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ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Form DFAN14A  
January 20, 2004

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A  
(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities  
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant [ ]  
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant |X|

Check the appropriate box:

- [ ] Preliminary Proxy Statement
- [ ] Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- [ ] Definitive Proxy Statement
- [ ] Definitive Additional Materials
- |X| Soliciting Material Under Rule 14a-12

THERASENSE, INC.  
(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check appropriate box):

- |X| No fee required.
- [ ] Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price of other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

[ ] Fee paid previously with preliminary materials:

[ ] Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount previously paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

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(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

The following are presentation slides shown to employees of TheraSense, Inc. on January 20, 2004:

MediSense (R)

Update

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|                                     |
| Presentation to:                   |
| Alameda Management Forum         |
|                                     |
| January 20, 2004                 |
|                                     |
| Ed Fiorentino                     |
|                                     |
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In connection with the proposed merger, TheraSense will file a proxy statement
and other relevant documents with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).
INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT WHEN IT
BECOMES AVAILABLE AS IT WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE MERGER AND
RELATED MATTERS. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO FREE COPIES
OF THE PROXY STATEMENT (WHEN AVAILABLE) AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC
BY THERASENSE AND ABBOTT THROUGH THE SEC WEB SITE AT WWW.SEC.GOV. THE PROXY
STATEMENT AND RELATED MATERIALS MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED FOR FREE (WHEN AVAILABLE)
FROM THERASENSE BY DIRECTING A REQUEST TO: INVESTOR RELATIONS, THERASENSE,
INC., 1360 SOUTH LOOP ROAD, ALAMEDA, CA 94502; PHONE (510) 749-5400. DOCUMENTS
FILED WITH THE SEC BY ABBOTT MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED FOR FREE (WHEN AVAILABLE)
FROM ABBOTT BY DIRECTING A REQUEST TO: INVESTOR RELATIONS, ABBOTT LABORATORIES,
100 ABBOTT PARK, ROAD, ABBOTT PARK, IL 60064; PHONE (847) 937-7300.

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TheraSense, Abbott and their respective directors, executive officers, certain
members of management and employees, may be deemed to be participants in the
solicitation of proxies in connection with the proposed merger. Information
regarding the persons who may, under the rules of the SEC, be considered to be
participants in the solicitation of TheraSense's stockholders and their
interests in in the solicitation will be set forth in the proxy statement when
it is filed with the SEC.

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Forward-Looking Statements

Some statements in this presentation may be forward-looking statements for purposes of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Abbott and TheraSense caution that these forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements including that the conditions precedent to the completion of the acquisition may not be satisfied or necessary regulatory approval will not be obtained. Economic, competitive, governmental, technological and other factors that may affect Abbott's operations are discussed in Exhibit 99.1 of its Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-Q for the period ended Sept. 30, 2003, and are incorporated by reference. For a description of factors that may affect TheraSense's future results, see discussion under "Risk Factors Affecting Operations and Future Results" in TheraSense's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 2003, and periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Abbott and TheraSense undertake no obligation to release publicly any revisions to forward-looking statements as the result of subsequent events or developments.

Diabetes - a significant, growing global health care problem.

- o WHO estimates 185MM people with diabetes worldwide, with only 40% diagnosed.
- o Projected to grow to 500MM by 2025, due to aging population, sedentary lifestyle, and increasing obesity.
- o Daily monitoring of blood glucose is required to avoid both the short and long-term complications of diabetes.

