

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

**FORM S-8  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

**Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

**61-1547850**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

**9987 Carver Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45242  
(513) 985-1920**  
(Address of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

**INDUCEMENT STOCK OPTION AGREEMENTS**  
(Full title of the plan)

**Stephen Hoffman  
Chief Executive Officer  
Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
9987 Carver Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45242  
(513) 985-1920**  
(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

*Copies to:*

**Kingsley L. Taft, Esq.  
Danielle Lauzon, Esq.  
Goodwin Procter LLP  
100 Northern Avenue  
Boston, MA 02210  
Telephone: (617) 570-1000**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Emerging growth company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered(1)	Proposed maximum offering price per share	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price	Amount of registration fee
Common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share	513,288(2)	\$5.50(4)	\$2,823,084.00	\$342.16
Common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share	220,282(3)	\$5.50(4)	\$1,211,551.00	\$146.84

Total	733,570	\$4,034,635.00	\$489.00
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- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), this Registration Statement shall also cover any additional securities that may from time to time be offered or issued to prevent dilution resulting from stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or any other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of the Registrant's outstanding shares of common stock.
  - (2) Represents shares of common stock available for future issuance upon the exercise of an inducement stock option award granted on December 14, 2017 outside of the Registrant's employee equity compensation plan to Stephen Hoffman to induce Mr. Hoffman to accept employment with the Registrant.
  - (3) Represents shares of common stock available for future issuance upon the exercise of an inducement stock option award granted on December 14, 2017 outside of the Registrant's employee equity compensation plan to Michael Rogers to induce Mr. Rogers to accept employment with the Registrant.
  - (4) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h)(1) of the Securities Act. The price per share and proposed maximum aggregate offering price are calculated on the basis of the exercise price of the applicable inducement stock option award.
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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") is being filed for the purpose of registering 733,570 shares of the Registrant's Common Stock issuable under previously announced inducement stock option awards granted on December 14, 2017.

### PART I

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

The information called for in Part I of Form S-8 to be contained in the Section 10(a) prospectus is not being filed with or included in this Registration Statement (by incorporation by reference or otherwise) in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"). The information specified in Part I of Form S-8 is included in documents sent or given to recipients of the inducement stock option awards covered by this Registration Statement as specified by Rule 428(b)(1) under the Securities Act.

### PART II

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents filed with the Commission by the Registrant are incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement:

- (a) The Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 15, 2018, as amended by Form 10-K/A filed on April 6, 2018.
- (b) The Registrant's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2018 as filed with the Commission on May 15, 2018, for the period ended June 30, 2018 as filed with the Commission on August 14, 2018, and for the period ended September 30, 2018 as filed with the Commission on November 7, 2018.
- (c) The Registrant's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on April 2, 2018 (containing items 1.01 and 9.01), May 29, 2018 (containing items 8.01 and 9.01), June 22, 2018 (containing items 5.07), June 25, 2018 (containing items 1.01, 8.01 and 9.01), and June 27, 2018 (containing items 1.01, 8.01 and 9.01);
- (d) The Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the Commission on May 15, 2018;
- (f) The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on June 25, 2018, and any subsequent amendment thereto filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents, reports and definitive proxy or information statements filed pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), after the date of this Registration Statement and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents; provided, however, that documents, reports and definitive proxy or information statements, or portions thereof, which are furnished and not filed in accordance with the rules of the Commission shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated herein by reference shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes that statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not constitute a part of this Registration Statement, except as so modified or superseded.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

None.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the “DGCL”) authorizes a corporation to indemnify its directors and officers against liabilities arising out of actions, suits and proceedings to which they are made or threatened to be made a party by reason of the fact that they have served or are currently serving as a director or officer to a corporation. The indemnity may cover expenses (including attorneys’ fees) judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the director or officer in connection with any such action, suit or proceeding. Section 145 permits corporations to pay expenses (including attorneys’ fees) incurred by directors and officers in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding. In addition, Section 145 provides that a corporation has the power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of its directors and officers against any liability asserted against them and incurred by them in their capacity as a director or officer, or arising out of their status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify the director or officer against such liability under Section 145.

