

FORM 8-K

September 30, 2004
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

STATE OF NEW YORK	1-10113	11-0853640
(State of Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

616 N. NORTH COURT, SUITE 120
PALATINE, ILLINOIS 60067
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(847) 705-7709
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

HALSEY DRUG CO., INC.
(Former Name or Former Address if Changed Since Last Report)

[_] Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

[_] Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.14a-12)

[_] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17CFR240.14d-2(b))

[] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.13e-4(c))

On September 30, 2004, Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the "Company") issued 261,309 shares of its Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share (the "Common Stock") to the holders (the "Noteholders") of a certain Secured Promissory Note (the "Note") in the principal amount of \$5 million dated as of December 20, 2002. The issuance of Common Stock represents an in-kind payment of accrued and unpaid interest on the Note for the quarter ended September 30, 2004.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: /s/ Peter A. Clemens

Peter A. Clemens

Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer

Date: September 30, 2004