

Flynn James E
 Form 4
 July 23, 2018

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Flynn James E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 AERIE PHARMACEUTICALS INC
 [AERI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 780 THIRD AVENUE, 37TH FLOOR,
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 07/23/2018

____ Director
 ____ Officer (give title below)
 ____ 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)
 Possible Member of a 10% Group

NEW YORK, NY 10017

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 ____ Form filed by One Reporting Person
X 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. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction 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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock					2,675,638 ⁽¹⁾	I	Through Deerfield Private Design Fund III, L.P. ⁽²⁾ ⁽³⁾
Common Stock					1,027,056 ⁽¹⁾	I	Through Deerfield Partners, L.P. ⁽²⁾ ⁽³⁾
					188,357 ⁽¹⁾	I	

Common
Stock

Through
Deerfield
Special
Situations
Fund, L.P.
(2) (3)

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

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(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction 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 (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships	
	Director	10% Owner
Flynn James E 780 THIRD AVENUE, 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017		X
Deerfield Mgmt L.P. 780 THIRD AVENUE 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017		X
DEERFIELD MANAGEMENT COMPANY, L.P. (SERIES C) 780 THIRD AVENUE, 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017		X

Deerfield Special Situations Fund, L.P. 780 3RD AVENUE 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017	X	Possible Member of a 10% Group
Deerfield Mgmt III, L.P. 780 THIRD AVENUE, 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017	X	Possible Member of a 10% Group
Deerfield Private Design Fund III, L.P. 780 THIRD AVENUE, 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017	X	Possible Member of a 10% Group
DEERFIELD PARTNERS, L.P. 780 THIRD AVENUE 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017	X	Possible Member of a 10% Group

Signatures

/s/ Jonathan Isler,
Attorney-in-Fact

07/23/2018

__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).

This Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership is being filed by the Reporting Persons (as defined below) to report changes in beneficial ownership that resulted from each Fund (as defined below) closing short positions that were established prior to the Reporting Persons becoming subject to the reporting requirements of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, with respect to the securities of the Issuer by delivering shares to applicable broker(s). Upon the closing of such short positions, the Reporting Persons ceased to be subject to such reporting requirements with respect to securities of the Issuer.

This Form 4 is being filed by the undersigned as well as the entities listed on the Joint Filer Information Statement attached as an exhibit hereto (the "Reporting Persons"). Deerfield Mgmt III, L.P. is the general partner of Deerfield Private Design Fund III, L.P. ("Fund III"). Deerfield Mgmt, L.P. is the general partner of Deerfield Partners, L.P. and Deerfield Special Situations Fund, L.P. (collectively with Fund III, the "Funds"). Deerfield Management Company, L.P. is the investment manager of the Funds. James E. Flynn is the sole member of the general partner of each of Deerfield Mgmt III, L.P., Deerfield Mgmt, L.P. and Deerfield Management Company, L.P.

In accordance with Instruction 4(b)(iv) to Form 4, the entire amount of the Issuer's securities held by the Funds is reported herein. For purposes of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, each Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of any such securities, except to the extent of his/its indirect pecuniary interest therein, if any, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that such Reporting Person is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or otherwise.

Remarks:

Jonathan Isler, Attorney-in-Fact: Power of Attorney, which is hereby incorporated by reference to Exhibit 24 to a Form 3 with

See footnote (1)

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.