Hadas Nicole R. Form 4 March 05, 2019

FORM 4

Form 4 or

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Form 5

1(b).

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

Check this box if no longer subject to **SECURITIES** Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

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 *

Hadas Nicole R. Issuer Symbol Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. [AKBA] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS. 02/28/2019 below) below) INC., 245 FIRST STREET SVP, CLO & Secretary

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 65,000 02/28/2019 A A \$0 $166,735 \stackrel{(2)}{=}$ D (1) Stock

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

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3235-0287

January 31,

2005

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5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Estimated average

burden hours per

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)				7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to buy)	\$ 7.28	02/28/2019		A	100,000		(3)	02/28/2029	Common Stock	100,00

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Hadas Nicole R. C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC. 245 FIRST STREET CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

SVP, CLO & Secretary

Signatures

/s/ Nicole R. 03/05/2019 Hadas

**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) The restricted stock units were granted by the Issuer pursuant to its 2014 Incentive Plan, as amended. One third of the restricted stock units will vest on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the grant date.
- (2) Includes 451 shares of the Issuer's common stock purchased under the Issuer's 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan on December 31, 2018.
- (3) The options were granted by the Issuer pursuant to its 2014 Incentive Plan, as amended. 25% of the options will vest on the first anniversary of the grant date with the remaining 75% vesting in equal quarterly installments thereafter.

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.

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