

| OMB APPROVAL                                 |           |
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**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).

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*<br><u>Nash Duane</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC.</u><br><u>245 FIRST STREET, SUITE 1100</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>CAMBRIDGE MA 02142</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><u>Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. [ AKBA ]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner<br>Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) |
|  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br><u>01/01/2015</u>                    |   |
|  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                                 | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|--------------------------|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V | Amount  | (A) or (D) | Price                    |   |  |   |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>     | 01/01/2015                           |  | A                              |   | 1,980 <sup>(1)</sup>  | A          | \$11.64 <sup>(2)</sup>   | 13,809  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 01/02/2015                           |  | S                              |   | 995 <sup>(3)</sup>  | D          | \$11.4607 <sup>(4)</sup> | 12,814  | D  |   |

**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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V | (A)  | (D) | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date |   |  |  |   |  |

**Explanation of Responses:**

- 47,525 shares of restricted stock (as adjusted from 27,157 shares prior to the 1.75-for-1 stock split effected on March 6, 2014) were awarded on December 23, 2013. Fifty percent of the shares vested on December 23, 2014. The remaining fifty percent vest ratably on the first day of each calendar quarter over three years from the first anniversary of the grant date until fully vested, assuming continued service through the applicable vesting date.
- Price represents the selling price of the Issuer's common stock on December 31, 2014.
- Shares sold by reporting person pursuant to a 10b5-1 plan to pay taxes in connection with the vesting of restricted stock pursuant to the December 23, 2013 award described in footnote 1.
- The price reported in this Column 4 is a weighted average price. The shares were purchased in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$11.25 to \$11.64, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide Issuer, any security holder of Issuer, or the staff of the Securities Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares purchased at each price within the range set forth in this footnote.

**Remarks:**

Nicole R. Hadas, Attorney-in-Fact for Duane Nash 01/05/2015

\*\* 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.