

APRIA HEALTHCARE GROUP INC
Form 10-Q
November 14, 2003

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the period ended September 30, 2003

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission File Number: 1-14316

APRIA HEALTHCARE GROUP INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

33-0488566
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

26220 Enterprise Court, Lake Forest, CA
(Address of principal executive offices)

92630
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number: (949) 639-2000

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

There were 51,035,070 shares of common stock, \$.001 par value, outstanding at November 6, 2003.

APRIA HEALTHCARE GROUP INC.

FORM 10-Q

For the period ended September 30, 2003

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PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (unaudited)

APRIA HEALTHCARE GROUP INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(unaudited)

| <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | September 30, 2003 | December 31, 2002 |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 134,513 | \$ 26,383 |
| Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$41,714 | | |

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| | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| and \$32,206 at September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002, respectively | September 30, | December 31, |
| Inventories, net | 195,421 | 185,298 |
| Deferred income taxes | 29,354 | 27,067 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 30,153 | 37,205 |
| | 13,671 | 14,408 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 403,112 | 290,361 |
| PATIENT SERVICE EQUIPMENT, less accumulated depreciation of \$391,572 and \$368,420 at September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002, respectively | 214,885 | 186,210 |
| PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS, NET | 51,527 | 54,134 |
| DEFERRED INCOME TAXES | 596 | 3,446 |
| GOODWILL | 324,057 | 248,863 |
| INTANGIBLE ASSETS, NET | 6,559 | 6,142 |
| DEFERRED DEBT ISSUANCE COSTS, NET | 9,923 | 4,413 |
| OTHER ASSETS | 4,742 | 2,087 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | \$ 1,015,401 | \$ 795,656 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 53,072 | \$ 65,514 |
| Accrued payroll and related taxes and benefits | 48,213 | 38,212 |
| Accrued insurance | 8,435 | 8,021 |
| Income taxes payable | 16,709 | 10,285 |
| Other accrued liabilities | 33,785 | 39,968 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 28,496 | 21,713 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 188,710 | 183,713 |
| LONG-TERM DEBT, net of current portion | 477,134 | 247,655 |
| DEFERRED INCOME TAXES | 18,235 | 12,979 |
| COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note G) | | |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Preferred stock, \$.001 par value: 10,000,000 shares authorized; none issued | - | - |
| Common stock, \$.001 par value: 150,000,000 shares authorized; 57,188,477 and 56,580,677 shares issued at September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002, respectively; 50,978,921 and 54,897,521 outstanding at September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002, respectively | 57 | 57 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 409,885 | 397,416 |
| Treasury stock, at cost; 6,209,556 and 1,683,156 shares at September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002, respectively | (154,432) | (35,961) |
| Retained earnings (accumulated deficit) | 77,136 | (8,959) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (1,324) | (1,244) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 331,322 | 351,309 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | \$ 1,015,401 | \$ 795,656 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

APRIA HEALTHCARE GROUP INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS

(unaudited)

| Three Months Ended September 30, | Nine Months Ended September 30, |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

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| <i>(dollars in thousands, except per share data)</i> | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 |
| Net revenues | \$ 346,323 | \$ 312,046 | \$ 1,024,676 | \$ 923,816 |
| Costs and expenses: | | | | |
| Cost of net revenues: | | | | |
| Product and supply costs | 59,707 | 56,004 | 181,017 | 167,917 |
| Patient service equipment depreciation | 29,604 | 24,826 | 85,188 | 72,668 |
| Nursing services | 201 | 221 | 608 | 720 |
| Other | 3,617 | 3,182 | 10,317 | 9,530 |
| TOTAL COST OF NET REVENUES | 93,129 | 84,233 | 277,130 | 250,835 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 12,507 | 11,476 | 38,223 | 34,534 |
| Selling, distribution and administrative | 189,748 | 169,797 | 558,235 | 503,818 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 732 | 667 | 2,143 | 2,003 |
| TOTAL COSTS AND EXPENSES | 296,116 | 266,173 | 875,731 | 791,190 |
| OPERATING INCOME | 50,207 | 45,873 | 148,945 | 132,626 |
| Interest expense, net | 3,664 | 3,528 | 10,005 | 11,637 |
| INCOME BEFORE TAXES | 46,543 | 42,345 | 138,940 | 120,989 |
| Income tax expense | 17,686 | 15,880 | 52,845 | 45,371 |
| NET INCOME | \$ 28,857 | \$ 26,465 | \$ 86,095 | \$ 75,618 |
| Basic net income per common share | \$ 0.55 | \$ 0.48 | \$ 1.59 | \$ 1.39 |
| Diluted net income per common share | \$ 0.54 | \$ 0.48 | \$ 1.57 | \$ 1.36 |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

APRIA HEALTHCARE GROUP INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(unaudited)

| <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Net income | \$ 86,095 | \$ 75,618 |
| Items included in net income not requiring cash: | | |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 38,223 | 34,534 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 103,074 | 87,569 |
| Amortization of deferred debt issuance costs | 1,073 | 967 |
| Deferred income taxes and other | 17,400 | 41,130 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, exclusive of effects of acquisitions: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (48,346) | (49,407) |
| Inventories, net | (1,370) | 3,232 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | (1,920) | (3,694) |

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| | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|--|-----------|
| Accounts payable, exclusive of outstanding checks | (6,658) | (8,829) |
| Accrued payroll and related taxes and benefits | 10,001 | 7,454 |
| Income taxes payable | 6,424 | 3,572 |
| Accrued expenses | (5,319) | (3,289) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES | 198,677 | 188,857 |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Purchases of patient service equipment and property, equipment and improvements, exclusive of effects of acquisitions | (116,544) | (88,857) |
| Proceeds from disposition of assets | 419 | 239 |
| Cash paid for acquisitions, including payments of deferred consideration | (88,791) | (59,566) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES | (204,916) | (148,184) |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Proceeds from revolving credit facilities | 15,700 | 141,000 |
| Payments on revolving credit facilities | (15,700) | (146,100) |
| Payments on term loans | (12,875) | (6,812) |
| Proceeds from issuance of convertible senior notes | 250,000 | - |
| Payments on other long-term debt | (2,010) | (2,239) |
| Decrease in outstanding checks included in accounts payable | (5,785) | (6,856) |
| Capitalized debt issuance costs | (6,584) | (666) |
| Repurchases of common stock | (118,471) | (31,524) |
| Issuances of common stock | 10,094 | 15,897 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES | 114,369 | (37,300) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | 108,130 | 3,373 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 26,383 | 9,359 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD | \$ 134,513 | \$ 12,732 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

APRIA HEALTHCARE GROUP INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE A CERTAIN SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation: The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Apria Healthcare Group Inc. (Apria or the company) and its subsidiaries. Intercompany transactions and accounts have been eliminated.

In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring accruals necessary for a fair presentation of the results of operations for the interim periods presented, have been reflected herein. The unaudited results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the entire year. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2002, included in the company s Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Certain amounts from prior periods have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation.

Use of Accounting Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Revenue Recognition and Concentration of Credit Risk: Net revenues are recognized on the date services and related products are provided to patients and are recorded at amounts expected to be received under reimbursement arrangements with third-party payors, including private insurers, prepaid health plans, Medicare and Medicaid. In 2003, approximately 34% of the company s revenues are being reimbursed under

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arrangements with Medicare and Medicaid. No other third-party payor group represents 10% or more of the company's revenues. The majority of the company's revenues are derived from fees charged for patient care under fee-for-service arrangements. Revenues derived from capitation arrangements represent less than 10% of total net revenues.

Due to the nature of the industry and the reimbursement environment in which Apria operates, certain estimates are required to record net revenues and accounts receivable at their net realizable values. Inherent in these estimates is the risk that they will have to be revised or updated as additional information becomes available. Specifically, the complexity of many third-party billing arrangements and the uncertainty of reimbursement amounts for certain services from certain payors may result in adjustments to amounts originally recorded. Such adjustments are typically identified and recorded at the point of cash application, claim denial or account review.

Management performs periodic analyses to evaluate accounts receivable balances to ensure that recorded amounts reflect estimated net realizable value. Specifically, management considers historical realization data, accounts receivable aging trends, other operating trends and relevant business conditions. Management also performs focused reviews of certain large and/or problematic payors. Due to continuing changes in the healthcare industry and with third-party reimbursement, it is possible that management's estimates may change in the near term, which could have an impact on operations and cash flows.

Accounts receivable are reduced by an allowance for doubtful accounts which provides for those accounts from which payment is not expected to be received, although services were provided and revenue was earned.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements: In April 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS No. 145, Rescission of FASB Statement Nos. 4, 44, and 64, Amendment of FASB Statement No. 13, and Technical Corrections. SFAS No. 145 updates and clarifies existing accounting pronouncements related to gains and losses from the extinguishment of debt and requires that certain lease modifications be accounted for in the same manner as sale-leaseback transactions. Apria adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 145 January 1, 2003. Adoption of this statement did not have a material effect on the company's consolidated financial statements.