The Registrant has adopted provisions in the Registrant’s certificate of incorporation and bylaws that limit or eliminate the personal liability of the Registrant’s directors and executive officers to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, as it now exists or may in the future be amended. Consequently, a director or executive officer will not be personally liable to the Registrant or its stockholders for monetary damages or breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for liability in limited circumstances.

These limitations of liability do not alter director liability under the federal securities laws and do not affect the availability of equitable remedies such as an injunction or rescission.

In addition, the Registrant’s bylaws provide that:

- the Registrant will indemnify its directors, officers and, in the discretion of its board of directors, certain employees and agents, to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, as it now exists or may in the future be amended; and
- the Registrant will advance reasonable expenses, including attorneys’ fees, to its directors and in the discretion of its board of directors, to its officers and certain employees and agents, in connection with legal proceedings relating to their service for or on behalf of the Registrant, subject to limited exceptions.

The Registrant has or intends to enter into indemnification agreements with each of its directors and officers. These agreements provide that the Registrant will indemnify each of its directors, executive officers, certain other officers and, at times, their affiliates, to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL.

The Registrant also maintains general liability insurance which covers certain liabilities of its directors and officers arising out of claims based on acts or omissions in their capacities as directors or officers, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

See the Exhibit Index on the page immediately preceding the signatures for a list of exhibits filed as part of this Registration Statement on Form S-8, which Exhibit Index is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most

recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective Registration Statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

*Provided, however,* that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section shall not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new Registration Statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new Registration Statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

## EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
3.1	<a href="#">Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant(1)</a>
3.2	<a href="#">Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant(2)</a>
4.1	<a href="#">Form of common stock certificate of the Registrant(3)</a>
5.1	<a href="#">Opinion of Goodwin Procter LLP</a>
23.1	<a href="#">Consent of Ernst &amp; Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm</a>
23.3	<a href="#">Consent of Goodwin Procter LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)</a>
24.1	<a href="#">Power of Attorney (see page II-1 of this Registration Statement on Form S-8)</a>
99.1	<a href="#">Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Form of Inducement Stock Option Award</a>

(1) Filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 17, 2017, File No. 000-53057 and incorporated by reference herein.

(2) Filed as Exhibit 3.3 to the Registrant's 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 17, 2017, File No. 000-53057 and incorporated by reference herein.

(3) Filed as Exhibit 4.2 to the Registrant's S-1 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 14, 2017, File No. 333-217320 and incorporated by reference herein.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, on December 28, 2018.

### Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

By: /s/ Stephen Hoffman  
Stephen Hoffman  
Chief Executive Officer

## POWER OF ATTORNEY AND SIGNATURES

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Stephen Hoffman, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign the Registration Statement on Form S-8 of Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and any or all amendments (including post-effective amendments), and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in connection therewith and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their or his or her substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement on Form S-8 has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
<u>/s/ Stephen Hoffman</u> Stephen Hoffman	Chief Executive Officer and Director ( <i>Principal Executive Officer</i> )	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Michael Rogers</u> Michael Rogers	Chief Financial Officer ( <i>Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer</i> )	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Joseph Gardner</u> Joseph Gardner	Director, President and Founder	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Muneer A. Satter</u> Muneer A. Satter	Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Caley Castelein</u> Caley Castelein	Director	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Cheryl Cohen</u> Cheryl Cohen	Director	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Anupam Dalal</u> Anupam Dalal	Director	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Pravin Dugel</u> Pravin Dugel	Director	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Chau Khuong</u> Chau Khuong	Director	December 28, 2018
<u>/s/ Steven Prelack</u> Steven Prelack	Director	December 28, 2018

December 28, 2018

Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
9987 Carver Road, Suite 420  
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Re: Securities Being Registered under Registration Statement on Form S-8

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to you in connection with your filing of a Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), on or about the date hereof relating to an aggregate of 733,570 shares (the "Shares") of Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share ("Common Stock"), of Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), that may be issued pursuant to Inducement Stock Option Agreements, between the Company and certain of its executive officers, for awards granted on December 14, 2017 (collectively, the "Plans").

