



## **Akebia Therapeutics Reports Inducement Grants Under NASDAQ Listing Rule 5635(c)(4)**

March 2, 2018

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Mar. 2, 2018-- [Akebia Therapeutics](#), Inc. (NASDAQ:AKBA), a biopharmaceutical company focused on delivering innovative therapies to patients with kidney disease through the biology of hypoxia-inducible factor (HIF), granted six newly-hired employees options to purchase an aggregate of 23,800 shares of Akebia's common stock on February 28, 2018, as inducements material to each such employee's entering into employment with Akebia. The options were granted in accordance with NASDAQ Listing Rule 5635(c)(4).

The options have an exercise price of \$14.30 per share, which is equal to the closing price of Akebia's common stock on the grant date. Each stock option vests over four years, with 25% of the shares vesting on the first anniversary of the grant date and the remaining 75% of shares vesting quarterly thereafter, in each case, subject to the new employee's continued service with the company. Each stock option has a ten-year term and is subject to the terms and conditions of the company's 2016 Inducement Award Program and a stock option agreement covering the grant.

### **About Akebia Therapeutics**

Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, focused on delivering innovative therapies to patients with kidney disease through hypoxia-inducible factor biology. For more information, please visit our website at [www.akebia.com](http://www.akebia.com), which does not form a part of this release.

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