

ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS INC  
 Form 4  
 February 17, 2017

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
 Rosen Howard B

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O ACELRX  
 PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., 351  
 GALVESTON DRIVE

(Street)

REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS  
 INC [ACRX]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/07/2017

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)  
 CEO

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 Following 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)  | Price   |  |                                   |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | Code  | V   | Amount   |                                   |

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)**

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| 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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |              |                  |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title        | Am<br>Nur<br>Sha |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) <sup>(1)</sup> | \$ 3   | 02/07/2017                           |  | A                              | 366,000   | 02/07/2018 <sup>(2)(3)</sup>                             | 02/06/2028  | Common Stock | 36               |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Rosen Howard B<br>C/O ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.<br>351 GALVESTON DRIVE<br>REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063 | X             |           | CEO     |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Martha Adler,  
Attorney-in-Fact

02/17/2017

\*\*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).

(1) Issued pursuant to the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan.

The shares subject to the option vest as follows: 25% of the shares subject to the option vest on the 12 month anniversary of the Vesting Commencement Date (February 7, 2016) and the remaining shares subject to the option vest on an equal monthly basis over the following 36 months.

(3) 100% Acceleration upon Change of Control.

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.