In July 2002, SFAS No. 146, Accounting for Costs Associated With Exit or Disposal Activities, was issued. This statement addresses the financial accounting and reporting for costs associated with exit or disposal activities and requires that a liability for such costs be recognized when the liability is incurred rather than at the date of an entity's commitment to an exit plan. SFAS No. 146 also establishes that the liability should be measured and recorded at fair value. Adoption of the provisions of SFAS No. 146 is required for exit and disposal activities that are initiated after December 31, 2002. Adoption of this interpretation did not have a material effect on Apria's consolidated financial statements.

In December 2002, SFAS No. 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation Transition and Disclosure an amendment of FASB Statement No. 123, was issued. This statement amends SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, to provide alternative methods of transition and guidance for a voluntary change to the fair value based method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation. SFAS No. 148 also amends the disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 123 to require prominent disclosures in both annual and interim financial statements about the method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported results. The company has complied with the expanded financial statement disclosure requirements in its consolidated financial statements.

In November 2002, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation (FIN) No. 45, Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees and Indebtedness of Others, an interpretation of SFAS Nos. 5, 57 and 107 and rescission of FIN No. 34, Disclosure of Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others. FIN No. 45 elaborates on the disclosure requirements for the interim and annual financial statements of the guarantor. It also requires that a guarantor recognize a liability at the inception of the guarantee for the fair value of the obligation undertaken. The disclosure provisions became effective at December 31, 2002 while the recognition provisions of FIN No. 45 became effective January 1, 2003. Adoption of this interpretation did not have a material effect on Apria's consolidated financial statements as the company did not issue any guarantees during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003.

In January 2003, FIN No. 46, Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51, was issued. FIN No. 46 requires that a company consolidate variable interest entities if that company is subject to a majority of the risk of loss from the entity's activities or the company receives a majority of the entity's residual returns. FIN No. 46 also requires certain disclosures about variable interest entities in which a company has a significant interest, regardless of whether consolidation is required. Adoption of the provisions of FIN No. 46 was required January 1, 2003. The company currently has no variable interest entities, therefore the adoption of this interpretation is not expected to have a material effect on the company's consolidated financial statements.

In April 2003, the FASB issued SFAS No. 149, Amendment of Statement 133 on Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities. SFAS No. 149 amends and clarifies financial accounting and reporting for derivative instruments, including certain derivative instruments embedded in other contracts and for hedging activities under SFAS No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*. The statement is generally effective for contracts entered into or modified after June 30, 2003 and for hedging relationships designated after June 30, 2003. The adoption of this statement is not expected to have a material effect on the company's consolidated results of operations and financial condition for the year ending December 31, 2003.

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In May 2003, the FASB issued SFAS No. 150, Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of both Liabilities and Equity. SFAS No. 150 establishes standards for how an issuer classifies and measures certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. The statement is effective for financial instruments entered into or modified after May 31, 2003, and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. The adoption of this statement is not expected to have a material effect on the company's consolidated results of operations and financial condition for the year ending December 31, 2003.

Stock-based Compensation: The company accounts for its stock-based compensation plans under the recognition and measurement principles of Accounting Principles Board Opinion (APB) No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations. Apria has adopted the disclosure provisions of SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, as amended by SFAS No. 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation Transition and Disclosure an amendment of FASB Statement No. 123. For the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003, net income reflects compensation expense for restricted stock awards and restricted stock purchase rights valued in accordance with APB No. 25. Had compensation expense for the company's stock-based compensation awards been recognized based on the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123, Apria's net income and per share amounts would have been adjusted to the pro forma amounts indicated below.

| <i>(in thousands, except per share data)</i> | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 |
| Net income as reported | \$ 28,857 | \$ 26,465 | \$ 86,095 | \$ 75,618 |
| Add: stock-based compensation expense included in reported net income, net of related tax effects | 232 | - | 232 | - |
| Deduct: total stock-based compensation expense determined for all awards under fair value-based method, net of related tax effects | (2,386) | (2,883) | (6,534) | (7,696) |
| Pro forma net income | \$ 26,703 | \$ 23,582 | \$ 79,793 | \$ 67,922 |
| Basic net income per share: | | | | |
| As reported | \$ 0.55 | \$ 0.48 | \$ 1.59 | \$ 1.39 |
| Pro forma | \$ 0.51 | \$ 0.43 | \$ 1.47 | \$ 1.25 |
| Diluted income per share: | | | | |
| As reported | \$ 0.54 | \$ 0.48 | \$ 1.57 | \$ 1.36 |
| Pro forma | \$ 0.50 | \$ 0.43 | \$ 1.46 | \$ 1.22 |

For purposes of the pro forma disclosure, the fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions used for grants in the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002: risk-free interest rates ranging from 1.91% to 3.13% and 2.80% to 4.71%, respectively; dividend yield of 0% for all periods; expected lives ranging from 3.98 to 4.49 and 4.13 years, respectively; and volatility ranging from 48% to 58% and 59%, respectively.

NOTE B BUSINESS COMBINATIONS

Apria periodically makes acquisitions of complementary businesses in specific geographic markets. The results of operations of the acquired companies are included in the accompanying consolidated income statements from the dates of acquisition. During the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003, cash paid for acquisitions was \$88,791,000, which included deferred payments of \$5,865,000 that were related to prior year acquisitions. At September 30, 2003, outstanding deferred consideration totaled \$5,645,000 and is included on the balance sheet in other accrued liabilities.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2003, Apria acquired 21 companies comprised largely of home respiratory therapy businesses. Pending receipt of additional valuation information, amounts preliminarily allocated to goodwill, other intangible assets and patient service equipment were \$73,957,000, \$4,215,000 and \$8,356,000, respectively. This allocation is inclusive of amounts not yet paid.

The following supplemental unaudited pro forma information presents the combined operating results of Apria and the businesses that were acquired by Apria during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003, as if the acquisitions had occurred at the beginning of the periods presented. The pro forma information is based on the historical financial statements of Apria and those of the acquired businesses. Amounts are not necessarily indicative of the results that may have been obtained had the combinations been in effect at the beginning of the periods presented or that may be achieved in the future.

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| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Net revenues | \$ 1,063,088 | \$ 987,965 |
| Net income | \$ 90,179 | \$ 78,991 |
| Basic net income per common share | \$ 1.66 | \$ 1.45 |
| Diluted net income per common share | \$ 1.65 | \$ 1.42 |

NOTE C GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Apria accounts for intangible assets and goodwill under the initial recognition provisions of SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations and the financial accounting and reporting provisions of SFAS No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. Goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite lives are no longer amortized, but are tested for impairment annually, or more frequently if circumstances indicate that the possibility of impairment exists. If the carrying value of goodwill or an intangible asset exceeds its fair value, an impairment loss is recognized.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, the net change in the carrying amount of goodwill of \$75,194,000 is the result of business combinations. All of the goodwill recorded in conjunction with business combinations completed during the periods presented is expected to be deductible for tax purposes.

Intangible assets, all of which are subject to amortization, consist of the following:

| <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | September 30, 2003 | | | December 31, 2002 | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| | Average Life in Years | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net Book Value | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net Book Value |
| Covenants not to compete | 4.9 | \$ 11,120 | \$ (5,113) | \$ 6,007 | \$ 9,664 | \$ (4,571) | \$ 5,093 |
| Tradename | 2.0 | 1,324 | (772) | 522 | 1,324 | (275) | 1,049 |
| | 4.3 | \$ 12,444 | \$ (5,885) | \$ 6,559 | \$ 10,988 | \$ (4,846) | \$ 6,142 |

Amortization expense was \$2,143,000 and \$2,003,000 for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, respectively. Estimated amortization expense for the current year and each of the next five fiscal years ending December 31, is presented below:

| For the Year Ending December 31, | <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2003 | \$ 2,874 |
| 2004 | 2,410 |
| 2005 | 1,344 |
| 2006 | 1,082 |
| 2007 | 717 |
| 2008 | 275 |

NOTE D LONG-TERM DEBT

Convertible Senior Notes: On August 20, 2003, Apria issued 3.375% convertible senior notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$250,000,000 under an indenture between Apria and U.S. Bank National Association. The notes were issued in a private placement at an issue price of \$1,000 per note (100% of the principal amount at maturity). The notes will mature on September 1, 2033, unless earlier converted, redeemed or repurchased by Apria. Apria may redeem some or all of the notes at any time after September 8, 2010 at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest and contingent interest, if any, to the redemption date. The holders of the notes may require Apria to repurchase some or all of the notes at a repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes plus accrued and unpaid interest, including contingent interest, up to but excluding the applicable repurchase date initially on September 1, 2008, and subsequently on September 1 of 2010, 2013, 2018, 2023 and 2028, or at any time prior to their maturity following a fundamental change as defined in the indenture. Any notes that Apria is required to repurchase on September 1, 2008 will be paid for in cash. For all remaining

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repurchase dates, Apria may pay the repurchase price in cash or by delivering shares of its common stock or a combination of cash and shares of its common stock.

