

Akebia Therapeutics, Inc.  
 Form 4  
 December 18, 2014

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL  
 OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 Butler John P.  
  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)  
 C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS,  
 INC., 245 FIRST STREET, SUITE  
 1100  
  
 (Street)  
 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142  
  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. [AKBA]  
  
 3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/15/2014

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 CEO and President

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Common Stock                    | 12/15/2014                           |  | P                              | (A)<br>1,000<br>(1)   | \$<br>11.3364   | 46,350   | D   |

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

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SEC 1474  
 (9-02)

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

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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. 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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|

  

| Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
|------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------------|
|------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------------|

  

| Code | V | (A) | (D) |
|------|---|-----|-----|
|------|---|-----|-----|

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| Butler John P.<br>C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC.<br>245 FIRST STREET, SUITE 1100<br>CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142 | X             |           | CEO and President |       |

## Signatures

Nicole R. Hadas, as Attorney-in-Fact for John P. Butler  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person

12/18/2014  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

## 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) The purchase reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on November 13, 2014.

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.