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**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): September 8, 2020**

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**ARCUTIS BIOTHERAPEUTICS, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-39186**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**81-2974255**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification Number)

**2945 Townsgate Road, Suite 110  
Westlake Village, CA 91361**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (805) 418-5006**

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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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
<b>Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share</b>	<b>ARQT</b>	<b>The Nasdaq Global Select Market</b>

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter). Emerging growth company

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 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On September 8, 2020, Arcutis Biotherapeutics, Inc. (the “Company”) issued a press release announcing its plans to advance its program to develop ARQ-151 (topical roflumilast cream) for the treatment of atopic dermatitis into Phase 3 clinical trials following its End-of-Phase 2 meeting with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, without conducting the previously planned Phase 2b atopic dermatitis trial. The Company anticipates initiating pivotal Phase 3 clinical trials in late 2020 or early 2021.

*The foregoing contains “forward-looking” statements, including, among others, statements regarding the expected timing of the initiation of pivotal Phase 3 clinical trials in late 2020 or in early 2021. These statements involve substantial known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from the information expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements and you should not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results to differ include risks inherent in the clinical development process and regulatory approval process, the timing of regulatory filings, and our ability to defend our intellectual property. For a further description of the risks and uncertainties applicable to the Company’s business, see the “Risk Factors” section of its Form 10-Q filed with U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on August 11, 2020, as well as any subsequent filings with the SEC. The Company undertake no obligation to revise or update information herein to reflect events or circumstances in the future, even if new information becomes available.*

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**ARCUTIS BIOTHERAPEUTICS, INC.**

Date: September 9, 2020

By: /s/ John W. Smither  
John W. Smither  
Chief Financial Officer