The notes bear interest at the rate of 3.375% per year. Interest on the notes is payable on September 1 and March 1 of each year, beginning on March 1, 2004. The notes are convertible during certain periods into shares of Apria common stock, initially at a conversion rate of 28.6852 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, subject to adjustment, under certain circumstances as outlined in the indenture.

Apria received \$244,375,000 in proceeds upon issuance of the notes. Concurrent with the issuance and with a portion of the proceeds, Apria repurchased 3,786,400 shares of its common stock for \$100,000,000. Issuance costs deducted from the proceeds plus those paid separately in cash totaled \$5,787,000.

Credit Agreement: Apria's credit agreement with Bank of America and a syndicate of lenders was amended and restated effective August 13, 2003. The amendment permitted the issuance of the 3.375% convertible senior notes and the concurrent repurchase of \$100,000,000 of Apria's outstanding common stock with a portion of the proceeds. The amendment also eliminated limitations related to repurchases of the company's common stock and expenditures for acquisitions so long as the company's leverage ratio, as defined by the credit agreement, is less than 2.0 to 1.0. As the leverage ratio increases, limitations are imposed on acquisition expenditures and common stock repurchases.

At September 30, 2003, there were no borrowings under the revolving credit facility, outstanding letters of credit totaled \$3,855,000, credit available under the revolving facility was \$96,145,000, and Apria was in compliance with all of the financial covenants required by the credit agreement.

Hedging Activities: Apria utilizes interest rate swap agreements to moderate its exposure to interest rate fluctuations on its underlying variable rate long-term debt. Apria does not use derivative financial instruments for trading or other speculative purposes. Until their March 31, 2003 expiration, Apria had two interest rate swap agreements with a total notional amount of \$100,000,000 and a fixed-rate of 2.58% (before applicable interest margin specified in the applicable credit agreement). In December 2002, Apria entered into four interest rate swap agreements with a total notional amount of \$100,000,000 that fix an equivalent amount of its variable rate debt at rates ranging from 2.43% to 3.42% (before applicable margin). The terms of the new swap agreements range from two to four years. The swap agreements are being accounted for as cash flow hedges under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities. Accordingly, the difference between the interest received and interest paid is reflected as an adjustment to interest expense. For the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, Apria paid net settlement amounts of \$1,485,000 and \$478,000, respectively. At September 30, 2003, the aggregate fair value of the swap agreements was a deficit of \$2,135,000 and is reflected in the accompanying balance sheet in other accrued liabilities. Unrealized gains and losses on the fair value of the swap agreements are reflected, net of taxes, in other comprehensive loss (See Note E Stockholders' Equity). Apria's exposure to credit loss under the swap agreements is limited to the interest rate spread in the event of counterparty non-performance.

NOTE E STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, changes to stockholders' equity are comprised of the following amounts:

| | <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Net income | \$ 86,095 |
| Proceeds from the exercise of stock options | 10,094 |
| Tax benefit related to the exercise of stock options | 2,000 |
| Compensatory stock options and awards granted | 375 |
| Other comprehensive loss, net of taxes | (80) |
| Repurchased common shares held in treasury | (118,471) |
| | \$ (19,987) |

For the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, net income and comprehensive income differed by unrealized losses related to interest rate swap agreements in the amounts of \$80,000 and \$321,000, respectively. A \$399,000 unrealized gain and a \$44,000 unrealized loss constitute the difference between net income and comprehensive income for the three-month periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, respectively.

During the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003, Apria repurchased 4,526,000 shares of its outstanding common stock for \$118,471,000. All repurchased common shares are being held in treasury. In October 2003, Apria's Board of Directors authorized additional repurchases of up to \$100,000,000. Depending on market conditions and other considerations, the company plans to repurchase stock in open market or privately negotiated transactions, with at least \$50,000,000 in repurchases contemplated by the end of the first quarter of 2004 and the balance by the end of 2004.

NOTE F INCOME TAXES

Income taxes for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002 were provided at the effective tax rates expected to be applicable for the respective year. The annual rate for 2002 was reduced by a benefit of \$11,073,000 that resulted from prior year tax examinations that were settled in the fourth quarter.

At September 30, 2003, Apria had federal net operating loss carryforwards of \$10,000,000, which are limited to \$5,000,000 of usage per year under Internal Revenue code Section 382. Apria is currently utilizing such carryforwards and expects they will be utilized to their limits in 2003 and 2004. The company has an alternative minimum tax credit carryforward of \$6,149,000, which is being utilized in 2003. Additionally, the company has various state net operating loss carryforwards.

NOTE G COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

As previously reported, since mid-1998 Apria has been the subject of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Attorney's office in Los Angeles and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The investigation concerns the documentation supporting Apria's billing for services provided to patients whose healthcare costs are paid by Medicare and other federal programs. Apria is cooperating with the government and has responded to various document requests and subpoenas.

Apria has been informed that the investigation is the result of civil *qui tam* litigation filed on behalf of the government against Apria. The complaints in the litigation are under seal, however, and the government has not informed Apria of either the identities of the plaintiffs, the court or courts where the proceedings are pending, the date or dates instituted or the factual bases alleged to underlie the proceedings. To date, the U.S. Attorney's office has not informed Apria of any decision to intervene in the *qui tam* actions; however, it could reach a decision with respect to intervention at any time.

Government representatives and counsel for the plaintiffs in the *qui tam* actions asserted in July 2001 that, by a process of extrapolation from a sample of 300 patient files to all of Apria's billings to the federal government during the three-and-one-half year sample period, Apria could be liable to the government under the False Claims Act for more than \$9 billion, consisting of extrapolated overpayment liability, treble damages and penalties of up to \$10,000 for each allegedly false claim derived from the extrapolation.

Apria has acknowledged that there may be errors and omissions in supporting documentation affecting a portion of its billings. However, it considers the assertions and amounts described in the preceding paragraph to be unsupported both legally and factually and believes that most of the alleged documentation errors and omissions should not give rise to any liability, for overpayment refunds or otherwise. Accordingly, Apria believes that the claims asserted are unwarranted and that it is in a position to assert numerous meritorious defenses.

Apria has been exchanging information and having discussions with government representatives in an attempt to explore whether it will be possible to resolve this matter on a basis that would be considered fair and reasonable by all parties. Apria cannot provide any assurances as to the outcome of these discussions, however, or as to the outcome of the *qui tam* litigation in the absence of a settlement. Management cannot estimate the possible loss or range of loss that may result from these proceedings and therefore has not recorded any related accruals.

If a judge, jury or administrative agency were to determine that false claims were submitted to federal healthcare programs or that there were significant overpayments by the government, Apria could face civil and administrative claims for refunds, sanctions and penalties for amounts that would be highly material to its business, results of operations and financial condition, including the exclusion of Apria from participation in federal healthcare programs.

Apria is also engaged in the defense of certain claims and lawsuits arising out of the ordinary course and conduct of its business, the outcomes of which are not determinable at this time. Apria has insurance policies covering such potential losses where such coverage is cost effective. In the opinion of management, any liability that might be incurred by Apria upon the resolution of these claims and lawsuits will not, in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on Apria's results of operations or financial condition.

NOTE H PER SHARE AMOUNTS

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted per share amounts:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|---|-------------|--|-------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 |
| <i>(in thousands, except per share data)</i> | | | | |

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| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Numerator: | | | | |
| Net income for basic and diluted per share amounts - | \$ 28,857 | \$ 26,465 | \$ 86,095 | \$ 75,618 |
| income available to common stockholders | \$ 28,857 | \$ 26,465 | \$ 86,095 | \$ 75,618 |
| Denominator: | | | | |
| Denominator for basic per share | | | | |
| amounts - weighted average shares | 52,857 | 54,745 | 54,243 | 54,490 |
| Effect of dilutive securities: | | | | |
| Employee stock options and awards - | | | | |
| dilutive potential common shares | 675 | 623 | 549 | 979 |
| | <u>675</u> | <u>623</u> | <u>549</u> | <u>979</u> |
| Denominator for diluted per share amounts - | | | | |
| adjusted weighted average shares | 53,532 | 55,368 | 54,792 | 55,469 |
| | <u>53,532</u> | <u>55,368</u> | <u>54,792</u> | <u>55,469</u> |
| Basic net income per common share | \$ 0.55 | \$ 0.48 | \$ 1.59 | \$ 1.39 |
| | <u>\$ 0.55</u> | <u>\$ 0.48</u> | <u>\$ 1.59</u> | <u>\$ 1.39</u> |
| Diluted net income per common share | \$ 0.54 | \$ 0.48 | \$ 1.57 | \$ 1.36 |
| | <u>\$ 0.54</u> | <u>\$ 0.48</u> | <u>\$ 1.57</u> | <u>\$ 1.36</u> |
| Employee stock options excluded from the | | | | |
| computation of diluted per share amounts: | | | | |
| Shares for which exercise price exceeds | | | | |
| average market price of common stock | 713 | 2,595 | 1,055 | 2,560 |
| Average exercise price per share that exceeds | | | | |
| average market price of common stock | \$ 27.13 | \$ 25.29 | \$ 26.62 | \$ 25.32 |
| | <u>\$ 27.13</u> | <u>\$ 25.29</u> | <u>\$ 26.62</u> | <u>\$ 25.32</u> |

