Markham Richard J Form 4 May 27, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL OMB

Number:

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

obligations

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

may continue. See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Markham Richard J			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
			ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ACUR]	(Check all applicable)			
(Last) 47 HULFISH	(First) STREET, S	(Middle) UITE 310	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/22/2009	_X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)			
DDINGETON	(Street)		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			
PRINCETON, NJ 08542 (City) (State) (Zin)				Person			

(City)	(State)	Tabl	e I - Non-D	erivative S	Securi	ties Acq	uired, Disposed	of, or Beneficia	lly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit on(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4	sposed 4 and 5 (A) or	of (D)	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	(D)	Price	(C
Common Stock	05/22/2009		S	5,800	D	\$ 7.5	20,923	I	See Footnotes
Common Stock	05/26/2009		S	10,000	D	\$ 7.38	10,923	I	See Footnotes (1) (2)

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

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

1. Title of	f 2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	7. Titl	le and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivativ	e Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	ınt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	/Year)	Under	rlying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivativ	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities	S		(Instr.	. 3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									A		
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration	T:41-	or Namel		
					Exercisable	Date		Number			
				C-1- V	(A) (D)				of		
				Code v	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> 10% Owner Officer Other Director

Markham Richard J 47 HULFISH STREET, SUITE 310 X PRINCETON, NJ 08542

Signatures

/s/ Richard J. 05/27/2009 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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