

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC  
 Form 4  
 March 21, 2012

**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 \*  
 GCE Holdings LLC

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ACUR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 47 HULFISH STREET, SUITE 310  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 03/19/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

PRINCETON, NJ 08542

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 \_\_\_\_ 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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	03/19/2012		S		45,900	D	\$ 3.83 (1)
Common Stock	03/20/2012		S		80,400	D	\$ 4.12 (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)

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 Beneficially (Instr. 5)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
GCE Holdings LLC 47 HULFISH STREET SUITE 310 PRINCETON, NJ 08542		X		

## Signatures

/s/ David R. Ramsay                      03/21/2012

\_\_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).
- (1) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$3.49 to \$3.95, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to Acura Pharmaceuticals, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in footnotes (1) and (2) to this Form 4.
- (2) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$3.92 to \$4.20, inclusive.
- (3) Galen Partners III, L.P., Galen Partners International III, L.P. and Galen Employee Fund III, L.P. (collectively, "Galen"), Care Capital Investments II, LP and Care Capital Offshore Investments II, LP (collectively, "Care Capital") and Essex Woodlands Health Ventures Fund V, L.P. ("Essex") own approximately 39.8%, 30.6% and 29.6%, respectively, of the membership interests in GCE Holdings LLC.
- (4) The following natural persons exercise voting, investment and dispositive rights over the securities held of record by GCE Holdings LLC: (i) Galen Partners III, L.P., Galen Partners International III, L.P. and Galen Employee Fund III, L.P., L. John Wilkerson, David W. Jahns, and Zubeen Shroff; (ii) Care Capital Investments II, LP and Care Capital Offshore Investments II, LP: Jan Leschly, Richard Markham, Argeris Karabelas and David Ramsay; and (iii) Essex Woodlands Health Ventures Fund V, L.P.: Immanuel Thangaraj, James L. Currie and Martin P. Sutter. Amounts for GCE Holdings, LLC exclude 1,786,481 shares underlying warrants, exercisable at \$3.40 per share, and

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also exclude any shares held directly by Galen, Care Capital or Essex.

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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