Cautionary statement for purposes of the Safe Harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Apria's business is subject to a number of risks which are partly or entirely beyond the company's control. The company has described certain of those risks in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 31, 2003. This report may be used for purposes of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 as a readily available document containing meaningful cautionary statements identifying important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in any forward-looking statements the company may make from time to time. Key factors that may have an impact on Apria include the following:

- trends and developments affecting the collectibility of accounts receivable;
- government legislative and budget developments which could affect reimbursement levels for products and services provided by Apria;
- the ongoing government investigation regarding patients covered by Medicare and other federal programs;
- the effectiveness of the Apria's operating systems and controls;
- healthcare reform and the effect of federal and state healthcare regulations;
- pricing pressures from large payors;
- the successful implementation of the company's acquisition strategy and integration of acquired businesses; and
- other factors described in Apria's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

In addition, the military and national security activities in which the United States is currently engaged, have and could continue to have significant impacts on the economy and government spending priorities. The effects of any further such developments, including but not limited to a prolonged occupation in Iraq, pose significant risks and uncertainties to Apria's business. Among other things, deficit spending by the government as the result of adverse developments in the economy and the costs of the military and national security activities could lead to increased pressure to reduce government expenditures for other purposes, including government-funded programs such as Medicare and

Medicaid.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Apria operates in the home healthcare segment of the healthcare industry and provides services in the home respiratory therapy, home infusion therapy and home medical equipment areas. In all three lines, Apria provides patients with a variety of clinical services and related products and supplies, most of which are prescribed by a physician as part of a care plan. Apria provides these services to patients in the home throughout the United States through approximately 425 branch locations.

Critical Accounting Policies. Apria's management considers the accounting policies that govern revenue recognition and the determination of the net realizable value of accounts receivable to be the most critical in relation to the company's consolidated financial statements. These policies require management's most complex and subjective judgments. Other accounting policies requiring significant judgment are those related to goodwill and long-lived assets. These policies are presented in detail in Apria's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 - "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

Segment Reporting. Apria's branch locations are organized into geographic regions. Each region consists of a number of branches and a regional office that provides key support services, such as billing, purchasing, patient service equipment maintenance, repair and warehousing. Management evaluates operating results on a geographic basis, and therefore views each region as an operating segment. All regions provide the same products and services, including respiratory therapy, infusion therapy and home medical equipment and supplies. For financial reporting purposes, all the company's operating segments are aggregated into one reportable segment in accordance with the aggregation criteria of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 131, "Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information."

Recent Accounting Pronouncements. In April 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued SFAS No. 145, "Rescission of FASB Statement Nos. 4, 44, and 64, Amendment of FASB Statement No. 13, and Technical Corrections." SFAS No. 145 updates and clarifies existing accounting pronouncements related to gains and losses from the extinguishment of debt and requires that certain lease modifications be accounted for in the same manner as sale-leaseback transactions. Apria adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 145 January 1, 2003. Adoption of this statement did not have a material effect on the company's consolidated financial statements.

In July 2002, SFAS No. 146, "Accounting for Costs Associated With Exit or Disposal Activities," was issued. This statement addresses the financial accounting and reporting for costs associated with exit or disposal activities and requires that a liability for such costs be recognized when the liability is incurred rather than at the date of an entity's commitment to an exit plan. SFAS No. 146 also establishes that the liability should be measured and recorded at fair value. Adoption of the provisions of SFAS No. 146 is required for exit and disposal activities that are initiated after December 31, 2002. Adoption of this interpretation did not have a material effect on Apria's consolidated financial statements.

In December 2002, SFAS No. 148, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation - Transition and Disclosure - an amendment of FASB Statement No. 123," was issued. This statement amends SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," to provide alternative methods of transition and guidance for a voluntary change to the fair value based method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation. SFAS No. 148 also amends the disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 123 to require prominent disclosures in both annual and interim financial statements about the method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported results. The company has complied with the expanded financial statement disclosure requirements in its consolidated financial statements.

In November 2002, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation ("FIN") No. 45, "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees and Indebtedness of Others," an interpretation of SFAS Nos. 5, 57 and 107 and rescission of FIN No. 34, "Disclosure of Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others." FIN No. 45 elaborates on the disclosure requirements for the interim and annual financial statements of the guarantor. It also requires that a guarantor recognize a liability at the inception of the guarantee for the fair value of the obligation undertaken. The disclosure provisions became effective at December 31, 2002 while the recognition provisions of FIN No. 45 became effective January 1, 2003. Adoption of this interpretation did not have a material effect on Apria's consolidated financial statements as the company did not issue any guarantees during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003.

In January 2003, FIN No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities," an interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51, was issued. FIN No. 46 requires that a company consolidate variable interest entities if that company is subject to a majority of the risk of loss from the entity's activities or the company receives a majority of the entity's residual returns. FIN No. 46 also requires certain disclosures about variable interest entities in which a company has a significant interest, regardless of whether consolidation is required. Adoption of the provisions of FIN No. 46 was required January 1, 2003. The company currently has no variable interest entities, therefore the adoption of this interpretation is not expected to have a material effect on the company's consolidated financial statements.

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In April 2003, the FASB issued SFAS No. 149, "Amendment of Statement 133 on Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." SFAS No. 149 amends and clarifies financial accounting and reporting for derivative instruments, including certain derivative instruments embedded in other contracts and for hedging activities under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities. The statement is generally effective for contracts entered into or modified after June 30, 2003 and for hedging relationships designated after June 30, 2003. The adoption of this statement is not expected to have a material effect on the company's consolidated results of operations and financial condition for the year ending December 31, 2003.

In May 2003, the FASB issued SFAS No. 150, "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of both Liabilities and Equity." SFAS No. 150 establishes standards for how an issuer classifies and measures certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. The statement is effective for financial instruments entered into or modified after May 31, 2003, and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. The adoption of this statement is not expected to have a material effect on the company's consolidated results of operations and financial condition for the year ending December 31, 2003.

Results of Operations

Net Revenues. Net revenues were \$346.3 million in the third quarter of 2003, compared to \$312.0 million for the corresponding period in 2002, representing an increase of 11.0%. For the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003, net revenues were \$1,024.7 million, up 10.9% from \$923.8 million last year. The growth is due to volume increases including new contracts with regional and national payors and the acquisition of complementary businesses. Apria is experiencing increasing pricing pressure from its managed care partners as these organizations seek to lower their costs by negotiating more favorable pricing and by evaluating alternative healthcare delivery models.

Apria's acquisition strategy generally results in the rapid integration of acquired businesses into existing operating locations. This limits Apria's ability to separately track the amount of revenue generated by an acquired business. Estimating the revenue contribution from acquisitions therefore requires certain assumptions. Based on its analysis, Apria estimates that approximately one half of the revenue growth between 2002 and 2003 was derived from acquisitions.

The following table sets forth a summary of net revenues by service line:

| <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | Three Months Ended September 30, | | | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|--------|
| | 2003 | | 2002 | | 2003 | | 2002 | |
| | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Respiratory therapy | \$ 233,543 | 67.4% | \$ 205,319 | 65.8% | \$ 688,811 | 67.2% | \$ 613,814 | 66.4% |
| Infusion therapy | 60,821 | 17.6% | 58,785 | 18.8% | 180,655 | 17.6% | 170,204 | 18.5% |
| Home medical equipment/other | 51,959 | 15.0% | 47,942 | 15.4% | 155,210 | 15.2% | 139,798 | 15.1% |
| Total net revenues | \$ 346,323 | 100.0% | \$ 312,046 | 100.0% | \$ 1,024,676 | 100.0% | \$ 923,816 | 100.0% |

Respiratory Therapy. Respiratory therapy revenues are derived primarily from the provision of oxygen systems, home ventilators, sleep apnea equipment, nebulizers, respiratory medications and related services. The respiratory therapy service line increased by 13.7% in the third quarter of 2003 and 12.2% year-to-date, as compared to the corresponding periods in 2002. This growth was primarily driven by volume increases and acquisitions of respiratory therapy businesses.

Infusion Therapy. The infusion therapy service line involves the administration of a drug or nutrient directly into the body intravenously through a needle or catheter. Examples include parenteral nutrition, antibiotics, pain management, chemotherapy and other medications and related services. Infusion therapy services also include administering enteral nutrients directly into the gastrointestinal tract through a feeding tube. When compared to 2002, infusion therapy revenues increased by 3.5% and 6.1% in the third quarter and first nine months of 2003, respectively. This growth was primarily in the enteral nutrition and antibiotic therapies. The infusion line continues to benefit from the increased focus placed on enteral nutrition as a result of the centralization, at the regional level, of all related functions. This centralization commenced in mid-2001 and was completed early in the second quarter of 2003.

