicable)<br>rector                |                                      | rson(s) to Is<br>10% Ov   |             |
|--|---|-------|--------------|---|---|---|--|--|-----------------|---------|---|---------------|-------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O CARA THERAPEUTICS, INC. 4 STAMFORD PLAZA, 107 ELM ST, 9TH  |   |       |              |   | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/16/2020 |   |  |  |                 |         |   |               |                         | _ 2  | X Officer (give title Other (specify below)  President & CEO   |   |                                      |   |             |
| (Street) STAMF(  |   |       | 6902<br>Zip) |   | 4. If A   | Amend   | ment,  | Date o   | f Origina       | al File | d (Month/Da   | y/Year        | -)                      | Line   | e)<br><mark>X</mark> Form  | filed by On   | e Rep                                | ng (Check A<br>porting Perso<br>n One Repo                        | on          |
|  |   | Table | I - No       | n-Deriva                                | tive S  | Secu  | rities                                       | Acq  | uired,          | Dis     | posed of  | , or E        | 3ene                    | ficia  | lly Own  | ed  |                                      |   |             |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transact Date (Month/Day   |   |       |              |   | y/Year) Exec  |   | Deemed<br>cution Date,<br>y<br>nth/Day/Year) |  |                 |         | es Acquired (A)<br>Of (D) (Instr. 3,  |               |                         | Benefic  | ies<br>cially<br>Following   | Form<br>(D) o   | n: Direct<br>or Indirect<br>nstr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |             |
|  |   |       |              |   |   |   |  |  |                 | v       | Amount  | (A) or<br>(D) |                         | Price  | Transa   | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                        |                                      |   | (111301. 4) |
| Common Stock 12/16/2   |   |       |              |   | 2020  |   |  |  | S               |         | 5,000   | Г             | ) (                     | \$14.9:  | 5 92   | 8,921   |                                      | D   |             |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |   |       |              |   |   |   |  |  |                 |         |   |               |                         |  |  |   |                                      |   |             |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  | erivative Conversion Date Execution Date, ecurity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any |       |              | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |   | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4<br>and 5) |  | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                 |         | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Inst<br>3 and 4) |               | str.                    | 3. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>Instr. 5) | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficiall<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownersl<br>Form:<br>Direct (I<br>or Indire<br>(I) (Instr. | Ownership                            | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)                             |             |
|  |   |       |              |   | Code  | v   | (A)  | (D)  | Date<br>Exercis | able    | Expiration<br>Date  | Title         | or<br>Num<br>of<br>Shar |  |  |   |                                      |   |             |

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

/s/Darren DeStefano, Attorney-in-Fact

12/18/2020

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

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.

<sup>\*</sup> If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).