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

June 2, 2008
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):

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d- 2(b))

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.13e- 4(c))

Item 8.01 Other Events

On June 2, 2008 Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ("Acura") issued the attached press release being furnished as Exhibit 99.1, announcing that clinical evaluation is now permitted under an active Investigational New Drug application for a certain opioid analgesic product candidate using Aversion® technology, previously licensed by Acura to King Pharmaceuticals Research and Development, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of King Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

Exhibit Number	**Description**
99.1	Press Release of the Registrant dated June 2, 2008.

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: June 2, 2008

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Press Release of the Registrant dated June 2, 2008.

Acura Pharmaceuticals Contact:
Peter A. Clemens, SVP Investor Relations & CFO
847-705-7709

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
ANNOUNCES ACTIVE IND FOR SECOND OPIOID ANALGESIC PRODUCT CANDIDATE USING AVERSION® TECHNOLOGY

PALATINE, ILLINOIS, June 2, 2008 - Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ACUR) today announced that clinical evaluation is now allowed under an active Investigational New Drug application ("IND") for a second undisclosed opioid analgesic product candidate using Aversion® Technology. This product candidate was previously licensed by Acura to King Pharmaceuticals Research and Development, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of King Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ("King") as a result of the License, Development and Commercialization Agreement between the companies. Acura and King are jointly developing opioid analgesic product candidates utilizing Acura's proprietary Aversion® Technology. These product candidates are intended to deter common methods of prescription drug misuse and abuse.

About Acura Pharmaceuticals

Acura Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a specialty pharmaceutical company engaged in research, development and manufacture of innovative Aversion® (abuse deterrent) Technology and related product candidates.

Forward-looking Statements

This release contains forward-looking statements which reflect management's current views of future events and operations, including, but not limited to, plans to develop immediate-release opioid analgesic products utilizing Acura's proprietary Aversion® Technology platform. These forward-looking statements involve certain significant risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially from the forward-looking statements. Some important factors which may cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements include dependence on the Company's ability to continue to advance the development of its pipeline products as planned; dependence on the high cost and uncertainty of research, clinical trials, and other development activities involving pharmaceutical products in which the company has an interest; dependence on the unpredictability of the duration and results of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration review of Investigational New Drug applications, New Drug Applications and/or the review of other regulatory agencies worldwide that relate to products in development; dependence on the availability and cost of raw materials; dependence on no material interruptions in supply by contract manufacturers of products in development; dependence on the affect of the potential development and approval of other new competitive products; dependence on unexpected adverse side-effects or inadequate therapeutic efficacy of the Company's drug candidates that could slow or prevent product approval or market acceptance (including the risk that current and past results of clinical trials are not necessarily indicative of future results of clinical trials). Other important factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements are discussed in the "Risk Factors" section and other sections of Acura's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 and Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 which are on file with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company does not undertake to publicly update or revise any of its forward-looking statements even if experience or future changes show that the indicated results or events will not be realized.