Home Medical Equipment/Other. Home medical equipment/other revenues are derived from the provision of patient safety items, ambulatory and patient room equipment. Home medical equipment/other revenues increased by 8.4% in the third quarter of 2003 versus the

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same period in 2002. For the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003, the home medical equipment/other line increased by 11.0% over the corresponding period last year. Much of the growth in this line is due to a geographic expansion of the company's rehabilitation business and volume increases in core product areas such as wheelchairs and hospital beds.

Revenue Recognition and Certain Concentrations. Revenues are recognized on the date services and related products are provided to patients and are recorded at amounts estimated to be received under reimbursement arrangements with third-party payors, including private insurers, prepaid health plans, Medicare and Medicaid. Due to the nature of the industry and the reimbursement environment in which Apria operates, certain estimates are required to record net revenues and accounts receivable at their net realizable values. Inherent in these estimates is the risk that they will have to be revised or updated as additional information becomes available, which could have an impact on the consolidated financial statements.

In 2003, approximately 34% of Apria's revenues are being reimbursed under arrangements with Medicare and Medicaid. No other third-party payor represents 10% or more of the company's revenues. The majority of the company's revenues are derived from fees charged for patient care under fee-for-service arrangements. Revenues derived from capitation arrangements represent less than 10% of total net revenues for all periods presented.

Medicare and Medicaid Reimbursement. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 contained several provisions that have affected Apria's Medicare reimbursement levels. Subsequent legislation—the Medicare Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 and the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000—mitigated some of the effects of the original legislation. However, there are several pending issues that may further impact Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement to Apria in the future.

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 granted streamlined authority to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to increase or reduce the reimbursement for Part B items and services (other than physicians services), including home medical equipment and oxygen, by up to 15% each year under a so-called inherent reasonableness authority. In December 2002, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued an interim final rule that establishes a process by which such adjustments may be made. The rule applies to all Medicare Part B services except those paid under a physician fee schedule or a prospective payment system. As of this date, neither CMS nor the durable medical equipment regional carriers have used the expedited authority.

Further, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 mandated that CMS conduct up to five competitive bidding market demonstrations for Medicare Part B-covered items and services. CMS conducted demonstration projects in Polk County, Florida and San Antonio, Texas. These two demonstration projects have been completed. The demonstrations could provide CMS and Congress with a model for implementing competitive pricing in additional geographic markets or across the United States. Initial reports from government agencies indicate cost savings that vary by product line, but the reports do not reflect costs incurred by the government to administer the program. If such a competitive bidding system were implemented, it could result in lower reimbursement rates or impose limits on increases in reimbursement rates.

In June 2003, the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate passed separate bills that if enacted would include provisions that would affect Medicare Part B reimbursement policies for items and services provided by Apria. Through mid-November 2003, the two chambers worked to reconcile the differences between these bills through a conference committee, but as of this filing date it remains uncertain whether Congress can agree to a consensus Medicare bill that can be enacted this year. The Medicare bill that passed the House on June 27, 2003 would establish a competitive acquisition program for durable medical equipment under Medicare Part B, which would include a number of items, therapies and drugs provided by Apria. The competitive acquisition program appears to be modeled on the prior demonstrations in Polk County, Florida and San Antonio, Texas, although additional safeguards for suppliers were included in this bill. This bill calls for the competitive bidding process for home infusion drug therapies and inhalation drug therapies to take into account the standards, professional services and related functions necessary to provide safe and effective care as determined by a General Accounting Office study. In contrast, the Medicare bill passed by the Senate on June 27, 2003 would not impose a competitive acquisition system on durable medical equipment ("DME"). Rather, the Senate bill would place a 5-year freeze on payment levels for durable medical equipment.

The House and Senate bills also take differing approaches to reimbursement for the types of prescription drugs typically provided by Apria under Medicare Part B. Under the House bill, reimbursement for the drug component of home infusion and inhalation therapies covered under Medicare Part B would be determined under the competitive acquisition program for durable medical equipment. In contrast, the Senate bill would reduce the reimbursement level for prescription drugs under Medicare Part B (currently set at 95 percent of the average wholesale price) to the lesser of 85 percent of the average wholesale price or the widely available market price. Any reductions below 85 percent of average wholesale price would be limited to no more than a 15 percent reduction each year. The Senate bill would enable the Medicare program to offset payment reductions for drugs by establishing additional payments for services rendered in providing home infusion drug therapy up to current payment levels and to partially offset such reductions for home inhalation drug therapy.

In a separate initiative, the Administrator of CMS has stated often that if Congress does not enact prescription drug pricing changes this year, CMS would implement drug reimbursement changes under its regulatory authority. CMS issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on August 20, 2003 in which it outlined four possible models for changing Medicare Part B reimbursement levels for covered drugs: The four options are

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the following:

Option #1 - Comparison to Private Health Plans - Under this proposal, the Medicare payment for drugs would be equal to what Medicare contractors pay when providing the same drug to their private plan enrollees under comparable circumstances. Carriers would have initial authority for determining whether circumstances are "comparable" such that the Medicare payment rate for a particular drug should be equal to the carrier's private sector payment rate, although CMS will issue guidance to assist carriers in making these decisions.

Option #2 - Average Wholesale Price Discount - The second payment option would lock-in the average wholesale price at the April 1, 2003 list price and subsequently reduce the percentage of average wholesale price that the Medicare program would pay for Part B drugs, from 95 percent to between 80 and 90 percent. In future years, these new payment rates would be adjusted annually by the increase in the consumer price index for medical care.

Option #3 - Market Monitoring - This pricing alternative would redefine CMS' interpretation of average wholesale price to mean the widely available market price. "The widely available market price would not be a list price that is commonly discounted, but would be the purchase price net of discounts, rebates, and price concessions routinely available to prudent purchasers."

Option #4 - Competitive Acquisition and Average Sales Prices - This method would establish a competitive acquisition program for certain categories of covered drugs and use the average sales price to set payment rates for other categories. This option largely mirrors the approach adopted by the House in its Medicare bill passed in late June.

Some states have already adopted, or are contemplating adopting, some form of the proposed alternate pricing methodology for certain drugs and biologicals under the Medicaid program. In at least 20 states, these changes have reduced the level of reimbursement received by Apria without a corresponding offset or increase to compensate for the service costs incurred. In several of those states, Apria has elected to stop accepting new Medicaid patient referrals for the affected drugs. The company is continuing to provide services to patients already on service, and for those who receive other Medicaid-covered respiratory, home medical equipment or infusion therapies. Proportionally, Medicaid represents a very small percentage of Apria's home infusion and home-delivered respiratory medication revenues.

It is not yet clear as to which of the aforementioned proposals for reimbursement rate reductions will be effected or whether alternative or additional reductions will be proposed. Any resulting reimbursement reductions will adversely impact Apria's revenues, earnings and cash flows.

Contractual Arrangements with Hospitals. CMS officials have recently initiated actions to revoke the Medicare supplier numbers of a variety of DME suppliers, including eleven of Apria's current hospital customers. Under contractual arrangements, Apria provides home healthcare items and services to hospitals on a wholesale basis to service the hospitals' discharged patients. Apria bills the hospitals for all such items and services and the hospitals, in turn, bill patients and third party payors, including Medicare. In order for a hospital to bill Medicare for these home healthcare items and services, it must have a Medicare supplier number.

In its revocation notices to Apria's eleven hospital customers, CMS has asserted that these contractual arrangements do not comply with certain Medicare regulations promulgating supplier standards, adherence to which is required as a condition of having a supplier number. The government has construed the supplier standards to require a supplier to perform directly through its own employees some types of services that the hospitals have contracted to have Apria perform. The Medicare-funded revenues paid to Apria by the eleven hospital customers who have received revocation notices represent approximately one-half of one percent of the company's annual revenues. Apria believes its arrangements with hospitals are consistent with all applicable regulations and that CMS is acting improperly in revoking the hospitals' supplier numbers.

The revocations are presently scheduled to become effective on December 8, 2003, but Apria and certain of the hospitals have requested that the revocations be delayed to allow for consideration of, and adequate time to transition to, other appropriate arrangements for the patients being served. Apria and certain of the hospitals are in discussions with CMS regarding the hospitals' retaining their Medicare supplier numbers and entering into alternative arrangements with Apria that would satisfy CMS' interpretation of the regulations. Under most of the alternative arrangements being considered, Apria's future revenues from the affected markets would be likely to decrease.

The company cannot predict the outcome of these discussions with the government and the hospitals, however, and no assurance can be given that the ultimate resolution of this issue will not have an adverse effect on the company's financial results.

Gross Profit. Gross margins were 73.1% and 73.0% for the third quarter of 2003 and 2002, respectively. For the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, the margins were 73.0% and 72.8%, respectively. Despite revenue pricing pressures, Apria was able to maintain and slightly improve upon its gross margins due to favorable product pricing from the company's suppliers.

Provision for Doubtful Accounts. The provision for doubtful accounts results from management's estimate of the net realizable value of accounts receivable after considering actual write-offs of specific receivables. The provision was 3.6% of net revenues for the third quarter and 3.7% for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003. This is consistent with the corresponding periods in 2002, in which the rate was 3.7% for both the third quarter and nine-month period.

