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Hsu et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2003/0124176 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Jul. 3, 2003**(54) **TRANSDERMAL AND TOPICAL
ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS USING
BASIC PERMEATION ENHANCERS**(76) Inventors: **Tsung-Min Hsu**, San Diego, CA (US);
Nicole T. Gricenko, San Diego, CA
(US); **Alan T.J. Hickey**, San Diego, CA
(US); **Eric C. Jacobson**, San Diego,
CA (US); **Rose C. LoBello**, San Diego,
CA (US); **Jane Obara**, San Diego, CA
(US); **Eric C. Luo**, Plano, TX (US)Correspondence Address:
REED & ASSOCIATES
800 MENLO AVENUE
SUITE 210
MENLO PARK, CA 94025 (US)(21) Appl. No.: **10/176,952**(22) Filed: **Jun. 21, 2002****Related U.S. Application Data**(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/972,008,
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application No. 09/607,892, filed on Jun. 30, 2000,
now abandoned.**Publication Classification**(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A61K 9/70**(52) **U.S. Cl.** **424/449**(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods are provided for enhancing the permeability of skin or mucosal tissue to topical or transdermal application of pharmacologically or cosmeceutically active agents. The methods entail the use of a base in order to increase the flux of the active agent through a body surface while minimizing the likelihood of skin damage, irritation or sensitization. The permeation enhancer can be an inorganic or organic base. Compositions and transdermal systems are also described.