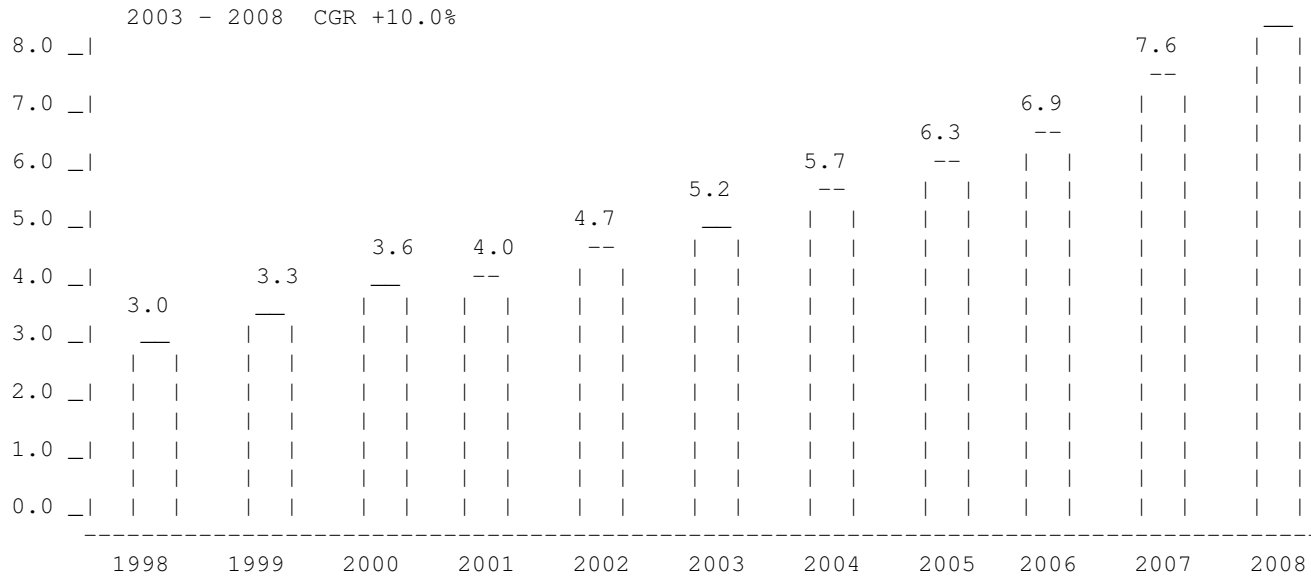
Worldwide Glucose Testing Market

Sales (\$B)

9.0 \_| 1998 - 2003 CGR +11.8%

8.3

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Glucose Testing Market - Sales/Market Share

[PIE CHART GRAPHIC OMITTED]

2003 Market Share (Est.)

(\$MM)

2003 Sales  
Est.

Roche	36%
J&J	27%
Bayer	13%
MediSense	10.5%
TheraSense	4%
Other	9.5%
\$ 5.2 Billion	

Roche	1870
J&J	1400
Bayer	670
MediSense	542
TheraSense	210
Other (B-D, HDI, Menarini) Regional Players	475

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Glucose Monitoring Technology Trends

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1980 - 2005

- o Smaller meters
- o Smaller sample requirements (10 ul to <1 ul)
- o Shorter assay time (45 seconds to 5 seconds)
- o Time/date features
- o Expanded memory

2005 - 2015

- o Additional improvements in fingerstick systems
- o Continuous monitoring systems
- o Integrated testing systems
- o Open/closed-loop systems
- o Non-invasive systems?

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MediSense Situation Analysis

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Double digit sales growth</li> <li>o MediSense key successes             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o First Biosensor product</li> <li>o Ketone testing</li> <li>o Point of care systems</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Strong global presence             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o \$542MM sales (60%+ international)</li> <li>o 10.5% overall market share</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Sales (\$MM)</p> <p>[GRAPHIC OMITTED]</p> <p>(\$ Millions)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;"></th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">1998</th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">1999</th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">2000</th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">2001</th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">2002</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>US</td> <td>124</td> <td>142</td> <td>189</td> <td>190</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>International</td> <td>202</td> <td>232</td> <td>246</td> <td>265</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">Total</td> <td style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">326</td> <td style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">374</td> <td style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">435</td> <td style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">455</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>98-03 CGR = 10.7%</p>		1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	US	124	142	189	190		International	202	232	246	265		Total	326	374	435	455	
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002																				
US	124	142	189	190																					
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MediSense (R)

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TheraSense Overview

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Highly attractive start-up with excellent IP</li> <li>o Low volume/rapid assay products             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Less pain/high AST success</li> <li>o Only .3 ul blood sample</li> <li>o 7-second assay time</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Sales (\$MM)</p> <p>[GRAPHIC OMITTED]</p> <p>\$MM</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;"></th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">2000</th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">2001</th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">2002</th> <th style="border-top: 1px dashed black; border-bottom: 1px dashed black;">2003</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2000	2001	2002	2003					
	2000	2001	2002	2003							

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o Freestyle, Flash/Mini platforms	US	6	72	154	1
	International	0	0	24	
		-----			
o Strong Pipeline	Total	6	72	178	2
o Navigator (continuous monitoring)					
o Deltec Cozmore partnership					
o Integrated Systems					
o Significant, sustained penetration of the US market.					
o 2003 projected sales of \$210MM.					