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Selling, Distribution and Administrative. Selling, distribution and administrative expenses are comprised of expenses incurred in direct support of operations and those associated with administrative functions. Expenses incurred by the operating locations include salaries and other expenses in the following functional areas: selling, distribution, clinical, intake, reimbursement, warehousing and repair. Many of these operating costs are directly variable with revenue patterns. Certain expenses, such as facility lease and fuel costs, are very sensitive to market-driven price fluctuations. Administrative expenses include overhead costs incurred by the operating locations and corporate support functions. These expenses do not vary as closely with revenue growth as do the operating costs. Selling, distribution and administrative expenses, expressed as percentages of net revenues, were 54.8% in the third quarter of 2003, up from 54.4% in the third quarter of 2002 and were 54.5% for both nine-month periods of 2003 and 2002. The primary reasons for the increase in the expense to revenue percentage in the third quarter of 2003 is the effect of annual merit salary increases and incremental costs incurred in conjunction with the integration of acquired businesses.

Amortization of Intangible Assets. Amortization of intangible assets for the third quarter of 2003 was \$732,000 compared to \$667,000 in the third quarter of 2002. For the nine-month periods in 2003 and 2002, amortization was \$2.1 million and \$2.0 million, respectively. See Liquidity and Capital Resources Business Combinations.

Interest Expense. Interest expense was \$3.7 million for the third quarter of 2003, up from \$3.5 million in the third quarter of 2002. During the first nine months of 2003, interest expense was \$10.0 million, compared to \$11.6 million for the corresponding period in the prior year. The increase in the third quarter of 2003 is due to additional interest incurred on the \$250 million convertible notes issued in August. For the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003, this additional interest was offset by interest reductions resulting from a \$28.5 million decrease in borrowings under the credit agreement from the end of the third quarter of 2002 to the end of the third quarter in 2003. Interest expense was also reduced by a decrease in the applicable interest rate margin for the \$175 million term loan, which was effective with the amendment of the credit agreement in June 2002. Further, interest expense was impacted by the expiration of two swap agreements that had effectively fixed interest on a portion of Apria's debt at higher rates. See Liquidity and Capital Resources Long-term Debt.

Income Taxes. Income taxes for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002 were provided at the effective tax rates expected to be applicable for the respective year. The annual rate for 2002 was reduced by a benefit of \$11.1 million that resulted from prior year tax examinations that were settled in the fourth quarter.

At September 30, 2003, Apria had federal net operating loss carryforwards of \$10 million, which are limited to \$5 million of usage per year under Internal Revenue code Section 382. Apria is currently utilizing such carryforwards and expects they will be utilized to their limits in 2003 and 2004. The company has an alternative minimum tax credit carryforward of \$6.1 million, which is being utilized in 2003. Additionally, the company has various state net operating loss carryforwards.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Apria's principal source of liquidity is its operating cash flow, which is supplemented by a \$100 million revolving credit facility. Apria's ability to generate operating cash flows in excess of its operating needs has afforded it the ability, among other things, to pursue its acquisition strategy and fund patient service equipment expenditures to support revenue growth. Management believes that its operating cash flow and revolving credit line will continue to be sufficient to fund its operations and growth strategies. However, sustaining the current cash flow levels is dependent on many factors, some of which are not within Apria's control, such as government reimbursement levels and the financial health of its payors.

Cash Flow. Cash provided by operating activities was \$198.7 million in the first nine months of 2003 compared with \$188.9 million in the corresponding period in 2002. The current year increase in operating cash flow occurred despite an increase in income tax payments from \$1.6 million for the nine-month period in 2002 to \$29.2 million for the same period in 2003. As Apria utilizes its available net operating loss carryforwards, the company will continue to make significant income tax payments. Other items contributing to the overall increase in operating cash flow were the increase in net income (before items not requiring cash) and increases in payroll-related accruals. See Results of Operations Income Taxes.

Cash used in investing activities increased to \$204.9 million for the first nine months of 2003 compared to \$148.2 million during the same period last year. The increase is primarily due to increased acquisition activity in 2003. The increase in acquisition activity also contributed to the increase in patient service equipment expenditures. Often, the patient service equipment acquired in business combinations does not meet Apria's standards or is not adequate to support the company's delivery models, resulting in incremental equipment purchases.

Cash provided by financing activities was \$114.4 million during the first nine months of 2003 compared to \$37.3 million used in financing activities during the first nine months of 2002. The increase is primarily due to the net proceeds received upon issuance of the \$250 million convertible notes as offset by the costs of the convertible debt offering and a concurrent repurchase of \$100 million of the company's common stock. At the end of 2001, Apria had prepaid its scheduled quarterly debt amortization by two quarters, thereby reducing the payment

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requirement in 2002.

Contractual Cash Obligations. The following table summarizes Apria's long term cash payment obligations to which the company is contractually bound. The years presented below represent twelve-month rolling periods ending September 30.

| <i>(dollars in millions)</i> | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6+ | Totals |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Term loans | \$ 26 | \$ 29 | \$ 30 | \$ 2 | \$ 164 | \$ - | \$ 251 |
| Convertible senior notes | - | - | - | - | 250 | - | 250 |
| Other long-term debt | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| Operating leases | 57 | 50 | 42 | 28 | 15 | 19 | 211 |
| Deferred acquisition payments | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Total contractual cash obligations | \$ 92 | \$ 81 | \$ 72 | \$ 30 | \$ 429 | \$ 19 | \$ 723 |

The holders of the convertible senior notes will first have the option to require Apria to repurchase all or a portion of their notes in September 2008.

Accounts Receivable. Accounts receivable before allowance for doubtful accounts increased to \$237.1 million at September 30, 2003 from \$217.5 million at December 31, 2002, which is primarily attributable to the increase in revenues. Days sales outstanding (calculated as of each period end by dividing accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts, by the 90-day rolling average of net revenues) were 51 at September 30, 2003, December 31, 2002 and September 30, 2002.

Evaluation of Net Realizable Value. Management performs various analyses to evaluate accounts receivable balances to ensure that recorded amounts reflect estimated net realizable value. Management applies specified percentages to the accounts receivable aging to estimate the amount that will ultimately be uncollectible and therefore should be reserved. The percentages are increased as the accounts age; accounts aged in excess of 360 days are reserved at 100%. Management establishes and monitors these percentages through extensive analyses of historical realization data, accounts receivable aging trends, other operating trends, the extent of contracted business and business combinations. Also considered are relevant business conditions, such as governmental and managed care payor claims processing procedures and system changes. If indicated by such analyses, management may periodically adjust the uncollectible estimate and corresponding percentages. Further, focused reviews of certain large and/or problematic payors are performed to determine if additional reserves are necessary.

Unbilled Receivables. Included in accounts receivable are earned but unbilled receivables of \$29.2 million at September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002. Delays, ranging from a day up to several months, between the date of service and billing can occur due to delays in obtaining certain required payor-specific documentation from internal and external sources. Also, the time-consuming processes of converting patient files onto Apria's systems and obtaining provider numbers from government payors routinely delay billing of the newly acquired business. Earned but unbilled receivables are aged from date of service and are considered in Apria's analysis of net realizable value.

Inventories and Patient Service Equipment. Inventories consist primarily of pharmaceuticals and disposable articles used in conjunction with patient service equipment. Patient service equipment consists of respiratory and home medical equipment that is provided to in-home patients for the course of their care plan and subsequently returned to Apria for reuse. Continued revenue growth is directly dependent on Apria's ability to fund its inventory and patient service equipment requirements.

Long-Term Debt. The long-term debt balance at September 30, 2003 reflects the issuance of \$250 million in senior convertible notes as discussed below. Also at September 30, 2003, total borrowings under Apria's credit agreement were \$250.5 million, outstanding letters of credit totaled \$3.9 million and credit available under the revolving facility was \$96.1 million. The company continues to be in compliance with all of the financial covenants required by the credit agreement.

Credit Agreement Amendment. Apria's credit agreement with Bank of America and a syndicate of lenders was amended and restated effective August 13, 2003. The amendment permitted the issuance of the 3.375% convertible senior notes and the concurrent repurchase of \$100 million of Apria's outstanding common stock with a portion of the proceeds. The amendment also eliminated limitations related to repurchases of the company's common stock and acquisitions so long as the company's leverage ratio, as defined by the credit agreement, is under 2.0 to 1.0, and imparts limitations as the leverage ratio increases. At September 30, 2003, Apria's leverage ratio was 1.5 to 1.0.

Convertible Senior Notes. On August 20, 2003, Apria issued 3.375% convertible senior notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$250 million under an indenture between Apria and U.S. Bank National Association. The notes were issued in a private placement at an issue price of \$1,000 per note (100% of the principal amount at maturity). The notes will mature on September 1, 2033, unless earlier converted, redeemed or

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repurchased by Apria. Apria may redeem some or all of the notes at any time after September 8, 2010 at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest and contingent interest, if any, to the redemption date. The holders of the notes may require Apria to repurchase some or all of the notes at a repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes plus accrued and unpaid interest, including contingent interest, up to but excluding the applicable repurchase date initially on September 1, 2008, and subsequently on September 1 of 2010, 2013, 2018, 2023 and 2028, or at any time prior to their maturity following a fundamental change as defined in the indenture. Any notes that Apria is required to repurchase on September 1, 2008 will be paid for in cash. For all remaining repurchase dates, Apria may pay the repurchase price in cash or by delivering shares of its common stock or a combination of cash and shares of its common stock.

