## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
Estimated average burden
hours per response: 0.5

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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <sup>*</sup> MORRIS TIMOTHY E						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS INC</u> [ ACRX ]									all applica Director Officer (g	Officer (give title		10% O Other (	wner
(Last) (First) (Middle) ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 351 GALVESTON DRIVE						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/10/2016									below) ChiefFinancial O			below) Officer	
						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)				
(Street)															X Form filed by One Reportin				on
REDWOOD CITY	CA 94063													Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City)	(Sta	te)	(Zip)																
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transacti Date (Month/Day						Execution			e, 1	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired Disposed Of (D) (Instr. and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following		6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
									0	Code	~	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(		(1150.4)
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. Deeme Execution any (Month/Da	Date, if Transa Code (			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 Amou Securities Underl Derivative Securit and 4)		derlying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Numb derivativ Securiti Benefic Owned Followin	ve es ially	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					Code	v	(A) (D)		Date E	Exercisable Da		piration ate	Title	Amount o Number o Shares		Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)			
Common Stock (Right to Buy) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$3.4	02/10/2016			A		110,500		02/10	)/2017 <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	02	/09/2026	Common Stock	110,50	\$0.00	110,	500	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 10, 2016) and the remaining shares subject to the option vest on an equal monthly basis over the following 36 months.

3. The shares have double-trigger acceleration on a change of control.

**Remarks:** 

/s/ Martha Adler, Attorney-in-Fact 02/18/2016

\*\* 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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.