

Washington, D. C. 20549

FORM 8-K

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

November 30, 2015
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

ABBOTT LABORATORIES

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Illinois
(State or other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

1-2189
(Commission File Number)

36-0698440
(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: **(224) 667-6100**

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))

Item 5.04 Temporary Suspension of Trading Under Registrant’s Employee Benefit Plans

On November 30, 2015, Abbott Laboratories (“Abbott”) received a notice from the plan administrator of the Abbott Laboratories Stock Retirement Plan (“U.S. Plan”) and the Abbott Laboratories Stock Retirement Plan (Puerto Rico) (“P.R. Plan”; collectively, the “Plans”) pursuant to Section 101(i)(2)(E) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 regarding a blackout period (the “Blackout Period”) under the Plans. The Blackout Period is required because the Plans are making certain administrative changes, including changing the recordkeeper, changing the trustee of the U.S. Plan, and changing the custodian of the P.R. Plan.

During the Blackout Period, Plan participants will be unable to engage in transactions involving the assets held in their Plan accounts, including changing contribution rates, directing or diversifying investments (including investments in Abbott common shares), or obtaining a Plan loan, withdrawal, or distribution.

As described more fully in the Notice, the Blackout Period is expected to begin on January 7, 2016 at 2 p.m. CST and expected to end during the week of January 24, 2016. During the Blackout Period and for two years after the ending date of the Blackout Period, a security holder or other interested person may obtain, without charge, the actual beginning and ending dates of the Blackout Period, by submitting a request to Abbott Laboratories, 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, Illinois 60064, Attn: Divisional Vice President, Compensation and Benefits; (224) 667-6100.

On December 2, 2015, the Company sent an appropriate notice to its directors and executive officers (the “Notice”) informing them of the Blackout Period and the restrictions on trading in Abbott common stock (including with respect to derivatives) that apply to them during the Blackout Period, pursuant to Section 306 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and Rule 104 of Regulation BTR. A copy of the Notice is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
99.1	Notice provided to directors and executive officers of Abbott Laboratories on December 2, 2015.

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

Date: December 4, 2015

By: /s/ Brian B. Yoor
Brian B. Yoor
Senior Vice President, Finance
and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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**Notice of Blackout Period to
Directors and Executive Officers of Abbott Laboratories**

As a director or executive officer of Abbott Laboratories (“Abbott”), you are subject to restrictions under Section 306(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (“Sarbanes-Oxley”) and Rule 104 of Regulation BTR under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Regulation BTR”). Those restrictions prohibit certain transactions in Abbott securities during retirement plan blackout periods.

In January 2016, the Abbott Laboratories Stock Retirement Plan (“U.S. Plan”) and the Abbott Laboratories Stock Retirement Plan (Puerto Rico) (“P.R. Plan”; collectively, the “Plans”) will be changing recordkeepers, the U.S. Plan will be changing trustees, and the P.R. Plan will be changing custodians. During this transition, Plan participants will be unable to engage in transactions involving the assets held in their Plan accounts, including changing contribution rates, directing or diversifying investments (including investments in Abbott common shares), or obtaining a loan, withdrawal, or distribution from the Plans. This transition period is called a “Blackout Period.”

The Blackout Period is expected to begin on January 7, 2016 at 2 p.m. CST when participants will no longer be able to request distributions. On January 8, 2016 at 2 p.m. CST, participants will no longer be able to change contribution rates, direct investments, or request loans or withdrawals. The Blackout Period is expected to end during the week of January 24, 2016. You can determine whether the Blackout Period has begun or ended by calling Mary Moreland, Divisional Vice President, Compensation and Benefits, at (224) 667-6100.

As you know, you are already precluded during this Blackout Period from trading in Abbott securities under Abbott’s general insider trading policy, which disallows trades during specific periods (in this case, during the month of January until after the fourth quarter earnings release).

Nevertheless, we are required by Sarbanes-Oxley and Regulation BTR to inform you that, during the Blackout Period, you are generally prohibited from directly or indirectly purchasing, selling, or otherwise transferring any equity security of Abbott, regardless of whether you participate in either of the Plans.

If you have any questions concerning the Blackout Period, please contact Ms. Moreland by phone at (224) 667-6100, or you may write to Abbott Laboratories, 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, Illinois 60064, Attn: Divisional Vice President, Compensation and Benefits.