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TheraSense Product Portfolio

FreeStyle		FreeStyle Flash
o Foundation product		o 4Q '03 launch
o 0.3ul sample [GRAPHIC		o Smallest meter [GRAPHIC
o 15 second assay OMITTED]		o 7 second assay OMITTED]
o High AST success		o Lighting features
-----		
FreeStyle Tracker	Deltec Cozmore	Navigator
[GRAPHIC OMITTED]	[GRAPHIC OMITTED]	[GRAPHIC OMITTED] 3 day CGMS patch in development
	Insulin Pump	

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MediSense & TheraSense

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| o Leading technology            | o Strong pipeline           |
| o Current products              | o Navigator CGMS            |
| o Freestyle (less pain, AST)    | o Next generation Freestyle |
| o Flash (Type I, children)      | o Integrated systems        |
| o Precision Xtra (ketones)      | o Precision Xceed           |
| o Precision PCx (point of care) | o G3b, G3c                  |
|                                 | o Next generation PCx       |

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- o Critical mass/global presence

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### ----- Integration Plan Process -----

- o Maintain operational and competitive independence pending deal close.
- o Transition Team Process
  - o Staffed with function heads and/or key players
  - o Establish global objectives, guiding principles, and processes
  - o Establish timelines and budgets
  - o Oversee functional objectives, principles, timelines, and budgets
  - o Manage information flow and communications
- o Steering Committee
  - o Provide direction, mentorship, and guidance to transition team
  - o Approve key transition team decisions
  - o Facilitate execution of transition team

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### ----- Goals of the Integration -----

- o Rapid transition to new structure
- o Retention of key talent
- o Complete integration with fairness and professionalism
- o Rapid launch of new products
  - o Freestyle
  - o Flash
  - o Xceed
  - o G3b
  - o PCx G3a
- o Successful preparation for Navigator

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- o Market
- o Reimbursement
- o FDA
- o Ops

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Our Mission & Core Values

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Together . . . . . we will

- o Improve the lives of people with diabetes through research and innovation
- o Ensure quality and integrity in everything we do
- o Develop our people and perform at the highest level

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Our Vision

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Together . . . . . we will  
build to a Billion and  
become a top tier  
player!!

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Welcome to



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Abbott Laboratories

Rick Gonzalez  
President and Chief Operating Officer  
Medical Products Group

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Abbott Laboratories  
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Abbott Today

- o 70,000+  
Employees
- o Customers in  
130+ countries
- o 2003 Sales  
\$19.7 billion
- o Broad-based  
diversified  
business model

[PHOTO OMITTED]

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Abbott Laboratories  
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Broad-based Business Model

[PIE CHART OMITTED]

2003 Sales by Division  
Total: \$19.7 billion

Pharmaceutical  
Products Group  
\$11.5 billion

International	29%
Pharmaceutical	29%

Medical  
Products Group

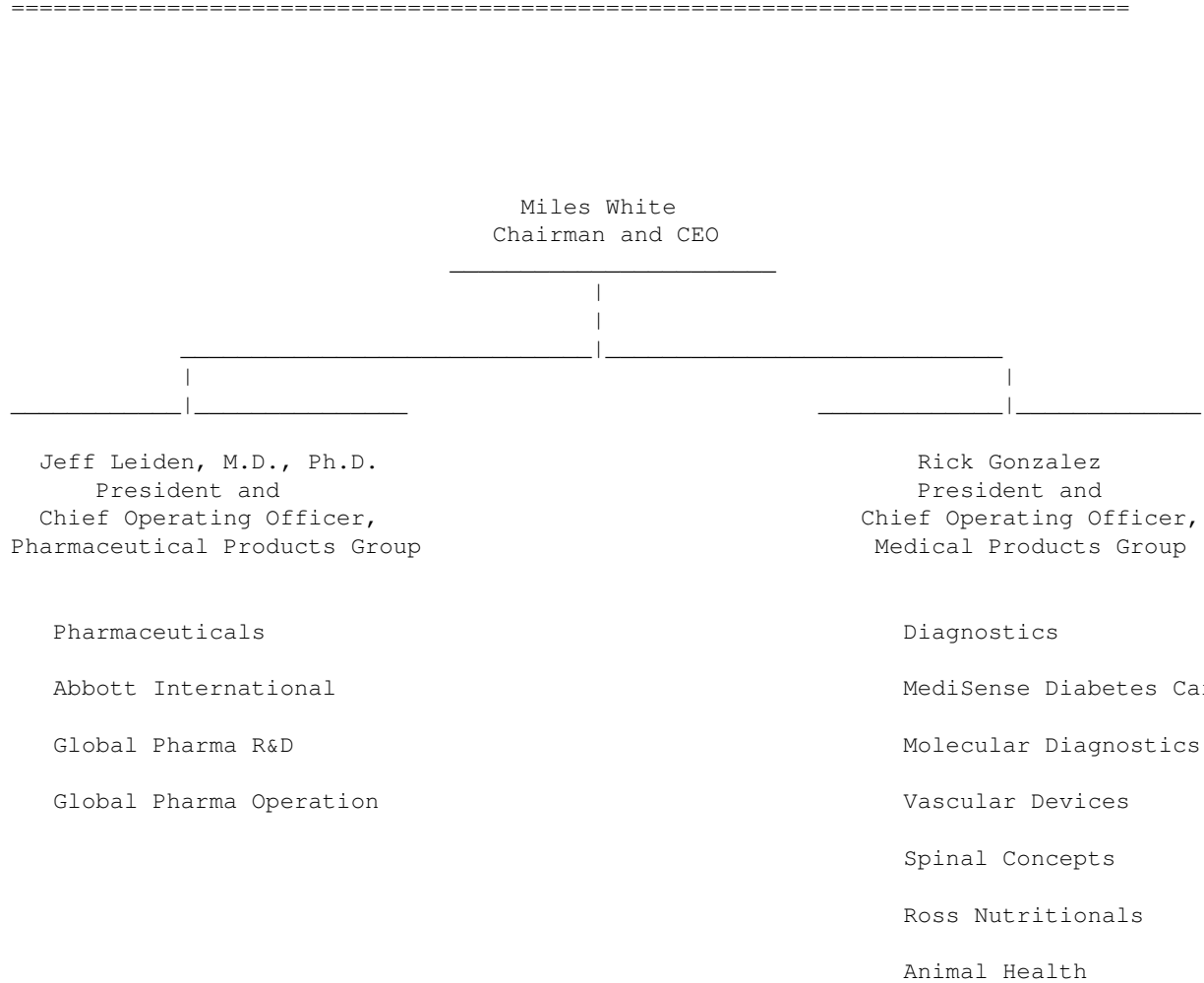
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\$8.2 billion

