

Akebia Therapeutics, Inc.  
 Form 4  
 June 20, 2016

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**GOWEN MAXINE**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS,  
 INC., 245 FIRST STREET, SUITE  
 1100**

(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)  
**06/16/2016**

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 below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				(A) or (D)	Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction	5. Number of Derivative	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)				
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to buy)	\$ 8.56	06/16/2016	A		12,500		06/16/2017 <sup>(1)</sup>	06/16/2026	Common Stock	12,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
GOWEN MAXINE C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC. 245 FIRST STREET, SUITE 1100 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142				

## Signatures

Nicole R. Hadas, Attorney-in-Fact for Maxine Gowen  
 Date: 06/20/2016

        \*\*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).  
 100% of the option shares vest on the earlier of June 16, 2017 or the date immediately prior to the next annual meeting of the Issuer after the grant date (the "Vesting Date"), provided that the Reporting Person remains in continuous service as a member of the Issuer's Board of Directors through the applicable Vesting Date, and provided further that the options held by the Reporting Person shall be eligible for vesting acceleration upon a "Change in Control" as defined and provided for in the Issuer's Non-Employee Director Stock Option Award Agreement.

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.