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

Form 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer  
Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16  
under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

March 2018

Commission file number: 001-36288

**Akari Therapeutics, Plc**  
(Translation of registrant's name into English)

75/76 Wimpole Street  
London W1G 9RT  
United Kingdom  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulations S-T Rule 101(b)(1): \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulations S-T Rule 101(b)(7): \_\_\_\_\_

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## CONTENTS

On March 21, 2018, Akari Therapeutics, Plc, (the “Company”) issued a press release announcing fourth quarter and full year 2017 financial results and highlights on its clinical development programs. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

The statements under “Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2017 Financial Results”, the accompanying financial statements and “Forward Looking Statements” of Exhibit 99.1 are hereby incorporated by reference into all effective registration statements filed by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933.

**Exhibit No.**

99.1            Press Release dated March 21, 2018.

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**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.

Akari Therapeutics, Plc  
(Registrant)

By: /s/ David Horn Solomon  
Name: David Horn Solomon  
Chief Executive Officer

Date: March 21, 2018

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**Akari Therapeutics Announces Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2017 Financial Results and Highlights Recent Clinical Progress**

- *Received Regulatory Clearance in Europe to Open First Clinical Trial Site for Phase III PNH Naïve Trial*
- *CAPSTONE, the Phase III Naïve PNH Trial Expected to Open in Q1 2018*
- *Phase II PNH Trial Completed With Primary Endpoint Met*
- *Phase II aHUS Trial Initiated End of 2017*
- *U.S. Food and Drug Administration Fast Track Designation for resistant patients and End of Phase II Meeting for PNH Completed with Agreed Upon Phase III CAPSTONE Trial Design*
- *Management to Host Conference Call Today at 8:30 a.m. ET*

NEW YORK and LONDON, March 21, 2018 - Akari Therapeutics, Plc (NASDAQ:AKTX), a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of innovative therapeutics to treat orphan autoimmune and inflammatory diseases, today announces its financial results for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31, 2017 and highlights progress on its clinical development programs.

“We made significant progress in 2017 advancing our lead product candidate, Coversin™, across our clinical pipeline of orphan inflammatory diseases, most importantly in our Phase II trial for patients with Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH) which met its primary endpoint,” commented Dr. David Horn Solomon, Chief Executive Officer of Akari Therapeutics. “With this Phase II trial now completed and the selection of the dosing regimen which is intended to be used in future clinical trials, we now look forward to the opening of the first clinical site by the end of March for our first Phase III trial of Coversin in patients with PNH using a convenient patient administered sub-cutaneous (SC) dosing.”

“We believe Akari is well-positioned to move forward with its priority programs in 2018. In addition to PNH, we are focused on advancing Coversin into Phase II trials in the first half of 2018 in our other key disease targets involving both the complement and leukotriene pathways, the eye disease atopic keratoconjunctivitis (AKC) and the skin disorder bullous pemphigoid (BP), both of which are orphan indications with significant unmet need. We are also continuing our Phase II trial of Coversin in patients with aHUS, which commenced in late 2017. Additionally, we are advancing Coversin SC in a patient-convenient auto-injector pen device, and are advancing Coversin in topical eye-drops for AKC, and a long-acting formulation. Having ended 2017 with good momentum, 2018 is set to be an exciting year for the company as we work towards commercializing treatments for orphan autoimmune and inflammatory diseases.”

## **Clinical Development Programs Highlights**

### **Complement Program**

#### Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH)

- Regulatory clearance recently received in Europe to open the first clinical trial site for CAPSTONE, the Phase III trial of Coversin in PNH patients who have not previously been treated with a complement inhibitor, in patient-convenient SC dosing.
- Primary endpoint met in Phase II COBALT clinical trial of Coversin™ for patients with PNH who have never received a complement blocking therapy. The last three patients enrolled into the trial on the new dosing regimen of 45 mg per day saw a more rapid decline in LDH than those in the original dosing regimen.
- The 45mg dosing regimen is the intended dose for the Phase III PNH trials of Coversin discussed with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in September 2017.
- Seven of the eight enrolled patients in the Phase II COBALT trial completed the 90-day trial.<sup>1</sup> These patients continue to be evaluated in a long-term safety study, CONSERVE, and have been receiving Coversin subcutaneously for between 5 to 14 months. To date there have been no drug-related serious adverse events reported and patients are self-administering.
- FDA granted Fast Track designation for Coversin for treatment of PNH in patients who have polymorphisms conferring eculizumab resistance.

#### Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (aHUS)

- A Phase II clinical trial for Coversin in aHUS was initiated in the fourth quarter of 2017.