The notes bear interest at the rate of 3.375% per year. Interest on the notes is payable on September 1 and March 1 of each year, beginning on March 1, 2004. The notes are convertible during certain periods by holders into shares of Apria common stock initially at a conversion rate of 28.6852 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, subject to adjustment in certain events, under certain circumstances as outlined in the indenture.

Apria received \$244.4 million in proceeds upon issuance of the notes. Concurrent with the issuance and with a portion of the proceeds, Apria repurchased approximately 3.8 million shares of its common stock for \$100 million. Issuance costs deducted from the proceeds plus those paid separately in cash totaled \$5.8 million.

Hedging Activities. Apria is exposed to interest rate fluctuations on its underlying variable rate long-term debt. Apria's policy for managing interest rate risk is to evaluate and monitor all available relevant information, including but not limited to, the structure of its interest-bearing assets and liabilities, historical interest rate trends and interest rate forecasts published by major financial institutions. The tools Apria may utilize to moderate its exposure to fluctuations in the relevant interest rate indices include, but are not limited to: (1) strategic determination of repricing periods and related principal amounts, and (2) derivative financial instruments such as interest rate swap agreements, caps or collars. Apria does not use derivative financial instruments for trading or other speculative purposes.

In December 2002, Apria entered into four interest rate swap agreements to fix its variable rate debt. The terms of such agreements are as follows: two two-year agreements with an aggregate notional amount of \$50 million and a fixed rate of 2.43%; a three-year agreement with a notional amount of \$25 million and a fixed rate of 3.04%; and a four-year agreement with a notional amount of \$25 million and a fixed rate of 3.42%. Apria also had two swap agreements with an aggregate notional amount of \$100 million and a fixed rate of 2.58% that expired on March 31, 2003. All rates are stated before application of the interest margins specified in the credit agreement.

The swap agreements are being accounted for as cash flow hedges under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative and Hedging Activities. Accordingly, the difference between the interest received and interest paid is reflected as an adjustment to interest expense. During the first nine-month periods of 2003 and 2002, Apria paid net settlement amounts of \$1.5 million and \$478,000, respectively. Unrealized gains and losses on the fair value of the swap agreements are reflected, net of taxes, in other comprehensive income. At September 30, 2003, the aggregate fair value of the swap agreements was a deficit of \$2.1 million and, accordingly, is reflected in the accompanying balance sheet in other accrued liabilities. Apria does not anticipate losses due to counterparty nonperformance as its counterparties to the various swap agreements are nationally-recognized financial institutions with strong credit ratings.

Treasury Stock. During the nine-month period of 2003, Apria repurchased 4.5 million shares of its outstanding common stock for \$118.5 million. All repurchased common shares are being held in treasury. In October 2003, Apria announced that its Board of Directors authorized additional share repurchases of up to \$100 million. Depending on market conditions and other considerations, the company plans to repurchase stock in open market or privately negotiated transactions, with at least \$50 million in repurchases contemplated by the end of the first quarter of 2004 and the balance by the end of 2004.

Business Combinations. Pursuant to one of its primary growth strategies, Apria periodically acquires complementary businesses in specific geographic markets. The results of operations of the acquired companies are included in the accompanying consolidated income statements from the dates of acquisition. Covenants not to compete, typically effected in these transactions, are being amortized over the life of the respective agreements.

The aggregate consideration for acquisitions that closed during the first nine months of 2003 was \$88.6 million. Pending receipt of additional valuation information, the preliminary allocation of this amount includes \$74.0 million to goodwill, \$4.2 million to other intangible assets and \$8.4 million to patient service equipment. Cash paid for acquisitions, which includes amounts deferred from prior year acquisitions, totaled \$88.8 million and \$59.6 million in the first nine months of 2003 and 2002, respectively.

The success of Apria's acquisition strategy is directly dependent on Apria's ability to maintain and/or generate sufficient liquidity to fund such acquisitions and on the company's ability to integrate the acquired operations successfully.

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HIPAA. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is comprised of a number of components, several of which are applicable to Apria. Pursuant to the administrative simplification section of HIPAA, HHS has issued three sets of regulations, each with its own compliance date, governing the following:

privacy of individually identifiable health information - compliance date: April 14, 2003 - Apria was materially compliant by this date;

standard electronic transaction and code sets - compliance date: October 16, 2003 - Apria was materially compliant by this date; and

electronic security of individually identifiable health information - compliance date: April 20, 2005 - Apria expects to be able to materially comply with these regulations by the compliance date.

The standard electronic transaction and code sets regulations will standardize how health claims and eligibility information is collected, recorded and processed. The standard electronic transaction and code sets regulations also mandate that standardized codes be used for electronic billing purposes by all payors in the United States, including both government and private health plans. Historically, certain billing codes used in the homecare industry have varied by state Medicaid program and certain health plans. Under HIPAA, authority for approving, modifying, adding or deleting codes lies solely with the Health Care Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) panel, operating under the auspices of CMS. It is primarily the responsibility of healthcare equipment and supply manufacturers and state Medicaid programs to seek and obtain codes for their respective products. Under HIPAA, such codes are to be used not only by Medicare payors, but by state Medicaid programs and private managed care payors as well. The panel reviews such requests primarily on an annual basis, with a deadline of April 1 each year. Apria supported industry representatives and manufacturers to obtain the necessary HCPCS codes.

In mid-October 2003, the panel posted the revised HCPCS list for 2004 on its web site. The panel approved very few new codes. The probability that some payors will not be fully compliant by January 1, 2004, and the fact that CMS has directed its durable medical equipment regional carriers to deploy contingency plans that allow them to continue accepting former codes for an as-yet undetermined amount of time, make it likely that Apria will experience an increase in claim rejections or denials in early 2004. Ultimately, this could impact the company's net revenue line and the collectibility of its accounts receivable. In addition, the absence of new codes for certain higher-cost respiratory products and services could have an impact on gross profit margins, since the panel only allows one code per certain equipment category, regardless of the actual equipment provided to the patients per a physician's prescription and patient preference. The absence of standardized codes for products or services provided by Apria also may preclude the company from submitting electronic billings (or claims) to certain payors. Such an outcome would require submitting paper claims, which could ultimately result in delays and difficulties in collecting these claims.

Federal Investigation. As previously reported, since mid-1998 Apria has been the subject of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Attorney's office in Los Angeles and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The investigation concerns the documentation supporting Apria's billing for services provided to patients whose healthcare costs are paid by Medicare and other federal programs. Apria is cooperating with the government and has responded to various document requests and subpoenas.

Apria has been informed that the investigation is the result of civil *qui tam* litigation filed on behalf of the government against Apria. The complaints in the litigation are under seal, however, and the government has not informed Apria of either the identities of the plaintiffs, the court or courts where the proceedings are pending, the date or dates instituted or the factual bases alleged to underlie the proceedings. To date, the U.S. Attorney's office has not informed Apria of any decision to intervene in the *qui tam* actions; however, it could reach a decision with respect to intervention at any time.

Government representatives and counsel for the plaintiffs in the *qui tam* actions asserted in July 2001 that, by a process of extrapolation from a sample of 300 patient files to all of Apria's billings to the federal government during the three-and-one-half year sample period, Apria could be liable to the government under the False Claims Act for more than \$9 billion, consisting of extrapolated overpayment liability, treble damages and penalties of up to \$10,000 for each allegedly false claim derived from the extrapolation.

Apria has acknowledged that there may be errors and omissions in supporting documentation affecting a portion of its billings. However, it considers the assertions and amounts described in the preceding paragraph to be unsupported both legally and factually and believes that most of the alleged documentation errors and omissions should not give rise to any liability, for overpayment refunds or otherwise. Accordingly, Apria believes that the claims asserted are unwarranted and that it is in a position to assert numerous meritorious defenses.

Apria has been exchanging information and having discussions with government representatives in an attempt to explore whether it will be possible to resolve this matter on a basis that would be considered fair and reasonable by all parties. Apria cannot provide any assurances as to the outcome of these discussions, however, or as to the outcome of the *qui tam* litigation in the absence of a settlement. Management cannot estimate the possible loss or range of loss that may result from these proceedings and therefore has not recorded any related accruals.

If a judge, jury or administrative agency were to determine that false claims were submitted to federal healthcare programs or that there were significant overpayments by the government, Apria could face civil and administrative claims for refunds, sanctions and penalties for amounts that would be highly material to its business, results of operations and financial condition, including the exclusion of Apria from participation in

federal healthcare programs.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Apria is not a party to off-balance sheet arrangements as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission. However, from time to time the company enters into certain types of contracts that contingently require the company to indemnify parties against third party claims. The contracts primarily relate to: (i) certain asset purchase agreements, under which the company may provide customary indemnification to the seller of the business being acquired; (ii) certain real estate leases, under which the company may be required to indemnify property owners for environmental and other liabilities, and other claims arising from the company's use of the applicable premises; and (iii) certain agreements with the company's officers, directors and employees, under which the company may be required to indemnify such persons for liabilities arising out of their employment relationship.

