

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC
Form 8-K
December 24, 2008

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act Of 1934

December 23, 2008
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| State of New York (State of Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) | 1-10113 (Commission File Number) | 11-0853640 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number) |
|---|--|---|

616 N. North Court, Suite 120
Palatine, Illinois 60067
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(847) 705-7709
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 8.01 Other Events

On December 23, 2008, King Pharmaceuticals Research and Development, Inc. (“King”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of King Pharmaceuticals, Inc., exercised an option under the License, Development and Commercialization Agreement dated as of October 30, 2007 between King and us, as amended, to license from us a fourth immediate-release opioid analgesic product utilizing our proprietary Aversion® Technology and paid us the \$3 million exercise price. A press release issued by us in connection with the option exercise is furnished as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 99.1 | Press Release of the Registrant dated December 24, 2008. |

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: /s/ Peter Clemens
Peter A. Clemens
Senior Vice President & Chief
Financial Officer

Date: December 23, 2008

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 99.1 | Press Release of the Registrant dated December 24, 2008. |
