

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM SC 13G

Schedule filed to report acquisition of beneficial ownership of 5% or more of a class of equity securities by passive investors and certain institutions

Filing Date: **2003-02-10**
SEC Accession No. **0000019617-03-000064**

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SUBJECT COMPANY

ATHEROGENICS INC

CIK: **1107601** | IRS No.: **582108232** | State of Incorporation: **GA**
Type: **SC 13G** | Act: **34** | File No.: **005-60563** | Film No.: **03547737**
SIC: **2834** Pharmaceutical preparations

Business Address
8995 WESTSIDE PARKWAY
ALPHARETTA GA 30004
6783362500

FILED BY

J P MORGAN CHASE & CO

CIK: **19617** | IRS No.: **132624428** | State of Incorporation: **DE** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**
Type: **SC 13G**
SIC: **6021** National commercial banks

Mailing Address
270 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK NY 10017

Business Address
270 PARK AVE
39TH FL
NEW YORK NY 10017
2122706000

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

(Rule 13d-102)

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS FILED PURSUANT
TO RULES 13d-1(b), (c), AND (d) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO FILED
PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-2(b)

ATHEROGENICS, INC.

(NAME OF ISSUER)

COMMON STOCK

(Title of Class of Securities)

047439104

(CUSIP Number)

DECEMBER 31,2002

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

CUSIP No. 047439104

13G

Page 1 of 3 pages

1. Names of reporting persons J.P.Morgan Chase & Co.

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

13-2624428

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*

(a)

(b)

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF

5.

SOLE VOTING POWER

1,552,295

SHARES

BENEFICIALLY

6.

SHARED VOTING POWER

0

OWNED BY

EACH

7.

SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

1,688,758

REPORTING

PERSON WITH

8.

SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

3,100

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

1,691,858

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES

CERTAIN SHARES

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

6.0%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

HC

Item 1(a). Name of Issuer:

ATHEROGENICS, INC.

Item 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

8995 WESTSIDE PARKWAY

ALPHARETTA, GA 30004

Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing:

J.P. MORGAN CHASE & CO.

Item 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence:

270 PARK AVE

NEW YORK, NY 10017

Item 2(c). Citizenship

Delaware

Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities:

COMMON STOCK

Unless otherwise noted, security being reported is common stock

Item 2(e). CUSIP Number: 047439104

Item 3 If this Statement is Filed Pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b)

Or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a :

- (a) Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Exchange Act;
- (b) Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act;
- (c) Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the
Exchange Act;
- (d) Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment
Company Act;
- (e) An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
- (f) An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with
Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g) A parent holding company or control person in accordance with
Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h) A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal
Deposit Insurance Act;
- (i) A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an

Investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment

Company act;

(j) Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), check this
box.

X

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Item 4. Ownership

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and

Percentage of the class of securities of issuer identified in Item 1.

(a) Amount beneficially owned:

1,691,858

Including

0 shares where there is a Right to Acquire.

(b) Percent of class:

6.0%

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

1,552,295

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:

0

- | | | |
|-------|--|-----------|
| (iii) | Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: | 1,688,758 |
| (iv) | Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: | 3,100 |

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class. NOT APPLICABLE

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following.
()

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. is the beneficial owner of 1,691,858 shares of the issuer's common stock on behalf of other persons known to have one or more of the following:

the right to receive dividends for such securities;

the power to direct the receipt of dividends from such securities;

the right to receive the proceeds from the sale of such securities;

the right to direct the receipt of proceeds from the sale of such securities;

No such person is known to have an interest in more than 5% of the class of securities reported herein unless such person is identified below.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the

Security being reported on by the Parent Holding Company.

This notice is filed on behalf of J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. and its wholly owned Subsidiaries,

JPMorgan Chase Bank; J.P. Morgan Investment Management Inc.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not Applicable

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not Applicable

Item 10. Certifications

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief,

the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the

purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the

issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection

with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the

information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: FEBRUARY 10, 2003

J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.

By: /s/ Margaret R. Rubin

The original statement shall be signed by each person on whose behalf the statement is filed or his authorized representative. If the statement is signed on behalf of a person by his authorized representative (other than an executive officer or general partner of the filing person), evidence of the representative's authority to sign on behalf of such person shall be filed with the statement, provided, however, that a power of attorney for this purpose which is already on file with the commission may be incorporated by reference. The name and any title of each person who signs the statement shall be typed or printed beneath his signature.
