Novartis Bioventures Ltd
Form 4
August 22, 2018

FORM 4

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:	3235-0287
Expires:	January 31, 2005
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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Novartis Bioventures Ltd

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O NOVARTIS INTERNATIONAL AG, WSJ-200.220

(Street)

BASEL, V8 CH-4002

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc. [ARPO]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
08/20/2018

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_____ Director
__X__ 10% Owner
_____ Officer (give title below)
_____ Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
___ Form filed by One Reporting Person
_X_ 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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	08/20/2018		S		5,300	D	$ 3.9 (1)	5,800,250	I	See Footnote (2)

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

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.

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 (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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Novartis Bioventures Ltd C/O NOVARTIS INTERNATIONAL AG WSJ-200.220 BASEL, V8 CH-4002		X		
NOVARTIS AG LICHTSTRASSE 35 BASEL, V8 CH 4056		X		

Signatures

/s/ Bartosz Dzikowski, Secretary of the Board of Novartis Bioventures Ltd	08/22/2018
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date
/s/ Florian Muellershausen, Authorized Signatory on behalf of Novartis Bioventures Ltd	08/22/2018
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date
/s/ Bartosz Dzikowski, Authorized Signatory on behalf of Novartis AG	08/22/2018
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date
/s/ Florian Muellershausen, Authorized Signatory on behalf of Novartis AG	08/22/2018
**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).

(1) Reflects sales of common stock executed in multiple transactions at prices ranging from $3.90 to $3.91. The price reported reflects the weighted average sale price. The Reporting Persons hereby undertake to provide upon request to the Securities and Exchange Commission staff, the Issuer or a security holder of the Issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the sales were effected.

(2) The board of directors of Novartis Bioventures Ltd has sole voting and investment control and power over such securities. None of the members of its board of directors has individual voting or investment power with respect to such securities and each disclaims beneficial ownership of such securities. Novartis Bioventures Ltd is an indirectly owned subsidiary of Novartis AG.

Remarks:

Exhibit List - Exhibit 24 - 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.