### **Dual C5 and Leukotriene B4 Program**

#### Atopic Keratoconjunctivitis (AKC) and Bullous Pemphigoid (BP)

- The Company anticipates the start of two Phase II clinical trials, in the inflammatory-mediated eye disorder AKC and in the skin inflammatory disease BP, in the first half of 2018. In AKC, Coversin expected to be delivered in a topical eye drop formulation.

### **Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2017 Financial Results**

- Cash position: As of December 31, 2017, the Company had cash and cash equivalents of \$28.1 million, as compared to cash, cash equivalents and short term investments of \$44.1 million as of December 31, 2016.
- Research and development (R&D) expenses: R&D expenses in the fourth quarter of 2017 were \$7.1 million as compared to \$6.6 million in the same quarter the prior year. R&D expenses for full year 2017 were \$23.3 million, as compared to \$17.3 million for the prior year. These increases were due primarily to expenses associated with the expanded clinical trial programs.

- General and administrative (G&A) expenses: G&A expenses in the fourth quarter of 2017 were \$3.7 million, as compared to \$3.3 million in the same quarter last year, and, for the full year 2017, \$11.7 million as compared to \$9.9 million in 2016. These increases were due primarily to higher legal, accounting and professional service fees, and increased personnel and recruiting expenses, offset by lower share-based compensation expense.
- Net loss: Net loss for the fourth quarter of 2017 was \$9.3 million compared to a net loss of \$8.3 million for the same period in 2016. Net loss for full year 2017 was \$32.6 million, compared to \$18.1 million for full year 2016. These year over year increases in net loss were due primarily to higher R&D and G&A expenses.

#### **Guidance**

Based on its current cash position and operating plan, the Company expects that it has sufficient cash to fund operations into the second quarter of 2019. This estimate assumes no additional funding from new partnership agreements or debt or equity financing events.

<sup>1</sup>For the seven patients that completed the study, LDH as a multiple of ULN (xULN) was 1.4, 2.2, 2.3, 1.4, 1.3, 1.6 and 1.3 at day 28; 1.5, 2.1, 1.8, 1.5, 1.3, 1.4 and 2.2 at day 60; and 1.6, 2.4, 2.0, 1.9, 1.2, 1.5 and 2.5 at day 90.

#### **Conference Call**

Management will conduct a conference call at 8:30 a.m. ET today to review the Company's fourth quarter and full year 2017 financial results. The call can be accessed by dialing (844) 461-9933 or (636) 812-6633 (international), and referencing conference ID 2096211. The conference call will also be webcast live over the Internet and can be accessed on the "Events & Presentations" page under the "Investors & Media" section of the Akari Therapeutics website, [www.akaritx.com](http://www.akaritx.com), prior to the event. A replay of the webcast will be available for at least 30 days following the call at [www.akaritx.com](http://www.akaritx.com).

#### **About Akari Therapeutics**

Akari is a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing inhibitors of acute and chronic inflammation, specifically the complement and the eicosanoid system for the treatment of rare and orphan diseases, in particular those where the complement system or leukotrienes or both complement and leukotrienes together play a primary role in disease progression. Akari's lead drug candidate Coversin™ is a C5 complement inhibitor currently being evaluated in paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH) and atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS). In addition to its C5 inhibitory activity, Coversin independently and specifically inhibits leukotriene B4 (LTB4) activity. Akari intends to evaluate Coversin in two conditions, the skin and eye diseases bullous pemphigoid and atopic keratoconjunctivitis, where the dual action of Coversin on both C5 and LTB4 may be beneficial. Akari is also developing other tick derived proteins, including long acting versions.

### **Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

Certain statements in this press release constitute “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views about our plans, intentions, expectations, strategies and prospects, which are based on the information currently available to us and on assumptions we have made. Although we believe that our plans, intentions, expectations, strategies and prospects as reflected in or suggested by those forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that the plans, intentions, expectations or strategies will be attained or achieved. Furthermore, actual results may differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements and will be affected by a variety of risks and factors that are beyond our control. Such risks and uncertainties for our company include, but are not limited to: needs for additional capital to fund our operations, an inability or delay in obtaining required regulatory approvals for Coversin and any other product candidates, which may result in unexpected cost expenditures; risks inherent in drug development in general; uncertainties in obtaining successful clinical results for Coversin and any other product candidates and unexpected costs that may result therefrom; failure to realize any value of Coversin and any other product candidates developed and being developed in light of inherent risks and difficulties involved in successfully bringing product candidates to market; inability to develop new product candidates and support existing product candidates; the approval by the FDA and EMA and any other similar foreign regulatory authorities of other competing or superior products brought to market; risks resulting from unforeseen side effects; risk that the market for Coversin may not be as large as expected; risks associated with the putative shareholder class action and SEC requests for information; inability to obtain, maintain and enforce patents and other intellectual property rights or the unexpected costs associated with such enforcement or litigation; inability to obtain and maintain commercial manufacturing arrangements with third party manufacturers or establish commercial scale manufacturing capabilities; the inability to timely source adequate supply of our active pharmaceutical ingredients from third party manufacturers on whom the company depends; our inability to obtain additional capital on acceptable terms, or at all; unexpected cost increases and pricing pressures; uncertainties of cash flows and inability to meet working capital needs; and risks and other risk factors detailed in our public filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, including our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 20-F and in our Report on Form 6-K filed with the SEC on October 17, 2017. Except as otherwise noted, these forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this press release and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any of these statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring after this press release. We caution investors not to place considerable reliance on the forward-looking statements contained in this press release.