We have reviewed such documents and made such examination of law as we have deemed appropriate to give the opinions set forth below. We have relied, without independent verification, on certificates of public officials and, as to matters of fact material to the opinion set forth below, on certificates of officers of the Company.

The opinion set forth below is limited to the Delaware General Corporation Law.

For purposes of the opinion set forth below, we have assumed that no event occurs that causes the number of authorized shares of Common Stock available for issuance by the Company to be less than the number of then unissued Shares.

Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that the Shares have been duly authorized and, upon issuance and delivery against payment therefor in accordance with the terms of the Plans, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

We hereby consent to the inclusion of this opinion as Exhibit 5.1 to the Registration Statement. In giving our consent, we do not admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ GOODWIN PROCTER LLP

GOODWIN PROCTER LLP



**CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8) pertaining to Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Inducement Stock Option Agreements, of our report dated March 15, 2018, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc., included in its Amendment No. 1 to the Annual Report (Form 10-K/A) for the year ended December 31, 2017, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Cincinnati, Ohio  
December 28, 2018

**AERPIO PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.  
NON-QUALIFIED STOCK OPTION AGREEMENT**

Name of Optionee: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Option Shares: \_\_\_\_\_

Option Exercise Price per Share: \_\_\_\_\_

Grant Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the "Company") hereby grants to the Optionee named above an option (the "Stock Option") to purchase on or prior to the Expiration Date specified above all or part of the number of shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (the "Stock") of the Company specified above at the Option Exercise Price per Share specified above subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and in the Plan. This Stock Option is not issued under the Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 2017 Stock Option and Incentive Plan as amended through the date hereof (the "Plan") and does not reduce the share reserve under the Plan. However, for purposes of interpreting the applicable provisions of this Stock Option, the terms and conditions of the Plan (other than those applicable to the share reserve) shall govern and apply to this Stock Option as if this Stock Option had actually been issued under the Plan. This Stock Option is not intended to be an "incentive stock option" under Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

1. Exercisability Schedule. No portion of this Stock Option may be exercised until such portion shall have become exercisable. Except as set forth below, and subject to the discretion of the Administrator (as defined in Section 2 of the Plan) to accelerate the exercisability schedule hereunder, this Stock Option shall be exercisable with respect to the following number of Option Shares on the dates indicated so long as Optionee remains an employee of the Company or a Subsidiary on such dates:

Incremental Number of  
Option Shares Exercisable

Exercisability Date

Once exercisable, this Stock Option shall continue to be exercisable at any time or times prior to the close of business on the Expiration Date, subject to the provisions hereof and of the Plan.

2. Manner of Exercise.

(a) The Optionee may exercise this Stock Option only in the following manner: from time to time on or prior to the Expiration Date of this Stock Option, the Optionee may give written notice to the Administrator of his or her election to purchase some or all of the Option Shares purchasable at the time of such notice. This notice shall specify the number of Option Shares to be purchased.

Payment of the purchase price for the Option Shares may be made by one or more of the following methods: (i) in cash, by certified or bank check or other instrument acceptable to the Administrator; (ii) through the delivery (or attestation to the ownership) of shares of Stock that have been purchased by the Optionee on the open market or that are beneficially owned by the Optionee and are not then subject to any restrictions under any Company plan and that otherwise satisfy any holding periods as may be required by the Administrator; (iii) by the Optionee delivering to the Company a properly executed exercise notice together with irrevocable instructions to a broker to promptly deliver to the Company cash or a check payable and acceptable to the Company to pay the option purchase price, provided that in the event the Optionee chooses to pay the option purchase price as so provided, the Optionee and the broker shall comply with such procedures and enter into such agreements of indemnity and other agreements as the Administrator shall prescribe as a condition of such payment procedure; (iv) by a "net exercise" arrangement pursuant to which the Company will reduce the number of shares of Stock issuable upon exercise by the largest whole number of shares with a Fair Market Value that does not exceed the aggregate exercise price; or (v) a combination of (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) above. Payment instruments will be received subject to collection.

