ATHEROGENICS INC Form SC 13G/A January 10, 2003

QuickLinks -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

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 13d-2(b)

(Amendment No. 6)¹

Atherogenics, Inc.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

047439 10 4

(CUSIP Number)

December 30, 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:

- o Rule 13d-1(b)
- ý Rule 13d-1(c)
- o Rule 13d-1(d)

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, *see* the *Notes*).

¹ The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

CU	SIP NO. 04/439 10 4			Page 2 of 9 Pages	
1	NAME OF REPORTI				
			OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):		
2					
3	SEC USE ONLY				
4	CITIZENSHIP OR PI	LACE OF (ORGANIZATION		
	NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0		
	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 127,070		
	EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0		
	WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 127,070		
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 127,070				
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*				
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9				
	0.5%				
12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*					
	PN				
			* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!		

CU	SIP NO. 047439 10 4			Page 3 of 9 Pages
1	NAME OF REPORTE			
	I.R.S. IDENTIFICATI	ON NO	OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):	
2	2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*			
3	SEC USE ONLY			
4	CITIZENSHIP OR PL	ACE OI	FORGANIZATION	
	NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0	
	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 36,700	
	EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0	
	WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 36,700	
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 36,700			
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*			
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9			
	0.1%			
12	TYPE OF REPORTIN	IG PERS	ON*	
	PN			
			* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!	

CUSIP NO. 047439 10 4			<u></u>	Page 4 of 9 Pages	
1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: BVF Investments, L.L.C. I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):				
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*				
3	SEC USE ONLY			(b) c	
4	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware				
	NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0		
	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 87,500		
	EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0		
	WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 87,500		
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 87,500				
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*				
11	PERCENT OF CLASS	S REPRE	ESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9		
	0.3%				
12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*					
	00				
			* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT:		

CU	SIP NO. 047439 10 4	Page 5 of 9 Pages			
1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: BVF Partners L.P.				
	I.R.S. IDENTIFICAT	ION NO.	OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):		
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*				
3	SEC USE ONLY				
4	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION				
	Delaware				
	NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0		
	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 282,270		
	EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0		
	WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 282,270		
9	AGGREGATE AMOU	UNT BEI	NEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON		
	282,270				
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*				
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9				
1.0%					
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*				
	PN				
			* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT:		

CUSIP NO. 047439 10 4			13G	Page 6 of 9 Pages		
1	NAME OF REPORTI	NG PER	GON:			
	I.R.S. IDENTIFICAT	ION NO.	OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):			
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*			(a) ý (b) c		
3	SEC USE ONLY					
4	CITIZENSHIP OR PI	LACE OF	ORGANIZATION			
	Delaware					
	NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0			
	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 282,270			
	EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0			
	WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 282,270			
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON					
	282,270					
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*					
11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9					
	1.0%					
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*					
	IA, CO					
			* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILL	ING OUT!		

CUSIP NO. 047439 10 4	13G	Page 7 of 9 Pages

ITEM 1(a). NAME OF ISSUER:

Atherogenics, Inc. ("Atherogenics")

ITEM 1(b). ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES:

8995 Westside Parkway Alpharetta, Georgia 30004

ITEM 2(a). NAME OF PERSON FILING:

This Amendment to Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of the following persons* (the "Reporting Persons"):

- (i) Biotechnology Value Fund, L.P. ("BVF")
- (ii)
- Biotechnology Value Fund II, L.P. ("BVF2") (iii)
- BVF Investments, L.L.C. ("Investments")
- (iv) BVF Partners L.P. ("Partners")
- (v) BVF Inc. ("BVF Inc.")

ITEM 2(b). ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE:

The principal business office of the Reporting Persons comprising the group filing this Amendment to Schedule 13G is located at 227 West Monroe Street, Suite 4800, Chicago, Illinois, 60606.

ITEM 2(c). CITIZENSHIP:

BVF: a Delaware limited partnership
BVF2: a Delaware limited partnership
Investments: a Delaware limited liability company
Partners: a Delaware limited partnership
BVF Inc.: a Delaware corporation

ITEM 2(d). TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES:

Common Stock.

ITEM 2(e). CUSIP Number:

047439 10 4

^{*} Attached as Exhibit 1 is a copy of an agreement among the Reporting Persons filing (as specified hereinabove) that this Amendment to Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of each of them.

CUSIP NO. 047439 10 4		Page 8 of 9 Pages
ITEM 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FI THE PERSON FILING IS: O	LED PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) One of the following	or (c) CHECK WHETHER
Not applicable as this	s Amendment to Schedule 13G is filed pursuant to Rule	e 13d-1(c).
ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP:		
The information in items incorporated by reference.	1 and 5 through 11 on the cover pages (pp. 2 - 6) on this	s Amendment to Schedule 13G is hereby
ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PER	CENT OR LESS OF A CLASS:	
	iled to report the fact that as of the date hereof the Report of the class of securities check the following. ý	orting Persons have ceased to be the beneficial
ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE TH	HAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHE	R PERSON:
shares voting and dispositive pover or voting and dispositive power or agreement of Investments, Part member of Investments, in sharthose shares of common stock. beneficially own with, in additi	spositive power over the shares of the common stock it ower over the shares of the common stock it beneficially owns ners is authorized, among other things, to invest the fur res of the common stock Investments beneficially owns Partners and BVF Inc. share voting and dispositive pown to BVF, BVF2 and Investments, a managed account s. The managed account does not own more than 5% of	ly owns with Partners. Investments also shares is with Partners. Pursuant to the operating ands of Ziff Asset Management, L.P., the majority is and to vote and exercise dispositive power over over over the shares of the common stock they it on whose behalf Partners, as investment
	ASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH A	
Not applicable.		
ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CL	ASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF A GROUP:	
Not applicable.		
ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION	OF GROUP:	
Not applicable.		
CUSIP NO. 047439 10 4		Page 9 of 9 Pages

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

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.

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: January 10, 2003

BIOTECHNOLOGY VALUE FUND, L.P.

By: BVF Partners L.P., its general partner

By: BVF Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

BIOTECHNOLOGY VALUE FUND II, L.P.

By: BVF Partners L.P., its general partner

By: BVF Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

BVF INVESTMENTS, L.L.C.

By: BVF Partners L.P., its manager

By: BVF Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

BVF PARTNERS L.P.

By: BVF Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

BVF INC.

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

QuickLinks

SCHEDULE 13G

ITEM 1(a). NAME OF ISSUER

ITEM 1(b). ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES

ITEM 2(a), NAME OF PERSON FILING

ITEM 2(b). ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE

ITEM 2(c). CITIZENSHIP

ITEM 2(d). TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES

ITEM 2(e). CUSIP Number

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: One of the following

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED

ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF A GROUP

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION