ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC

Form 4

March 13, 2012

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB Number:

Expires:

response...

3235-0287 January 31,

0.5

Check this box if no longer

subject to Section 16. STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

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Form 4 or Form 5

obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SKELLY WILLIAM G

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS,

(Check all applicable)

INC [ACUR]

(Last) (First) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

X_ Director Officer (give title

10% Owner Other (specify

C/O ACURA

(Middle)

(Zip)

PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., 616 N. NORTH COURT

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Month/Day/Year)

03/12/2012

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

PALATINE, IL 60067

(City) (State)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A)

Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

Common Stock

03/12/2012

S 5,000

75,000 (1)

D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

(9-02)

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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. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		ate	7. Title a Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 a	of ng s	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	or Title Nu of	umber		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SKELLY WILLIAM G C/O ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 616 N. NORTH COURT PALATINE, IL 60067

X

Signatures

/s/ William

Skelly 03/13/2012

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) Includes 50,000 Restricted Stock Units.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

Reporting Owners 2