The terms of such obligations vary by contract and in most instances a specific or maximum dollar amount is not explicitly stated therein. Generally, amounts under these contracts cannot be reasonably estimated until a specific claim is asserted. Consequently, no liabilities have been recorded for these obligations on the company's balance sheets for any of the periods presented.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Apria is exposed to interest rate fluctuations on its underlying variable rate long-term debt. Apria utilizes interest rate swap agreements to moderate such exposure. Apria does not use derivative financial instruments for trading or other speculative purposes.

At September 30, 2003, Apria's term loan borrowings totaled \$250.5 million. The bank credit agreement governing the term loans provides interest rate options based on the following indices: Federal Funds Rate, Prime Rate or the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR). All such interest rate options are subject to the application of an interest margin as specified in the bank credit agreement. At September 30, 2003, all of Apria's outstanding term debt was tied to LIBOR.

Until their March 31, 2003 expiration, Apria had two interest rate swap agreements with a total notional amount of \$100 million to pay a fixed rate of 2.58% (before application of interest margin). In December 2002, Apria entered into four additional interest rate swap agreements with a total notional amount of \$100 million to pay fixed rates ranging from 2.43% to 3.42% (before application of interest margin). The terms of the new swap agreements range from two to four years.

Based on the term debt outstanding and the swap agreements in place at September 30, 2003 (excluding those recently expired), a 100 basis point change in the applicable interest rates would increase or decrease Apria's annual cash flow and pretax earnings by approximately \$1.5 million. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Long-term Debt Hedging Activities.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

As of the end of the period covered by this report, the company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the company's management, including the company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective in timely alerting them to material information relating to the company that is required to be included in the company's periodic Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

During the period covered by this report, there have been no changes to the company's internal control over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

As previously reported, since mid-1998 Apria has been the subject of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Attorney's office in Los Angeles and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The investigation concerns the documentation supporting Apria's billing for services provided to patients whose healthcare costs are paid by Medicare and other federal programs. Apria is cooperating with the government and has responded to various document requests and subpoenas.

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Apria has been informed that the investigation is the result of civil *qui tam* litigation filed on behalf of the government against Apria. The complaints in the litigation are under seal, however, and the government has not informed Apria of either the identities of the plaintiffs, the court or courts where the proceedings are pending, the date or dates instituted or the factual bases alleged to underlie the proceedings. To date, the U.S. Attorney's office has not informed Apria of any decision to intervene in the *qui tam* actions; however, it could reach a decision with respect to intervention at any time.

Government representatives and counsel for the plaintiffs in the *qui tam* actions asserted in July 2001 that, by a process of extrapolation from a sample of 300 patient files to all of Apria's billings to the federal government during the three-and-one-half year sample period, Apria could be liable to the government under the False Claims Act for more than \$9 billion, consisting of extrapolated overpayment liability, treble damages and penalties of up to \$10,000 for each allegedly false claim derived from the extrapolation.

Apria has acknowledged that there may be errors and omissions in supporting documentation affecting a portion of its billings. However, it considers the assertions and amounts described in the preceding paragraph to be unsupported both legally and factually and believes that most of the alleged documentation errors and omissions should not give rise to any liability, for overpayment refunds or otherwise. Accordingly, Apria believes that the claims asserted are unwarranted and that it is in a position to assert numerous meritorious defenses.

Apria has been exchanging information and having discussions with government representatives in an attempt to explore whether it will be possible to resolve this matter on a basis that would be considered fair and reasonable by all parties. Apria cannot provide any assurances as to the outcome of these discussions, however, or as to the outcome of the *qui tam* litigation in the absence of a settlement. Management cannot estimate the possible loss or range of loss that may result from these proceedings and therefore has not recorded any related accruals.

If a judge, jury or administrative agency were to determine that false claims were submitted to federal healthcare programs or that there were significant overpayments by the government, Apria could face civil and administrative claims for refunds, sanctions and penalties for amounts that would be highly material to its business, results of operations and financial condition, including the exclusion of Apria from participation in federal healthcare programs.

Apria is also engaged in the defense of certain claims and lawsuits arising out of the ordinary course and conduct of its business, the outcomes of which are not determinable at this time. Apria has insurance policies covering such potential losses where such coverage is cost effective. In the opinion of management, any liability that might be incurred by Apria upon the resolution of these claims and lawsuits will not, in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on Apria's results of operations or financial condition.

ITEM 2. CHANGES IN SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

On August 20, 2003, Apria issued 3.375% Convertible Senior Notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$250 million under an indenture between Apria and U.S. Bank National Association. The notes were issued in a private placement at an issue price of \$1,000 per note (100% of the principal amount at maturity). The notes will mature on September 1, 2033, unless earlier converted, redeemed or repurchased by Apria. Apria may redeem some or all of the notes at any time after September 8, 2010 at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest and contingent interest, if any, to the redemption date. The holders of the notes may require Apria to repurchase some or all of the notes at a repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes plus accrued and unpaid interest, including contingent interest, up to but excluding the applicable repurchase date initially on September 1, 2008, and subsequently on September 1 of 2010, 2013, 2018, 2023 and 2028, or at any time prior to their maturity following a fundamental change as defined in the indenture. Any notes that Apria is required to repurchase on September 1, 2008 will be paid for in cash. For all remaining repurchase dates, Apria may pay the repurchase price in cash or by delivering shares of its common stock or a combination of cash and shares of its common stock.

The notes bear interest at the rate of 3.375% per year. Interest on the notes is payable on September 1 and March 1 of each year, beginning on March 1, 2004. The notes are convertible during certain periods by holders into shares of Apria common stock initially at a conversion rate of 28.6852 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, subject to adjustment in certain events, under certain circumstances as outlined in the indenture.

Apria received approximately \$244.4 million in proceeds upon issuance of the notes. Concurrent with the issuance and with a portion of the proceeds, Apria repurchased approximately 3.8 million shares of its common stock for \$100 million. Issuance costs deducted from the proceeds plus those paid separately in cash totaled 5.8 million. The remaining proceeds may be used for additional share repurchases, acquisitions or general corporate purposes.

ITEM 3. NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTER TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

- (a) Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the company on July 17, 2003.
- (b) Directors reelected at the Annual Meeting for a term of one year:

Vicente Anido, Jr.
 I.T. Corley
 David L. Goldsmith
 Lawrence H. Higby
 Richard H. Koppes
 Philip R. Lochner, Jr.
 Jeri L. Lose
 Beverly Benedict Thomas
 Ralph V. Whitworth

- (c) Matters Voted Upon at Annual Meeting:

Election of Directors

As of July 17, 2003, the company's Board of Directors consisted of nine members who will serve for one year or until the election and qualification of their successors. The results of the stockholder voting were as follows:

| | <u>FOR</u> | <u>WITHHOLD</u> |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Vicente Anido, Jr. | 47,735,252 | 1,539,963 |
| I.T. Corley | 48,651,135 | 624,080 |
| David L. Goldsmith | 48,649,127 | 626,088 |
| Lawrence M. Higby | 49,187,262 | 87,953 |
| Richard H. Koppes | 48,650,522 | 624,693 |
| Philip R. Lochner, Jr. | 47,198,516 | 2,076,699 |
| Jeri L. Lose | 48,650,022 | 625,193 |
| Beverly Benedict Thomas | 47,735,369 | 1,539,846 |
| Ralph V. Whitworth | 47,735,256 | 1,539,959 |

Approval of the 2003 Performance Incentive Plan

The Board of Directors adopted and approved the Apria Healthcare Group Inc. 2003 Performance Incentive Plan, subject to stockholder approval. The results of the stockholder voting were as follows:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| For | 29,741,617 |
| Against | 12,654,539 |
| Abstain | 16,049 |
| Broker Non-votes | 6,863,010 |

ITEM 5. NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

- (a) Exhibits:

| <u>Exhibit Number</u> | <u>Reference</u> |
|---------------------------|--|
| 4.1 | Indenture dated August 20, 2003, between Apria Healthcare Group Inc. and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, describing the registrant's issuance of 3.375% Convertible Senior Notes due 2033. |
| 10.1 | First Amendment to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated August 13, 2003, between Apria Healthcare Group Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries, Bank of America National Association and other financial institutions party to the Credit Agreement. |
| 31.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a). |
| 31.2 | |

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Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a).

32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.

32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.

(b) Reports on Form 8-K:

Apria filed a Current Report on Form 8-K on July 22, 2003 to report the issuance of a press release announcing its financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2003.

Apria filed a Current Report on Form 8-K on August 18, 2003 to report the issuance of two press releases announcing its intent to privately place \$200 million aggregate principal amount of convertible senior notes.

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.

APRIA HEALTHCARE GROUP INC.
Registrant

November 14, 2003

/s/ AMIN I. KHALIFA
Amin I. Khalifa
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)