

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Form 8-K  
August 22, 2003

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**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**

**August 22, 2003**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

**ABBOTT LABORATORIES**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Illinois**  
(State or other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**1-2189**  
(Commission File Number)

**36-0698440**  
(I.R.S. 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**

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**Item 5. Other Events.**

Filed as Exhibit 99.1, and incorporated herein by reference, is the news release issued by Abbott announcing the spin-off of much of Abbott's core global hospital products business.

**Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(c)  
Exhibits.

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<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Document Description</u>
99.1	Press Release dated August 22, 2003

**SIGNATURE**

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

Dated: August 22, 2003

By: /s/ THOMAS C. FREYMAN

Name: Thomas C. Freyman  
Title: Senior Vice President, Finance and  
Chief Financial Officer

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**Exhibit Index**

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
99.1	Press Release dated August 22, 2003

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[Item 5. Other Events.](#)

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[SIGNATURE](#)

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