Hospital Products	16%
Ross Products	11%
Diagnostics	15%

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Abbott Leadership

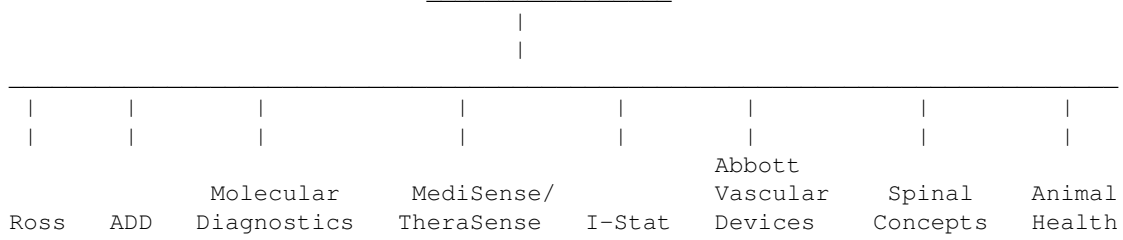


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The Medical Products Business

Operating Model

Medical  
Products Group



- o Flat organizational structure encourages businesses to be more independent and responsive
- o Entrepreneurial operating model improves speed, innovation and productivity of new product development

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Medical Products Group

Vision

Utilize our strengths in Diagnostics, Devices, Pharmaceuticals and Nutritionals to bring Innovation Clinical Solutions to patients and healthcare providers.

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Key Priorities

Medical Products Group

- o Build businesses in high growth, innovative market segments
- o Maintain leadership in Diagnostics and Nutritionals
- o Grow leadership positions in Diabetes, Vascular and Molecular Diagnostics

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- o Utilize our product diversity to bring breakthrough products to the market
- o Marketing and R&D Driven Business Model (Investment)
- o Achieve #1 or #2 position in every major business

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Work/life Programs  
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[PHOTOS OMITTED]

Work/life program highlights:

- Largest on-site child care facility in Illinois and among top five largest in the country
- Adoption assistance and related benefits
- Health and wellness programs
- Convenience services

Awards and recognition

- Top 10 of the "100 Best Companies for Working Mothers," Working Mother No. 3 for "Best Company Benefits," Money
- Top 10 "Companies for Women," Health
- "Governor's Family Investment Award," Illinois
- Corporate Friend of Children Award, Child Welfare League of America

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Diversity/Inclusion Program  
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[PHOTOS OMITTED]

Diversity/Inclusion program highlights:

- Executive Inclusion Council, chaired by CEO
- 80% increase in women management in last four years
- Women Leaders in Action

Awards and recognition

- "50 Best Companies for Asians, Blacks and Hispanics," FORTUNE

- Ranked #13 in Black Collegian magazine's Top 50 Diversity Employers Survey in 2002 -- and first among all

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pharmaceutical companies.

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Community & Social Initiatives  
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[PHOTO OMITTED]

Step Forward...for the world's children  
Helps orphans and vulnerable children  
affected by HIV/AIDS in Romania,  
Tanzania, Burkina Faso and India

Abbott Access  
Programs that expand access to Abbott's HIV drugs and rapid  
tests in Africa and least developed countries

Determine HIV Donation Program  
Aimed at preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV in  
developing world

Tanzania Care  
Established to improve public health care infrastructure and  
improve services and access to care for people living with HIV in  
Tanzania

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Welcome to  
Abbott Laboratories  
  
Rick Gonzalez  
President and Chief Operating Officer  
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