SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 8-K

Current Report

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

October 17, 2003

Date of Report

(Date of earliest event reported)

DURECT CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction

000-31615 (Commission 94-3297098. (I.R.S. Employer

of incorporation or organization)

File Number)

Identification No.)

10240 Bubb Road

Cupertino, CA 95014

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

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(408) 777-1417

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Item 5. Other Events and Required FD Disclosure.

On October 16, 2003, DURECT Corporation, a Delaware corporation ($\,$ DURECT $\,$) issued a press release announcing update to its CHRONOGESIC $^{\tiny (0)}$ program.

A copy of DURECT s press release announcing the update is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and incorporated by reference herein.

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

DURECT Corporation

Date: October 17, 2003

By:

/s/ James E. Brown

James E. Brown

President and Chief Executive Officer

DURECT CORPORATION

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Press Release of DURECT Corporation dated October 16, 2003.