

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

DIVISION OF CORPORATION FINANCE

October 16, 2014

<u>Via E-mail</u> Peter A. Clemens Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 616 N. North Court Suite 120 Palatine, Illinois 60067

Re: Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Annual Report on Form 10-K Filed March 3, 2014 File No. 001-10113

Dear Mr. Clemens:

We have completed our review of your filing. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filing and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeffrey P. Riedler

Jeffrey P. Riedler Assistant Director

cc: John P. Reilly LeClairRyan One Riverfront Plaza 1037 Raymond Boulevard, Seventh Floor Newark, NJ 07102