FORM 4

obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington,    | $D \subset$ | 20540 |
|----------------|-------------|-------|
| wasiiiiiqtoii, | D.C.        | 20549 |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

**OMB APPROVAL** OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

|  |                |  |  |                               |                  |  |   | ` '              |   |        |                    |  |  |   |   |                                   |  |  |  |
|--|----------------|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------|--|---|------------------|---|--------|--------------------|--|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Name and Address of Reporting Person*  Cheng Andrew  |                |  |  |                               |                  | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol Akero Therapeutics, Inc. [ AKRO ] |   |                  |   |        |                    |  |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| <u>Cheng Andrew</u>  |                |  |  |                               |                  |  |   |                  |   |        |                    |  |  | X Directo   | or  |                                   | 10% Ov   | vner   |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle)  |                |  |  |                               |                  |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/01/2023 |                  |   |        |                    |  |  |   | r (give title Other (s<br>below)  |                                   |  | specify  |  |
| C/O AK   | ERO THEF       |  |  |                               |                  |  |   |                  |   |        |                    | President and CEO  |  |   |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| 601 GATEWAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 350   |                |  |  |                               |                  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                             |   |                  |   |        |                    |  |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)             |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| (Street)   |                |  |  |                               |                  |  |   |                  |   |        |                    |  |  | X Form filed by One Reporting Person                                    |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| (Street) SOUTH SAN   |                |  |  |                               |                  |  |   |                  |   |        |                    |  |  | Form filed by More than One Reporting                                   |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| FRANCISCO CA 94080   |                |  |  |                               | <u> </u>         | Person  Pulo 10hF 1(a) Transportion Indication                                       |   |                  |   |        |                    |  |  |   |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| ,  |                |  |  |                               | -   Rı           | Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication  |   |                  |   |        |                    |  |  |   |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| (City)   | (S             | X  | Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. |                               |                  |  |   |                  |   |        |                    |  |  |   |   |                                   |  |  |  |
|  |                | Tab  | le I - I   | Non-Deriv                     | vative           | Sec  | curit   | ies A            | cquire  | d, D   | isposed c          | of, or B   | eneficia                               | lly Owne  | d   |                                   |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  |                |  | 2. Transact<br>Date<br>(Month/Day  |                               | Execu            |  | Deemed<br>ecution Date,<br>any<br>onth/Day/Year)            |                  | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8)  4. Securities<br>Disposed Of |        |                    |  | Securit<br>Benefic<br>Owned            | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following           |   | : Direct<br>r Indirect<br>str. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership                      |  |  |
|  |                |  |  |                               |                  |  |   |                  | Code  | v      | Amount             | (A) or<br>(D)  | Price                                  | Reporte<br>Transa<br>(Instr. 3  | ction(s)  |                                   |  | (Instr. 4)   |  |
| Common Stock 06/01/  |                |  | 06/01/2  | 023                           | 23               |  |   | M <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 21,330 | A                  | \$0.615  | 43                                     | 0,623   | D   |                                   |  |  |  |
| Common Stock   |                |  | 06/01/2  | 2023                          |                  |  |   | M <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 3,670  | A                  | \$6.36   | 434,293                                |   |   | D                                 |  |  |  |
| Common Stock   |                |  | 06/01/2  | 6/01/2023                     |                  |  |   | S <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 3,914  | D                  | \$44.1752  | (2) 430,379                            |   |   | D                                 |  |  |  |
| Common Stock   |                |  | 06/01/2023   |                               |                  |  |   | S <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 20,686 | D                  | \$45.2562  | 2 <sup>(3)</sup> 409,693               |   |   | D                                 |  |  |  |
| Common Stock 06/01   |                |  |  | 06/01/2                       | 123              |  |   |                  | S <sup>(1)</sup>  |        | 400                | D \$45.897 <sup>(4)</sup>  |  | (4) 40  | 409,293   |                                   | D  |  |  |
|  |                | Т  | able   |                               |                  |  |   |                  |   |        | posed of,          |  |  | / Owned   |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)  2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security |                | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Execu  | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, |                  | ction<br>Instr.  | 5. Number of  |                  | 6. Date Exercisal<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year               |        | cisable and        | sable and te Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Securities. (Instr. 3 and 4) |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)                     | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactic<br>(Instr. 4) | s<br>S<br>Illy                    | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|  |                |  |  |                               | Code             | v  | (A)   | (D)              | Date<br>Exerci  | sable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |   |                                   |  |  |  |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)   | \$0.615        | 06/01/2023                                 |  |                               | M <sup>(1)</sup> | M <sup>(1)</sup>   |   | 21,330           | (5  | )      | 10/17/2028         | Commor<br>Stock  | 21,330                                 | \$0.00  | 64,538  |                                   | D  |  |  |
| Stock<br>Option  | <b>\$</b> 6.36 | 06/01/2023                                 |  |                               | M <sup>(1)</sup> |  |   | 3 670            | (5  | )      | 01/15/2029         | Commor   | 3.670                                  | \$0.00  | 140 00  | 10                                | D  |  |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

Buy)

- 1. The reported transaction was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan dated November 14, 2022, as amended on January 10, 2023, previously adopted by the reporting person.
- 2. The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted-average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$43.72 to \$44.61, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to the issuer, any security holder of the issuer, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in footnotes (2), (3) and (4) to this Form 4.
- 3. The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted-average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$44.74 to \$45.72, inclusive.
- 4. The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted-average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$45.795 to \$45.99, inclusive.
- 5. The options are vested and currently exercisable.

/s/ Jonathan Young, Attorney-

06/05/2023

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- \* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.