

QUEST DIAGNOSTICS INC
 Form 4
 February 17, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Peters Robert E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 QUEST DIAGNOSTICS INC
 [DGX]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 1290 WALL STREET WEST
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 02/15/2006

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 VP, Sales & Marketing

LYNDHURST, NJ 07071

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	854 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	1,866 ⁽²⁾	I	401K/SDCP

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474
 (9-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 52.235	02/15/2006		A	50,000	02/15/2007 ⁽³⁾ 02/15/2013	Common Stock	50,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Peters Robert E 1290 WALL STREET WEST LYNDHURST, NJ 07071			VP, Sales & Marketing	

Signatures

Sirisha Gummaregula 02/17/2006
 **Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
 - ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- On June 20, 2005, the Company effected a 2-for-1 stock split of its Common Stock in the form of a 100% stock dividend. All prior holdings, including stock options, have been adjusted to reflect the stock split. This amount also includes exempt purchases made under the Company's stock purchase plan since the date of the last filing on Form 4.
- (1) These underlying shares were acquired on a periodic basis by the trustee of the Company's tax qualified Profit Sharing (401(k) and/or Supplemental Deferred Compensation Plan. The information was obtained from the plan administrator as of a recent date. The number of shares is based on the account balance of the Company stock fund under the plan (which includes some money market instruments) divided by the market price of the Company's stock as of that date.
 - (2) The option vests in three equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of this grant.
 - (3) The option vests in three equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of this grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.