The transfer to the Optionee on the records of the Company or of the transfer agent of the Option Shares will be contingent upon (i) the Company's receipt from the Optionee of the full purchase price for the Option Shares, as set forth above, (ii) the fulfillment of any other requirements contained herein or in the Plan or in any other agreement or provision of laws, and (iii) the receipt by the Company of any agreement, statement or other evidence that the Company may require to satisfy itself that the issuance of Stock to be purchased pursuant to the exercise of Stock Options under the Plan and any subsequent resale of the shares of Stock will be in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In the event the Optionee chooses to pay the purchase price by previously-owned shares of Stock through the attestation method, the number of shares of Stock transferred to the Optionee upon the exercise of the Stock Option shall be net of the Shares attested to.

(b) The shares of Stock purchased upon exercise of this Stock Option shall be transferred to the Optionee on the records of the Company or of the transfer agent upon compliance to the satisfaction of the Administrator with all requirements under applicable laws or regulations in connection with such transfer and with the requirements hereof and of the Plan. The determination of the Administrator as to such compliance shall be final and binding on the Optionee. The Optionee shall not be deemed to be the holder of, or to have any of the rights of a holder with respect to, any shares of Stock subject to this Stock Option unless and until this Stock Option shall have been exercised pursuant to the terms hereof, the Company or the transfer agent shall have transferred the shares to the Optionee, and the Optionee's name shall have been

entered as the stockholder of record on the books of the Company. Thereupon, the Optionee shall have full voting, dividend and other ownership rights with respect to such shares of Stock.

(c) The minimum number of shares with respect to which this Stock Option may be exercised at any one time shall be 100 shares, unless the number of shares with respect to which this Stock Option is being exercised is the total number of shares subject to exercise under this Stock Option at the time.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof or of the Plan, no portion of this Stock Option shall be exercisable after the Expiration Date hereof.

3. Termination of Employment. If the Optionee's employment by the Company or a Subsidiary (as defined in the Plan) is terminated, the period within which to exercise the Stock Option may be subject to earlier termination as set forth below.

(a) Termination Due to Death. If the Optionee's employment terminates by reason of the Optionee's death, any portion of this Stock Option outstanding on such date, to the extent exercisable on the date of death, may thereafter be exercised by the Optionee's legal representative or legatee for a period of 12 months from the date of death or until the Expiration Date, if earlier. Any portion of this Stock Option that is not exercisable on the date of death shall terminate immediately and be of no further force or effect.

(b) Termination Due to Disability. If the Optionee's employment terminates by reason of the Optionee's disability (as determined by the Administrator), any portion of this Stock Option outstanding on such date, to the extent exercisable on the date of such termination of employment, may thereafter be exercised by the Optionee for a period of 12 months from the date of disability or until the Expiration Date, if earlier. Any portion of this Stock Option that is not exercisable on the date of disability shall terminate immediately and be of no further force or effect.

(c) Termination for Cause. If the Optionee's employment terminates for Cause, any portion of this Stock Option outstanding on such date shall terminate immediately and be of no further force and effect. For purposes hereof, "Cause" shall mean, unless otherwise provided in an employment agreement between the Company and the Optionee, a determination by the Administrator that the Optionee shall be dismissed as a result of (i) any material breach by the Optionee of any agreement between the Optionee and the Company; (ii) the conviction of, indictment for or plea of nolo contendere by the Optionee to a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude; or (iii) any material misconduct or willful and deliberate non-performance (other than by reason of disability) by the Optionee of the Optionee's duties to the Company.

