FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

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

OMB APPROVAL								
OMB Number:	3235-0287							
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Hamel Lawrence G			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS INC [ACRX]					
	C/O ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS, NC., 351 GALVESTON DRIVE Street) REDWOOD CA 94063		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/05/2013	X	ck all applicable) Director Officer (give title below) Chief Developme	10% Owner Other (specify below) ent Officer		
(Street) REDWOOD CITY (City)			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X 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)	Execution Date,	3. Transact Code (Instr. 8)		Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)	

	Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)														
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. Transac Code (Instr. 8)				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. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Stock Option (Right to Buy) (1)	\$ 5.31	02/05/2013		A		124,343		02/05/2014 ⁽²⁾⁽³⁾	02/04/2023	Common Stock	124,343	\$ 0	124,343	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Issued pursuant to the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan.
- 2. The shares subject to the option vest as follows: 25% of the shares subject to the option vest on the 12 month anniversary of the Vesting Commencement Date (February 5, 2013) and the remaining shares subject to the stock option vest on an equal monthly basis over the following 36 months.
- 3. The shares have double-trigger acceleration on a change of control.

<u>/s/ James Welch, Attorney-in-fact</u> <u>02/07/2013</u>

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- * 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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