

ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Form 8-K
January 20, 2006

**UNITED STATES
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**

January 17, 2006

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 1.01 **Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement**

On January 17, 2006, Abbott announced the amendment of its agreement with Boston Scientific to acquire Guidant's vascular business. The agreement is subject to approval by regulatory authorities and is contingent upon the closing of Boston Scientific's proposed acquisition of Guidant. A copy of the press release announcing the amendment to the agreement is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 **Financial Statements and Exhibits**

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Exhibit No.

Exhibit

99.1 Press Release, dated January 17, 2006

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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: January 19, 2006

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

Exhibit Index

| Exhibit No. | Exhibit |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated January 17, 2006 |