Smith Cynthia Form 3 August 29, 2018

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per response...

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

Smith Cynthia

(Last) (First)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

08/28/2018

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. [AKBA]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC, 245 FIRST STREET

(Street)

Director Officer

10% Owner Other (give title below) (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting

Person

Form filed by More than One

Reporting Person

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial

CAMBRIDGE, MAÂ 02142

(City) (State)

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)

(Zip)

(Middle)

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

Ownership Form:

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

Ownership (Instr. 5)

Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

4. Conversion or Exercise Price of

Ownership Form of Derivative

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Date Exercisable

Expiration Title Date

Amount or Number of Shares

Derivative Security

Direct (D) or Indirect (I)

Security:

(Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Smith Cynthia

C/O AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC 245 FIRST STREET

CAMBRIDGE, MAÂ 02142

Signatures

John P. Butler, Attorney-in-Fact for Cynthia Smith 08/29/2018

**Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

No securities are beneficially owned

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).

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Remarks:

Exhibit List - Exhibit 24 - Limited Power of Attorney.

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.

Date

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