

Butler John P.
Form 4
July 12, 2018

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 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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(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

(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)

07/11/2018

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
____ Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)

CEO and President

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)	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	07/11/2018		M	V Amount (A) or (D) Price 100,000 A \$ 0.47	510,314 ⁽¹⁾	D	

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

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information contained in this form are not
required to respond unless the form
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(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)
Employee Stock Option (Right to buy)	\$ 0.47	07/11/2018		M	100,000	(2) 09/16/2023	Common Stock 100,00

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Butler John P. C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC. 245 FIRST STREET CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142			CEO and President	

Signatures

Nicole R. Hadas, attorney-in-fact for John P. Butler

07/12/2018

**Signature of Reporting Person

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 total amount of beneficial securities owned includes 1,500 shares of stock purchased on June 29, 2018 at \$8.48 per share in connection with the Issuer's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

- On September 16, 2013, the Issuer granted the reporting person an option to purchase 612,500 shares of the Issuer's common stock (the "Option") under the Issuer's Amended and Restated 2008 Equity Incentive Plan. 25% of the shares underlying the Option vested on the
- (2) first anniversary of the grant date, and the remaining 75% vested in equal monthly installments thereafter. Prior to July 11, 2018, the reporting person exercised the Option with respect to 225,500 shares. On July 11, 2018, the reporting person exercised the Option with respect to 100,000 shares, as reported on this Form 4.

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.