

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Form 8-K  
October 17, 2008

**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**

**October 10, 2008**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

**ABBOTT LABORATORIES**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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**Item 5.02 - Election of Director**

On October 10, 2008, Robert J. Alpern, M.D., *Dean of the Yale School of Medicine*, was named to the Abbott Board of Directors, effective immediately.

**Item 5.03 Amendment to Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws; Changes in Fiscal Year**

On October 10, 2008, Abbott Laboratories Board of Directors amended the first sentence of Article III, Section 2 of Abbott's by-laws to provide that Abbott's Board of Directors shall consist of fourteen persons, effective as of October 10, 2008. Abbott's by-laws previously provided that the Board of Directors consisted of thirteen persons.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(d) Exhibits

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
3.1	By-Laws of Abbott Laboratories, as amended and restated effective October 10, 2008

**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 hereunto duly authorized.

**Abbott Laboratories**

Date: October 17, 2008

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

**Exhibit Index**

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