

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

November 4, 2013  
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

---

**ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

---

**State of New York**  
(State of Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**1-10113**  
(Commission File Number)

**11-0853640**  
(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 November 4, 2013 we issued a press release announcing that Nexafed® [pseudoephedrine hydrochloride (HCl)], our next generation pseudoephedrine with abuse deterrent technology, will now be stocked by Rite Aid Pharmacies. The press release is attached hereto and filed as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01        Financial Statements and Exhibits**

<b><u>Exhibit Number</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
------------------------------	---------------------------

99.1	Press Release dated November 4, 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: November 4, 2013

---

**Exhibit Index**

**Exhibit Number**

**Description**

99.1	Press Release dated November 4, 2013
------	--------------------------------------

---



**Acura Pharmaceuticals  
Announces Distribution of Nexafed®  
by Rite Aid Pharmacies**

**Palatine, IL** (November 4, 2013) - Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ACUR), today announced that NEXAFED [pseudoephedrine hydrochloride (HCl)], its next generation pseudoephedrine with abuse deterrent technology, will now be stocked by Rite Aid Pharmacies. NEXAFED is a 30 mg immediate-release pseudoephedrine product that combines effective nasal-congestion relief with a unique technology that disrupts the conversion of pseudoephedrine into the dangerous drug, methamphetamine (meth). Meth production and abuse is a growing problem in communities nationwide.

**About NEXAFED**

NEXAFED [pseudoephedrine hydrochloride (HCl)] is 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. Specifically, the Impede® technology forms a thick gel when the tablets are dissolved in solvents typically used in the pseudoephedrine extraction or methamphetamine production processes, trapping the pseudoephedrine or converted methamphetamine to prevent its isolation or purification.

**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. In June 2011, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved OXECTA which incorporates the AVERSION technology. The Company has a development pipeline of additional AVERSION technology products including other opioids and its IMPEDE technology for pseudoephedrine hydrochloride products.

The trademark OXECTA is owned by Pfizer Inc.

---

## **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 forward-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 statements. Forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to, 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 Aversion Technology product candidates, our exposure to product liability and other lawsuits in connection with the commercialization of our products, the increasing 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 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,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “would,” “expects,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “indicates,” “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](mailto:investors@acurapharm.com)

847-705-7709

**for Acura Media Relations**

[pr@acurapharm.com](mailto:pr@acurapharm.com)

847-705-7709

---