**AKARI THERAPEUTICS, Plc**

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
As of December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016  
(in U.S. Dollars, except share data)

	<u>December 31, 2017</u>	<u>December 31, 2016</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 28,106,671	\$ 34,098,812
Short-term investments	\$ -	10,021,963
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	\$ 706,415	1,513,006
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 28,813,086</b>	<b>45,633,781</b>
Restricted deposit	\$ 142,235	\$ 142,168
Property and equipment, net	\$ 55,898	58,364
Patent acquisition costs, net	\$ 39,124	39,365
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 29,050,343</b>	<b>\$ 45,873,678</b>
<b>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,971,161	2,214,313
Accrued expenses	\$ 1,970,873	1,837,647
Liability related to stock options and warrants	\$ 5,081,335	7,662,808
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 9,023,369</b>	<b>11,714,768</b>
Other long-term liability	\$ 48,003	56,360
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 9,071,372</b>	<b>11,771,128</b>
Commitments and Contingencies		
Shareholders' Equity:		
Share capital GBP of .01 par value		
Authorized: 10,000,000,000 and 5,000,000,000 ordinary shares; issued and outstanding: 1,525,693,393 and 1,177,693,383 at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively	22,927,534	18,340,894
Additional paid-in capital	104,799,550	90,979,363
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(236,246)	(280,097)
Accumulated deficit	(107,511,867)	(74,937,610)
<b>Total Shareholders' Equity</b>	<b>19,978,971</b>	<b>34,102,550</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>	<b>\$ 29,050,343</b>	<b>\$ 45,873,678</b>



**AKARI THERAPEUTICS, Plc**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE LOSS**  
(in U.S. Dollars)

	Twelve Months Ended		Three Months Ended	
	Dec 31, 2017	Dec 31, 2016	Dec 31, 2017 (Unaudited)	Dec 31, 2016 (Unaudited)
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>				
Research and development costs	\$ 23,285,279	\$ 17,306,001	\$ 7,117,853	\$ 6,569,519
General and administrative expenses	11,673,910	9,940,557	3,667,813	3,283,703
Excess Consideration	-	-		
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>34,959,189</u>	<u>27,246,558</u>	<u>10,785,666</u>	<u>9,853,222</u>
<b>Loss from Operations</b>	<u>(34,959,189)</u>	<u>(27,246,558)</u>	<u>(10,785,666)</u>	<u>(9,853,222)</u>
<b>Other Income (Expense):</b>				
Interest income	175,393	143,195	51,036	45,398
Changes in fair value of option/warrant liabilities-gains	2,581,473	8,733,350	1,571,468	1,598,578
Foreign exchange (losses)/gains	(358,540)	272,985	(127,214)	(71,392)
Other expenses	(13,394)	(43,969)	(2,779)	(5,481)
<b>Total Other Income (Expense)</b>	<u>2,384,932</u>	<u>9,105,561</u>	<u>1,492,511</u>	<u>1,567,103</u>
<b>Net Loss</b>	<u>(32,574,257)</u>	<u>(18,140,997)</u>	<u>(9,293,155)</u>	<u>(8,286,119)</u>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income (Loss):</b>				
Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment	43,851	(436,577)	52,153	61,116
<b>Comprehensive Loss</b>	<u>\$ (32,530,406)</u>	<u>\$ (18,577,574)</u>	<u>\$ (9,241,002)</u>	<u>\$ (8,225,003)</u>
<b>Loss per common share (basic and diluted)</b>	<u>\$ (0.03)</u>	<u>\$ (0.02)</u>	<u>\$ (0.01)</u>	<u>\$ (0.01)</u>
<b>Weighted average common shares (basic and diluted)</b>	<u>1,247,293,388</u>	<u>1,177,693,383</u>	<u>1,453,823,828</u>	<u>1,177,693,383</u>

**For more information**

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