

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Form 8-K  
April 05, 2005

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D. C. 20549

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## FORM 8-K

### CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

April 5, 2005

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

## ABBOTT LABORATORIES

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Illinois

1-2189

36-0698440

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(State or other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**100 Abbott Park Road**  
**Abbott Park, Illinois 60064-6400**  
(Address of principal executive offices)(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(847) 937-6100**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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**Item 8.01 Other Events**

The following supplements the position taken by the Abbott Laboratories Board of Directors in Abbott's 2005 Proxy Statement with respect to the shareholder proposal set forth as Item 8 in that proxy statement.

It has been and continues to be the role of the lead director to review and approve matters, such as agenda items, schedule sufficiency, and, where appropriate, information provided to other Board members. The lead director will be chosen by and from the independent members of the Board of Directors, and serves as the liaison between the chairman and the independent directors; however, all directors are encouraged to, and in fact do, consult with the chairman on each of the above topics as well.

**SIGNATURE**



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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.

**ABBOTT LABORATORIES**

Date: April 5, 2005

By: /s/ Thomas C. Freyman  
Thomas C. Freyman  
Executive Vice President, Finance  
and Chief Financial Officer