SEC Form 4

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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)
CLEMENS PETER A (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 616 N. NORTH COURT SUITE 120 (Street) PALATINE IL 60067 (City) (State) (Zip)	ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ACUR] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/16/2022 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	Director / 10% Owner X Officer (give title below) / Other (specify below) Senior VP & CFO 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person 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. 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			

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 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: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Restricted Stock Unit(1)	$0.01(2)	03/16/2022		A		40,000		(3)	(3)	Common Stock	40,000	(4)	129,333	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Awarded under the Acura Pharmaceuticals Inc. 2021 Restricted Stock Unit Award Plan (the "Plan").

2. Par value of $.01 must be paid by Reporting Person upon exchange of Restricted Stock Units for stock.

3. 100% of Restricted Stock Units vest on December 31, 2022 or earlier if Reporting Person's service as an employee of Issuer is terminated by Issuer without Cause (as defined in the Plan) or due to Reporting Person's death or Disability (as defined in the Plan) or a qualifying change of control occurs. Distributions in respect of vested Restricted Stock Units will be made in three equal installments on the first business day of each of January 2024, 2025, and 2026 or earlier upon a qualifying change of control which also meets certain criteria of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code.

4. Not Applicable.

/s/ Peter A. Clemens — 03/16/2022

** 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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