(d) Other Termination. If the Optionee's employment terminates for any reason other than the Optionee's death, the Optionee's disability or Cause, and unless otherwise determined by the Administrator, any portion of this Stock Option outstanding on such date may be exercised, to the extent exercisable on the date of termination, for a period of three months from the date of termination or until the Expiration Date, if earlier. Any portion of this Stock Option that is not exercisable on the date of termination shall terminate immediately and be of no further force or effect.

The Administrator's determination of the reason for termination of the Optionee's employment shall be conclusive and binding on the Optionee and his or her representatives or legatees.

4. Incorporation of Plan. As set forth above, this Stock Option is not granted pursuant to the Plan. However, for purposes of interpreting the provisions of this Stock Option, the terms and conditions of the Plan (other than those applicable to the share reserve, but including the powers of the Administrator set forth in Section 2(b) of the Plan) shall govern and apply to this Stock Option as if this Stock Option had actually been issued under the Plan. Capitalized terms in this Agreement shall have the meaning specified in the Plan, unless a different meaning is specified herein.

5. Transferability. This Agreement is personal to the Optionee, is non-assignable and is not transferable in any manner, by operation of law or otherwise, other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution. This Stock Option is exercisable, during the Optionee's lifetime, only by the Optionee, and thereafter, only by the Optionee's legal representative or legatee.

6. Tax Withholding. The Optionee shall, not later than the date as of which the exercise of this Stock Option becomes a taxable event for Federal income tax purposes, pay to the Company or make arrangements satisfactory to the Administrator for payment of any Federal, state, and local taxes required by law to be withheld on account of such taxable event. The Company shall have the authority to cause the tax withholding obligation to be satisfied, in whole or in part, by withholding from shares of Stock to be issued to the Optionee a number of shares of Stock with an aggregate Fair Market Value that would satisfy the withholding amount due; provided, however, that to the extent necessary to avoid adverse accounting treatment, such share withholding shall not exceed the minimum required tax withholding obligation.

7. No Obligation to Continue Employment. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is obligated by or as a result of the Plan or this Agreement to continue the Optionee in employment and neither the Plan nor this Agreement shall interfere in any way with the right of the Company or any Subsidiary to terminate the employment of the Optionee at any time.

8. Integration. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to this Stock Option and supersedes all prior agreements and discussions between the parties concerning such subject matter.

9. Data Privacy Consent. In order to administer the Plan and this Agreement and to implement or structure future equity grants, the Company, its subsidiaries and affiliates and certain agents thereof (together, the "Relevant Companies") may process any and all personal or professional data, including but not limited to Social Security or other identification number, home address and telephone number, date of birth and other information that is necessary or desirable for the administration of the Plan and/or this Agreement (the "Relevant Information"). By entering into this Agreement, the Optionee (i) authorizes the Company to collect, process, register and transfer to the Relevant Companies all Relevant Information; (ii) waives any privacy rights the Optionee may have with respect to the Relevant Information; (iii) authorizes the Relevant Companies to store and transmit such information in electronic form; and (iv)

authorizes the transfer of the Relevant Information to any jurisdiction in which the Relevant Companies consider appropriate. The Optionee shall have access to, and the right to change, the Relevant Information. Relevant Information will only be used in accordance with applicable law.

10. Notices. Notices hereunder shall be mailed or delivered to the Company at its principal place of business and shall be mailed or delivered to the Optionee at the address on file with the Company or, in either case, at such other address as one party may subsequently furnish to the other party in writing.

**AERPIO PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title:

The foregoing Agreement is hereby accepted and the terms and conditions thereof hereby agreed to by the undersigned. Electronic acceptance of this Agreement pursuant to the Company's instructions to the Optionee (including through an online acceptance process) is acceptable.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Optionee's Signature

Optionee's name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_