

GOWEN MAXINE

Form 4

June 15, 2018

FORM 4
UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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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**

(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)

06/14/2018

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 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)
				(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 Security	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)							
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Stock Option (Right to buy)	\$ 11.14	06/14/2018	A		12,500 <u>(1)</u>		06/14/2019	06/14/2028	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 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142				

Signatures

Nicole R. Hadas, Attorney-in-Fact for Maxine Gowen	06/15/2018
_____ **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).

Represents an option to purchase shares of Akebia Therapeutics, Inc.'s (the "Company's") common stock granted by the Company (1) pursuant to the Company's 2014 Incentive Plan (the "Stock Option"). 100% of the Stock Option will vest and become exercisable on the first anniversary of the grant date, subject to the Reporting Person's continued service to the Company.

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.