

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Schutte John</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) 2604 RIVER GREEN CIRCLE (Street) LOUISVILLE KY 40206 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ACUR]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/09/2021	
	4. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> 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			
Common Stock							8,912,655	D		
Common Stock	06/09/2021		C		42,984,375	A	\$0.16	42,984,375	I	By Abuse Deterrent Pharma, LLC ⁽¹⁾

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				
Warrant to Purchase Common Stock	\$0.528							07/24/2017	07/23/2022	Common Stock	1,782,531		1,782,531	D	
Warrant to Purchase Common Stock	\$0.01							06/28/2019	06/28/2024	Common Stock	10,000,000		10,000,000	I	By Abuse Deterrent Pharma, LLC ⁽¹⁾
Convertible Promissory Note	\$0.16	06/09/2021		C			\$6,877,500 ⁽²⁾	06/28/2019	⁽³⁾	Common Stock	42,984,375	\$0	0	I	By Abuse Deterrent Pharma, LLC ⁽¹⁾

Explanation of Responses:

- The Reporting Person is the manager and a member of AD Pharma. The Reporting Person hereby disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities, except to the extent of any pecuniary interest therein, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that such person is the beneficial owner of the securities for purposes of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or for any other purpose.
- On the conversion date, \$6,000,000 of principal and \$877,500 of interest under the note was converted into the Issuer's common stock. For each \$0.16 converted, AD Pharma received one share of common stock.
- This note is convertible, at the election of AD Pharma, at any time prior to repayment of the note and matures on July 1, 2023.

/s/ John Schutte

06/24/2021

** 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.

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.