

**FORM 5**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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**ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Form 3 Holdings Reported.

Form 4 Transactions Reported.

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 * <u>Butler John P.</u>  (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 <u>Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. [ AKBA ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <b>CEO and President</b>
	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/31/2019</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

**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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock							789,232 <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	D	
Common Stock							50,000	I	Held by John Butler GRAT (November 2019)
Common Stock							50,000	I	Held by Dorothy Butler GRAT (November 2019)
Common Stock							31,047	I	Held by Dorothy Butler Revocable Trust 2007
Common Stock							31,047	I	Held by John Butler Revocable Trust 2007
Common Stock							59,928	I	Held by John Butler 2019 GRAT
Common Stock							59,928	I	Held by Dorothy Butler 2019 GRAT

**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. 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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (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: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Reflects the transfer of 100,000 shares of the Issuer's common stock which were previously reported as directly beneficially owned but were contributed to two grantor retained annuity trusts on November 22, 2019. The holdings of these trusts are reported in Table I of this form.
- Includes 1,500 shares of the Issuer's common stock purchased under the Issuer's 2014 Amended and Restated Employee Stock Purchase Plan on December 31, 2019.

**Remarks:**

/s/ Nicole R. Hadas, attorney-      02/14/2020  
in-fact for John P. Butler

\*\* 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.**