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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act Of 1934

December 9, 2013
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)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

› 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))

Item 8.01 Other Events

On December 9, 2013 we issued a press release announcing an update on our abuse deterrent hydrocodone with acetaminophen combination tablet drug development program. The press release is attached hereto and filed as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

Exhibit Number	**Description**
99.1	Press Release dated December 9, 2013

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: December 9, 2013

Exhibit Index

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Press Release dated December 9, 2013

Acura Pharmaceuticals Provides Update on its Abuse Deterrent Hydrocodone/Acetaminophen Combination Drug Development

PALATINE, Ill., December 9, 2013: Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ACUR) today announced that it met on December 5th with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to review the results of Acura's Study AP-ADF-301 (Study 301), a phase II clinical study in 40 recreational drug abusers assessing the abuse liability of snorting a crushed hydrocodone bitartrate with acetaminophen tablet formulated with Acura's abuse deterrent AVERSION technology (AVERSION H&A). The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss if the FDA will consider whether the results of Study 301 are acceptable for submission in a New Drug Application (NDA). The meeting was designated a pre-NDA meeting.

The FDA agreed to further review the study results and supporting data within the context of the meeting discussions and provide a definitive response as to the suitability of Study 301 to be considered in an NDA review, including as part of product labeling. The Company and FDA also discussed, among other things, certain inactive ingredients contained in Acura's AVERSION technology, and the Company agreed to capture specific adverse events and safety information associated with these ingredients within its remaining planned development program. At this time, the Company does not expect the need to run additional clinical studies to provide the additional information requested by the FDA, beyond the pharmacokinetic studies planned but currently on hold.

A revised projected timeline for submission of the NDA for AVERSION H&A will be determined following receipt of the FDA's response.

"We had a collegial and informative meeting with the FDA," said Bob Jones, President and CEO of Acura. "We are pleased that, following our discussions and clarifications, FDA has agreed to further review the results of our Study 301. We look forward to a timely response from the FDA."

About Study 301

Study 301 was a phase II, single-center, randomized, double-blind, 5-period crossover assessment of the abuse liability potential of snorting crushed AVERSION H&A tablets. Forty subjects with a history of insufflating opioids were randomized into the treatment phase of the study after demonstrating they could adequately distinguish euphoria or "high" (measured as drug liking) between placebo and two different doses of hydrocodone/APAP (the drug discrimination phase).

In the blinded treatment phase. fasted subjects snorted a single dose of five different crushed study drugs every 48 hours, using either 10mg or 20mg of hydrocodone bitartrate based on the lowest dose the subject could adequately distinguish in the drug discrimination phase. Study drugs were administered in a randomized crossover design. The primary study drugs were placebo, Generic H&A, and AVERSION H&A. Two active control drugs were used to blind the subjects to the different powder volumes of the primary study drugs and provide information on the impact of powder volume and the AVERSION ingredients on drug liking scores.

Subjects snorted the crushed study drugs using both nostrils over 5 minutes in a design to visually blind the study drugs. The primary endpoint was the subjects' maximum score (Emax) of their drug like/dislike on a 101-point visual analog scale (VAS) at various intervals following administration, with a score of 0 indicating a strong dislike, 100 a strong like and 50 a neutral response. Secondary endpoints measured on a 101-point VAS scale included the minimum score (Emin) of their drug like/dislike, the subjects' willingness to take drug again, assessment of overall drug like/dislike, and assessment of drug high. Subjects also responded to a 6-point Likert scale for nasopharyngeal and facial side effects associated with the AVERSION technology. Pharmacokinetic blood samples were also collected and analyzed for each subject.

About Acura Pharmaceuticals

Acura Pharmaceuticals is a specialty pharmaceutical company engaged in the research, development and commercialization of product candidates intended to address medication abuse and misuse, utilizing its proprietary AVERSION® and IMPEDE® technologies. AVERSION contains polymers that cause the drug to gel when dissolved; it also contains compounds that irritate the nasal passages. IMPEDE is designed to disrupt the processing of pseudoephedrine from tablets into methamphetamine.

In June 2011, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved OXECTA® (oxycodone HCl tablets) which incorporates the AVERSION® technology. The Company has a development pipeline of additional AVERSION technology products containing other opioids.

In December 2012, the Company commenced commercialization of NEXAFED® [pseudoephedrine hydrochloride (HCl)], a 30 mg immediate-release abuse-deterrent decongestant. The next generation pseudoephedrine tablet combines effective nasal congestion relief with IMPEDE technology, a unique polymer matrix that disrupts the conversion of pseudoephedrine into the dangerous drug, methamphetamine.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this press release constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forwarding-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking results, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to our expectations of the results of Study 301, our expectations relating to AVERSION H&A or other AVERSION Technology product candidates, our expectations relating to suitability of the Study 301 results for filing with the FDA, including for use in labeling of the product, and the absence of need to conduct additional nasal abuse like/dislike studies or other studies for AVERSION H&A, the expected timing of submission of the NDA for AVERSION H&A to the FDA, our expectations of the side affects associated with AVERSION H&A or other AVERSION Technology product candidates, the results of our meeting with the FDA, our ability to file for and obtain FDA approval of the NDA for AVERSION H&A, our ability to obtain labeling for AVERSION H&A containing the results of Study 301, our and our licensee's ability to successfully launch and commercialize our products and technologies including OXECTA Tablets and NEXAFED Tablets, the price discounting that may be offered by Pfizer for OXECTA, our and our licensee's ability to obtain necessary regulatory approvals and commercialize products utilizing our technologies and the market acceptance of and competitive environment for any of our products, the willingness of wholesalers and pharmacies to stock NEXAFED Tablets, expectations regarding potential market share for our products and the timing of first sales, our ability to enter into additional license agreements for our other product candidates, our exposure to product liability and other lawsuits in connection with the commercialization of our products, the increased cost of insurance and the availability of product liability insurance coverage, the ability to avoid infringement of patents, trademarks and other proprietary rights of third parties, and the ability of our patents to protect our products from generic competition, our ability to protect and enforce our patent rights in any paragraph IV patent infringement litigation, and the ability to fulfill the FDA requirements for approving our product candidates for commercial manufacturing and distribution in the United States, including, without limitation, the adequacy of the results of the laboratory and clinical studies completed to date, the results of laboratory and clinical studies we may complete in the future to support FDA approval of our product candidates and the sufficiency of our development to meet over-the-counter, or OTC, Monograph standards as applicable, the adequacy of the development program for our product candidates, including whether additional clinical studies will be required to support FDA approval of our product candidates, changes in regulatory requirements, adverse safety findings relating to our product candidates, whether the FDA will agree with our analysis of our clinical and laboratory studies and how it may evaluate the results of these studies or whether further studies of our product candidates will be required to support FDA approval, whether or when we are able to obtain FDA approval of labeling for our product candidates for the proposed indications and will be able to promote the features of our abuse discouraging technologies, whether our product candidates will ultimately deter abuse in commercial settings and whether our Impede technology will disrupt the processing of pseudoephedrine into methamphetamine. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "should," "could," "would," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "projects," Predicts," "potential" and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We discuss many of these risks in greater detail in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Contact:
for Acura Investor Relations
investors@acurapharm.com
847-705-7709

for Acura Media Relations
pr@acurapharm.com
847-705-7709