



US 20020042425A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**  
**Gormley et al.**

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2002/0042425 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Apr. 11, 2002**

(54) **TRANSDERMAL TREATMENT WITH  
5-ALPHA REDUCTASE INHIBITORS**

(76) Inventors: **Glenn J. Gormley**, Westfield, NJ (US);  
**Keith D. Kaufman**, Westfield, NJ (US);  
**Elizabeth Stoner**, Westfield, NJ (US);  
**Joanne Waldstreicher**, Scotch Plains,  
NJ (US)

Correspondence Address:  
**MERCK AND CO INC**  
**P O BOX 2000**  
**RAHWAY, NJ 070650907**

(21) Appl. No.: **10/010,678**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 7, 2001**

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(60) Division of application No. 09/699,906, filed on Oct. 30, 2000, which is a division of application No. 09/448,930, filed on Nov. 24, 1999, now patented,

which is a division of application No. 09/135,512, filed on Mar. 20, 1998, now abandoned, which is a division of application No. 08/601,497, filed on Feb. 14, 1996, now patented, which is a continuation of application No. 08/214,905, filed on Mar. 17, 1994, now patented, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/138,520, filed on Oct. 15, 1993, now abandoned.

**Publication Classification**

(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... **A61K 31/473**; A61K 7/06  
(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **514/290**; 424/70.1

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The instant invention involves a method of treating and/or reversing androgenic alopecia and promoting hair growth, and methods of treating acne vulgaris, seborrhea, and female hirsutism, by administering to a patient in need of such treatment a 5 $\alpha$ -reductase 2 inhibitor, such as finasteride, in a dosage amount under 5 mgs/day.