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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 1, 2020

ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

(Commission File No.) 351 Galveston Drive Redwood City, CA 94063 orincipal executive offices at the number, including area co	•
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b) under the Exchange Act ((17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
c) under the Exchange Act ((17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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ACRX	The Nasdaq Global Market
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Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

Promotion Agreement

On October 1, 2020, AcelRx Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), entered into a Promotion Agreement (the "Promotion Agreement") with La Jolla Pharmaceutical Company, a California corporation ("La Jolla"), and Tetraphase Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of La Jolla ("Tetraphase"), effective as of September 30, 2020, pursuant to which the Company, La Jolla and Tetraphase restructured their co-promotion arrangement, with La Jolla agreeing to detail and promote DSUVIA® (sufentanil sublingual tablet 30 mcg) and AcelRx and Tetraphase agreeing to terminate the Co-Promotion Agreement between them (as amended, the "Co-Promotion Agreement"). The Company will not detail and promote XERAVATM (eravacycline) under the Promotion Agreement.

Under the terms of the Promotion Agreement, La Jolla is responsible for maintaining compliance under the agreed marketing and promotion plan and achieving a minimum number of sales calls per calendar quarter. The La Jolla promotion activities will be overseen by a joint marketing and sales committee, which will be responsible for developing marketing plans for the products, provided, that AcelRx will be responsible for developing the marketing strategy for, creating the promotional materials for, and handling sales and distribution of, its products.

The Promotion Agreement has a two-year term. The Company may terminate the Promotion Agreement upon 30 days' notice. After one year, La Jolla may terminate the Promotion Agreement upon 30 days' notice, and may do so earlier in the event of a change of control and change in management of the Company. Additionally, either party may terminate the Promotion Agreement in the event of an uncured material breach or insolvency event of the other party and in the event of other specified circumstances relating to the Company's products, such as safety.

The Company will pay La Jolla a revenue share on net sales of its products in the sales territories covered by the Promotion Agreement, other than sales to certain excluded accounts. These sales territories do not overlap with the territories covered by the Company's sales force. If La Jolla fails to meet its detailing requirements in the Promotion Agreement in a given calendar quarter, it will pay the Company a royalty on net sales of XERAVATM (eravacycline) in the United States during such quarter.

The foregoing description of the Promotion Agreement does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Promotion Agreement, which will be filed with the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ending September 30, 2020.

Item 1.02 Termination of a Material Definitive Agreement

On March 15, 2020, the Company and Tetraphase entered into the Co-Promotion Agreement to co-promote DSUVIA® and Tetraphase's XERAVATM (eravacycline), which was subsequently amended on May 26, 2020. The Promotion Agreement terminated the Co-Promotion Agreement, effective September 30, 2020.

A description of the material terms and conditions of the Co-Promotion Agreement is contained in the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 16, 2020. The information set forth above and referenced under Item 1.01 that relates to the relationship between the Company, La Jolla and Tetraphase is hereby incorporated by reference into this Item 1.02.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

Date: October 6, 2020 ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: /s/ Raffi Asadorian

Raffi Asadorian Chief Financial Officer