

# R&D DIRECTIONS

An executive briefing on pharmaceutical research and development



## ADVANCES IN MEDICINE

# 100 GREAT INVESTIGATIONAL DRUGS

By John King

**Rotigotine CDS** | transdermal patch for Parkinson disease

Rotigotine CDS is a novel dopamine D2 receptor agonist formulated as a once-a-day transdermal patch for the treatment of Parkinson disease. Rotigotine CDS is the first transdermal approach to treating Parkinson disease. Dopamine agonists are administered orally, causing fluctuating medication levels in the bloodstream that lead to side effects when levels peak and Parkinson symptoms when levels fall. Rotigotine CDS is designed to provide a continuous stream of medication during a 24-hour period, potentially avoiding these complications.

**Schwarz Pharma** ([schwarzusa.com](http://schwarzusa.com)) and **Aderis Pharmaceuticals Inc.** ([aderis.com](http://aderis.com)) are jointly developing Rotigotine CDS, which is in Phase III trials as a treatment for Parkinson disease. Rotigotine is also being studied as a possible treatment for restless legs syndrome

