

MEDICINES CO /DE  
Form SC 13G/A  
February 17, 2004

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 OMB APPROVAL  
 -----  
 OMB Number: 3235-0145  
 -----  
 Expires: December 31, 2005  
 -----  
 Estimated average burden  
 hours per response...11  
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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G  
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
(AMENDMENT NO. 3) \*

THE MEDICINES COMPANY  
-----  
(Name of Issuer)

COMMON STOCK  
-----  
(Title of Class of Securities)

584688105  
-----  
(CUSIP Number)

DECEMBER 31, 2003  
-----  
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing This Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

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The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed " for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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CUSIP No. 584688105  
-----

1. Names of Reporting Persons BB BIOTECH AG  
-----

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only): N/  
-----

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a)  [X]

(b)  [ ]

3. SEC Use Only  
-----

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization SWITZERLAND  
-----

Number of Shares Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person with:	5. Sole Voting Power	0 -----
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6. Shared Voting Power	4,024, -----
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7. Sole Dispositive Power	0 -----
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8. Shared Dispositive Power	4,700, -----
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9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person	4,700,000 (1) -----
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10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares

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11. Percent of Class Represented by amount in Row (9) 9.  
-----
12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions) HC, CO  
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(1) Includes 675,925 shares of Common Stock issuable to Biotech Growth N.V. upon the exercise of

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CUSIP No. 584688105  
-----

1. Names of Reporting Persons BIOTECH GROWTH N.V.  
-----
- I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only): N/  
-----

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)
- (a)  [X]
- (b)  [ ]

3. SEC Use Only  
-----

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization NETHERLANDS ANTILLES  
-----

- |  |                             |           |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Number of Shares Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person with: | 5. Sole Voting Power        | 0         |
|  | 6. Shared Voting Power      | 4,024     |
|  | 7. Sole Dispositive Power   | 0         |
|  | 8. Shared Dispositive Power | 4,700     |
| 9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person    |                             | 4,700,000 |

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10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares

11. Percent of Class Represented by amount in Row (9)

9.9

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)

CO

(1) Includes 675,925 shares of Common Stock issuable to Biotech Growth N.V. upon the exercise of

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ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

(a) Amount beneficially owned: 4,700,000 (1)

(b) Percent of class: 9.9%

(c) Number of shares as to which the person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote 0

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote 4,024,000

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 0

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 4,700,000

(1) Includes 675,925 shares of Common Stock issuable to Biotech Growth N.V. upon the exercise of

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ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose

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of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

BB BIOTECH AG

/s/ ROLAND MAIER

-----  
By: Roland Maier  
Its: Authorized Signatory  
Date: February 17, 2004

/s/ ADRIAN BRUENGGER

-----  
By: Adrian Bruengger  
Its: Authorized Signatory  
Date: February 17, 2004

BIOTECH GROWTH N.V.

/s/ ROLAND MAIER

-----  
By: Roland Maier  
Its: Authorized Signatory  
Date: February 17, 2004

/s/ ADRIAN BRUENGGER

-----  
By: Adrian Bruengger  
Its: Authorized Signatory  
Date: February 17, 2004

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit 1: Agreement by and between BB Biotech and BioGrowth with respect to the filing of this disclosure statement.\*

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\* Previously filed.