

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Form 8-K  
January 20, 2006

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D. C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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

**January 17, 2006**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

**ABBOTT LABORATORIES**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Illinois**

**1-2189**

**36-0698440**

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(State or other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**100 Abbott Park Road  
Abbott Park, Illinois 60064-6400**

(Address of principal executive offices)(Zip Code)

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

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

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 1.01**      **Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement**

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

**Item 9.01**      **Financial Statements and Exhibits**



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**Exhibit No.**

**Exhibit**

99.1      Press Release, dated January 17, 2006

2

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**SIGNATURE**

SIGNATURE



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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**ABBOTT LABORATORIES**

Date: January 19, 2006

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

Exhibit Index

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
99.1	Press Release, dated January 17, 2006