Peters Robert E Form 4 February 24, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Peters Robert E Issuer Symbol QUEST DIAGNOSTICS INC [dgx] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify ONE MALCOLM AVENUE 02/22/2005 below) Vice President, Sales & Mktg. (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting TETERBORO, NJ 07608 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Reneficially Owned

		Table 1 - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Deficiently Owned							
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securities	5. Amount of	6.	7. Nature of		
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	onAcquired (A) or	Securities	Ownership	Indirect		
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	Disposed of (D)	Beneficially	Form:	Beneficial		
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	Owned	Direct (D)	Ownership		
					Following	or Indirect	(Instr. 4)		
				(Reported	(I)			
				(A)	Transaction(s)	(Instr. 4)			
			Code V	or Amount (D) Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)				
C			Code v	Amount (D) Fince					
Common					341 (1)	D			
Stock					J.1				
C									
Common					927 (2)	I	401(k)/SDCP		
Stock					<i></i>	-	.01(11)/02/01		

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

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(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 orDerivative 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)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 97.48	02/22/2005		A	22,000	02/22/2006	02/22/2015	Common Stock	22,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Peters Robert E ONE MALCOLM AVENUE TETERBORO, NJ 07608

Vice President, Sales & Mktg.

Signatures

Sirisha Gummaregula, Atty in fact for Robert E.
Peters 02/24/2005

**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).
- (1) This amount includes exempt purchases made under the Company's Stock Purchase Plan since the date of the last filing.
- These underlying shares were acquired on a periodic basis by 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.
- (3) The option vests in three equal annual installments beginning on the 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.

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