

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

☐ 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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| OMB APPROVAL                                 |           |
|--|-----------|
| OMB Number:                                  | 3235-0287 |
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|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><u>CARE CAPITAL II LLC</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>47 HULFISH STREET SUITE 310</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>PRINCETON NJ 08542</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><u>ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ ACUR ]</u><br><br>3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br><u>05/22/2009</u><br><br>4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)<br><br>Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner<br><br>Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input checked="" 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   | 05/22/2009                           |  | S                              |   | 5,800   | D          | \$7.5  | 20,923  | I  | See Footnotes <sup>(1)(2)</sup>                       |
| Common Stock   | 05/26/2009                           |  | S                              |   | 10,000  | D          | \$7.38 | 10,923  | I  | See Footnotes <sup>(1)(2)</sup>                       |

| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned<br>(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                 |  |   |  |

|   |
|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><u>CARE CAPITAL II LLC</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>47 HULFISH STREET SUITE 310</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>PRINCETON NJ 08542</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip)            |
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><u>CARE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS II LP</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>47 HULFISH STREET SUITE 310</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>PRINCETON NJ 08542</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip) |
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><u>Care Capital Offshore Investments II LP</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>47 HULFISH STREET SUITE 310</u>   |

|  |    |       |
|--|----|-------|
| (Street)                                 |    |       |
| PRINCETON                                | NJ | 08542 |
| (City) (State) (Zip)                     |    |       |
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* |    |       |
| Ramsay David Russ                        |    |       |
| (Last) (First) (Middle)                  |    |       |
| 47 HULFISH STREET SUITE 310              |    |       |
| (Street)                                 |    |       |
| PRINCETON                                | NJ | 08542 |
| (City) (State) (Zip)                     |    |       |

Explanation of Responses:

1. The reportable securities are owned directly by Care Capital Investments II, L.P. and indirectly by Care Capital II, LLC as general partner of Care Capital Investments II, L.P. Care Capital II, LLC disclaims beneficial ownership of the reportable securities and this report shall not be deemed an admission that Care Capital II, LLC is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose, except to the extent of its pecuniary interest therein. David Ramsay is one of the managing members of Care Capital II, LLC. Mr. Ramsay disclaims beneficial ownership of the reportable securities and this report shall not be deemed an admission that he is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

2. The reportable securities are owned directly by Care Capital Offshore Investments II, L.P. and indirectly by Care Capital II, LLC as general partner of Care Capital Offshore Investments II, L.P. Care Capital II, LLC disclaims beneficial ownership of the reportable securities and this report shall not be deemed an admission that Care Capital II, LLC is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose, except to the extent of its pecuniary interest therein. David Ramsay is one of the managing members of Care Capital II, LLC. Mr. Ramsay disclaims beneficial ownership of the reportable securities and this report shall not be deemed an admission that he is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

/s/ David R. Ramsay.  
Authorized Signatory

05/27/2009

\*\* 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.