Hamel Lawrence G Form 4 February 09, 2012

FORM 4

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

Form 4 or

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Hamel Lawrence G

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS

INC [ACRX]

(Check all applicable)

Chief Development Officer

10% Owner

(Middle)

(Zip)

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

Other (specify X_ Officer (give title below)

02/07/2012

C/O ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., 575 CHESAPEAKE DRIVE

(First)

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Director

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

(City) (State)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) 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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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	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5. Number of	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration		7. Title and Amoun	
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if		orDerivative	Date		Underlying Securit	
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	4)
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sh
Stock Option (Right to Buy) (1)	\$ 3.39	02/07/2012		A	51,319	02/07/2013(2)(3)	02/06/2022	Common Stock	51,3

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Hamel Lawrence G C/O ACELRX PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 575 CHESAPEAKE DRIVE REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

Chief Development Officer

Signatures

/s/ James Welch, Attorney-in-fact 02/09/2012

**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
- (2) Commencement Date (February 7, 2012) and the remaining shares subject to the stock option vest on an equal monthly basis over the following 36 months.
- (3) The shares have double-trigger acceleration on a 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.

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