Markham Richard J Form 4 March 26, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

obligations may continue. See Instruction

See Instruction

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 * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Markham Richard J Issuer Symbol ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, (Check all applicable) INC [ACUR] _X__ Director (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction 10% Owner Officer (give title _ Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 47 HULFISH STREET, SUITE 310 03/24/2009 (Street) 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 PRINCETON, NJ 08542 Person (City) (State) (Zin

(City)	(State)	Tabl	e I - Non-D	erivative S	Securi	ties Acq	uired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficia	lly Owned
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securit	ies Ac	quired	5. Amount of	6.	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D)			Securities	Ownership	Indirect	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Beneficially	Form: Direct	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)				Owned	(D) or	Ownership
							Following	Indirect (I)	(Instr. 4)
					(A)		Reported	(Instr. 4)	
					(A)		Transaction(s)		
			Code V	Amount	or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
C						ф			See
Common Stock	03/24/2009		S	35,000	D	\$ 7.11	76,689	I	Footnote. (1) (2)

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

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

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

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1.	Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	7. Titl	le and	8. Price of	9. Nu
D	erivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	onNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	ınt of	Derivative	Deriv
S	ecurity	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secui
(I	nstr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
		Derivative				Securities	3		(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne
		Security				Acquired						Follo
		•				(A) or						Repo
						Disposed						Trans
						of (D)						(Instr
						(Instr. 3,						`
						4, and 5)						
						, ,						
										Amount		
							Date	Expiration		or		
								Exercisable Date	Title	le Number		
							LACICISABIC			of		
					Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
r g	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Markham Richard J 47 HULFISH STREET SUITE 310 PRINCETON, NJ 08542	X						

Signatures

/s/ Richard J.
Markham

**Signature of Reporting

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).

The reportable securities are owned directly by Care Capital Investments II, L.P. and indirectly by Care Capital II, LLC as general partner of Care Capital Investments II, L.P. The reporting person is a managing member of Care Capital II, LLC. The reporting person is a

- (1) director of the Issuer, but disclaims beneficial ownership of the reportable securities, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that he is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose, except to the extent of its pecuniary interest therein.
 - The reportable securities are owned directly by Care Capital Offshore Investments II, L.P. and indirectly by Care Capital II, LLC as general partner of Care Capital Offshore Investments II, L.P. The reporting person is a managing member of Care Capital II, LLC. The
- (2) reporting person is a director of the Issuer, but disclaims beneficial ownership of the reportable securities, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that he is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose, except to the extent of its pecuniary interest therein.

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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