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

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)
September 15, 2016

AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

001-36352
(Commission
File Number)

20-8756903
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

245 First Street, Suite 1100, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142
(Address of Principal Executive Offices, including Zip Code)

(617) 871-2098
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

As required pursuant to the Corporate Governance Guidelines of Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. (the “Company”), Anupam Dalal, M.D. submitted an offer to resign from the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Company due to his change in job responsibility. On September 15, 2016, the Board accepted his offer to resign and Dr. Dalal resigned effective as of September 16, 2016. Following Dr. Dalal’s resignation, the Board will consist of eight directors.

The Company acknowledges Dr. Dalal’s many years of service on the Board and greatly appreciates his valuable contributions to the Company.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

AKEBIA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

By: /s/ John P. Butler
John P. Butler
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: September 20, 2016