FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549
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<b>STATEMENT</b>	<b>OF CHANGES</b>	IN BENEFICIAL	<b>OWNERSHIP</b>

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Gardner Joseph H.</u>				2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol Aerpio Pharmaceuticals, Inc. [ ARPO ]					(Ch	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issu (Check all applicable)  X Director 10% Ow					
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O AERPIO PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 9987 CARVER ROAD, SUITE 420				3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/14/2019						C Officer (give title below)  Preside		Other (specify below)			
(Street) CINCINI (City)		H state)	45242 (Zip)	4.	If Ame	endment, [	Date of	Original Fil	ed (Month/C	ay/Year)	Line	) <mark>X</mark> Form fil	oint/Group Filir ed by One Re ed by More tha	porting Persor	
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transa Date			Transactio	action 2A. Deemed Execution Date,			3. Transacti Code (Ins	Transaction Code (Instr. 3, 4			5. Amour Securities Beneficia Owned Fe	s Form ally (D) o ollowing (I) (Ir	m: Direct or Indirect Instr. 4)	. Nature of ndirect eneficial Ownership	
					Code	Amoun	t (A) (D)	Price	Reported Transacti (Instr. 3 a	on(s)		Instr. 4)			
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	conversion Date Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		Code (	ansaction Derivative ode (Instr. Securities		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)  7. Title and of Securities Underlying Derivative S (Instr. 3 and		ties ng e Security	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				Code	v	(A)		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		(Instr. 4)		
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$1.04	05/14/2019		A		349,350		(1)	05/14/2029	Common Stock	349,350	\$0.00	349,350	D	

## **Explanation of Responses:**

 $1.\ 50\%\ of\ the\ shares\ shall\ vest\ on\ June\ 30,\ 2020\ and\ the\ remaining\ 50\%\ shall\ vest\ on\ June\ 30,\ 2021.$ 

## Remarks:

/s/ Amoli Pandya, Attorney in

**Fact** 

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

05/16/2019

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.