

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF
SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL	
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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* <u>Azad David</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O GALEN PARTNERS</u> <u>680 WASHINGTON BLVD</u> (Street) <u>STAMFORD CT</u> <u>06901</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) <u>07/28/2011</u>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ACUR]</u>	
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)
			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
No Securities Owned ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	0	D	

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)							
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

Explanation of Responses:

1. This Form reports holdings immediately before Mr. Azad became a Director on July 28, 2011.
2. Mr. Azad is a Managing Director of Galen Partners. Partners of Galen Partners exercise voting, investment and dispositive control of (i) Issuer's 391,294 shares held by Galen Partners III, L.P., Galen Partners International III, L.P. and Galen Employee Fund III, L.P. (collectively, "Galen") and (ii) Galen's 39.3% interest in GCE Holdings LLC which owns 32,778,475 shares and warrants to purchase an additional 1,786,481 shares exercisable at \$3.40 per share, of Issuer's Common Stock. Mr. Azad disclaims beneficial ownership of the foregoing securities, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

Remarks:

/s/ David Azad 08/04/2011
** 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 5 (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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.