

Acura Pharmaceuticals to Host First Quarter 2012 Financial Results Conference Call on May 2, 2012

Palatine, IL (April 24, 2012) - Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ACUR), a specialty pharmaceutical company innovating <u>abuse deterrent drugs</u>, today announced that the company plans to report financial results for the first quarter of 2012 following the close of financial markets on Tuesday, May 1, 2012. The company will host a conference call to discuss the results on Wednesday, May 2, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. ET.

To participate in the live conference call, please dial 888-857-6929 (U.S. and Canada) or 719-457-2658 (international) five to ten minutes prior to the start of the call. The participant passcode is 5534513. A live audio webcast will also be available through the "Investors" section of the company's website, http://www.acurapharm.com.

A replay of the call will be available beginning May 2, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. ET and ending on May 16, 2012 on the company's website, and by dialing 888-203-1112 (U.S. and Canada) or 719-457-0820 (international). The replay participant code is 5534513.

About Acura Pharmaceuticals

Acura Pharmaceuticals is a specialty pharmaceutical company engaged in the research, development and commercialization of product candidates intended to address <u>medication abuse and misuse</u>, utilizing its proprietary AVERSION® and IMPEDE technologies. In June 2011, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, approved OXECTA® which incorporates the AVERSION technology. The Company has a development pipeline of additional AVERSION technology products including other opioids, stimulants and benzodiazepines and its IMPEDE technology for pseudoephedrine hydrochloride products.

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