

NOVARTIS AG  
Form 6-K  
October 15, 2002

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 6-K**

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER**

**PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 or 15d-16 OF  
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**Report on Form 6-K for date of October 15, 2002**

**Novartis AG**

(Name of Registrant)

Lichtstrasse 35  
4056 Basel  
Switzerland

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

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**Novartis International AG**

Novartis Communications  
CH-4002 Basel  
Switzerland  
Tel +41 61 324 2200  
Fax + 41 61 324 3300  
Internet Address:  
<http://www.novartis.com>

**MEDIA ALERT**

**To the Editors**

**Novartis' 2002 third-quarter and nine-month results and R&D update**

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Basel, 14 October 2002

On 17 October the publication of our third-quarter and nine-month results will coincide with our annual "Pharmaceuticals R&D day" event in New York.

We will therefore **publish our results at 12.30 CET** through the normal channels.

There will be a live virtual press conference (in English) from New York starting at 14.00 CET and ending at 14.45. This will be webcast on [www.novartis.com](http://www.novartis.com) and can be heard via a telephone conference facility for journalists. Call numbers and final details will be published in our press release and on [www.novartis.com](http://www.novartis.com). The presentation slides for the virtual press conference and an "R&D highlights" press release will be published on [www.novartis.com](http://www.novartis.com) approximately one hour beforehand so that you can download them in advance.

Daniel Vasella, Thomas Ebeling, Joerg Reinhardt and Raymund Breu will give short presentations on the results and our Pharmaceuticals pipeline. Following this, journalists will be able to ask them questions over the phone or by email.

The slides and webcast playback will also be available on [www.novartis.com](http://www.novartis.com) after the event.

With kind regards  
Novartis Communications

### Schedule overview

12.30 CET (06.30 EST):	Press release on 2002 3 <sup>rd</sup> -quarter and 9-month results
13.00 CET (07.00 EST):	Press release on R&D day highlights; presentation slides published on <a href="http://www.novartis.com">www.novartis.com</a>
14.00 - 14.45 CET: (08.00 - 08.45 EST)	Virtual press conference from New York

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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, thereunto duly authorized.

#### Novartis AG

Date: October 15, 2002

By:           /s/ MALCOLM B. CHEETHAM          

Name: Malcolm B. Cheetham  
Title: Head Group Financial Reporting and Accounting

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