

# ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC

Reported by  
**JONES ROBERT B**

## FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 12/12/16 for the Period Ending 12/08/16

Address	616 N. NORTH COURT, SUITE 120 PALATINE, IL 60067
Telephone	847-705-7709
CIK	0000786947
Symbol	ACUR
SIC Code	2834 - Pharmaceutical Preparations
Industry	Biotechnology & Medical Research
Sector	Healthcare
Fiscal Year	12/31

# FORM 4

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

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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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)	
<b>Jones Robert B</b>		<b>ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ ACUR ]</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director _____ 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) <b>President and CEO</b>	
(Last) (First) (Middle) <b>C/O ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., 616 N NORTH COURT</b>		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) <b>12/8/2016</b>			
(Street) <b>PALATINE, IL 60067</b>		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)	
(City) (State) (Zip)				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans. Date	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Trans. 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			

**Table II - Derivative Securities 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. Trans. Date	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Trans. 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		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V		(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date				
Stock Options	\$0.915 (1)	12/8/2016		A		47000	(2)	12/7/2026	Common Stock	47000	(3)	47000	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- (1) Exercise price is closing price of Issuer's common stock on December 8, 2016.
- (2) one-twenty-fourth of shares underlying options vest and are exercisable on the last day of each month commencing December 31, 2016 and ending on November 30, 2018. Option vesting and exercisability is accelerated upon a qualifying change of control and on termination of employment for certain reasons.
- (3) Not Applicable.

**Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
<b>Jones Robert B C/O ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 616 N NORTH COURT PALATINE, IL 60067</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>President and CEO</b>	

**Signatures**

/s/ **Robert B. Jones** 12/9/2016

\*\*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 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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