FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| washington, D.C. 20040                       | OMB APPROVAL |          |  |  |
|--|--------------|----------|--|--|
| STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP | OMB Number:  | 3235-028 |  |  |

Estimated average burden hours per response:

0.5

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

|  |   |  |           |   | UI Sec  |  | (II) OI THE   | iiivesiii       | ieni Ci | лпрапу А                         | CLUII   | 940    |  |   |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|-----------|---|---|--|---|-----------------|---------|----------------------------------|---|--------|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Seiser Robert A  |   |  |           |   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ ACUR ] |  |   |                 |         |                                  |   |        |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner  Officer (give title Other (specify |   |   |  |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 616 N. NORTH COURT SUITE 120   |   |  |           | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/14/2017 |   |  |   |                 |         |                                  |   |        | X Officer (give title Other (specify below)  VP, Controller & Treasurer  |   |   |   |  |  |
| (Street) PALATINE IL 60067 (City) (State) (Zip)  |   |  |           | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)    |   |  |   |                 |         |                                  |   |        | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person     Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | Tabl   | e I - Nor | n-Deriva  | ative S   | ecuri  | ties Ac   | quire           | d, Di   | sposed                           | of, o   | or Ben | efici  | ally  | Owne  | ed  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da   |   |  |           | Execution Date,   |   | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Ac Disposed Of (D) 5) |   |                 |         |                                  | and Securi<br>Benef   |        | cially<br>I Following  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)   | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership   |   |  |  |
|  |   |  |           |   |   |  | Cod   | e V             | Amoui   | nt                               | (A) or<br>(D)   | Price  | Drice T  |   | action(s)<br>3 and 4)   |   | (Instr. 4)   |  |
| Common Stock 12/14/  |   |  |           |   | 2017  |  |   | P <sup>(1</sup> | )       | 300,                             | 000   | A      | \$0  | ).1   | 322,490   |   | D  |  |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |   |  |           |   |   |  |   |                 |         |                                  |   |        |  |   |   |   |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any ice of erivative (Month/Day/Year) |           | Date,   | ransaction of ode (Instr. Derivative  |  | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)  Date Expiration |                 |         | Ar<br>Se<br>Ur<br>De<br>Se<br>an | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>and 4) |        | nt   |   | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. Reporting Person is among buyers of shares in a private transaction pursuant to a stock purchase agreement entered into with Galen Partners III, LP, Galen Employee Fund III, LP and Galen Partners International III, LP in connection with their disposition of substantially all of their shares of Issuer.

## Remarks:

/s/ Robert Seiser 12/14/2017

\*\* 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.