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

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# FORM 8-K

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## CURRENT REPORT

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **April 11, 2016**

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# Cerecor Inc.

**(**Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

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| **Delaware** | **001-37590** | **45-0705648** |
|---|---|---|
| (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (IRS Employer Identification No.) |

| **400 E. Pratt Street**<br>**Suite 606**<br>**Baltimore, Maryland** | **21202** |
|---|---|
| (Address of Principal Executive Offices) | (Zip Code) |

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: **(410) 522-8707**

**Not Applicable**
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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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 (see General Instructions A.2. below):

☐ 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))

**Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On April 11, 2016, Cerecor Inc. (the "***Company***") issued a press release, further described in Item 8.01 below, in connection with its research and development grant award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse ("NIDA") at the National Institutes of Health. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

The information in this Item 7.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K (including Exhibit 99.1) is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "***Exchange Act"***), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section. The information in this Current Report shall not be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

***Research and Development Grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the National Institutes of Health***

On April 11, 2016, the Company announced that it has been awarded a research and development grant of approximately $1.0 million from NIDA. The grant provides the Company with additional resources for the ongoing Phase 2 clinical trial for CERC-501, *"A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Crossover Design Study of CERC-501 in a Human Laboratory Model of Smoking Behavior"*.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|---|---|
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated April 11, 2016, entitled "Cerecor Announces $1.0 Million Research & Development Grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the National Institutes of Health." |

**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 thereunto duly authorized.

**Cerecor Inc.**

By: /s/ Mariam Morris
Mariam Morris
Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 11, 2016

## EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|---|---|
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated April 11, 2016, entitled "Cerecor Announces $1.0 Million Research & Development Grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the National Institutes of Health." |

**Exhibit 99.1**

**Cerecor Announces $1.0 Million Research & Development Grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the National Institutes of Health**

*Grant to Co-Fund CERC-501 Phase 2 Smoking Cessation Study*

**Baltimore, MD – April 11, 2016** – Cerecor Inc. (NASDAQ: CERC), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing treatments to make a difference in the lives of patients with neurological and psychiatric disorders, today announced that it has been awarded a grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse ("NIDA") at the National Institutes of Health. The grant of approximately $1.0 million provides Cerecor with additional resources for the ongoing Phase 2 clinical trial for CERC-501, *"A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Crossover Design Study of CERC-501 in a Human Laboratory Model of Smoking Behavior."*

CERC-501 is a potent and selective kappa opioid receptor ("KOR") antagonist. "We are enthusiastic about the potential use of CERC-501 for smoking cessation as well as other addictive disorders," said Ronald Marcus, M.D., Chief Medical Officer and Head of Regulatory Affairs of Cerecor.

KORs are believed to play key roles in modulating stress, mood and addictive behaviors. Both KORs and dynorphin, which together comprise the kappa opioid system, are upregulated by stress and chronic exposure to drugs of abuse, and are thought to mediate the negative emotional states seen in drug withdrawal and contribute to stress-induced reinstatement of drug seeking behavior.

Uli Hacksell, Ph.D., Cerecor's CEO, President and Chairman, said: "We are most appreciative to NIDA for this grant to co-fund Clin501-201, our Phase 2 study of CERC-501 for smoking cessation, for which we expect to release top-line data in the second half of 2016. We believe the NIDA grant further validates the importance and scientific strength of the CERC-501 program."

**About CERC-501**

CERC-501 is a potent and selective KOR antagonist being developed for adjunctive treatment of major depressive disorder ("MDD") and to treat substance use disorders, such as nicotine, alcohol, and/or cocaine. Kappa opioid receptors have been shown to play an important role in stress, mood and addiction in animal models. CERC-501 has been observed to have positive preclinical activity in models of depression, nicotine withdrawal and alcohol dependence, and it has been generally well tolerated in three human clinical trials.

**About Cerecor**

Cerecor is a biopharmaceutical company with the goal of becoming a leader in the development of innovative drugs that make a difference in the lives of patients with neurological and psychiatric diseases. We are committed to the development of drugs that improve lives by applying our extensive knowledge and experience in central nervous system disorders. Cerecor is currently pursuing the development of two clinical Phase 2-stage product candidates: CERC-301, an oral and NR2B-specific NMDA antagonist in development as an adjunctive treatment in MDD, and CERC-501. For more information about the Company and its products, please visit: www.cerecor.com or contact Mariam E. Morris, Chief Financial Officer, at (443) 304-8002.

**Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release may include forward-looking statements made pursuant to the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts. Such forward-looking statements are subject to significant risks and uncertainties that are subject to change based on various factors (many of which are beyond Cerecor's control), which could cause actual results to differ from the forward-looking statements. Such statements may include, without limitation, statements with respect to Cerecor's plans, objectives, projections, expectations and intentions and other statements identified by words such as "projects," "may," "will," "could," "would," "should," "believes," "expects," "anticipates," "estimates," "intends," "plans," "potential" or similar expressions. These statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of Cerecor's management but are subject to significant risks and uncertainties, including those detailed in Cerecor's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Actual results may differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. Except as required by applicable law, Cerecor expressly disclaims any obligations or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in Cerecor's expectations with respect thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.

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