

Peters Robert E
 Form 3
 January 05, 2005

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â Peters Robert E		(Month/Day/Year)	QUEST DIAGNOSTICS INC [DGX]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
ONE MALCOLM AVENUE			(Check all applicable)	
(Street)			<input type="checkbox"/> Director	<input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner
TETERBORO,Â NJÂ 07608			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	(give title below)	(specify below)
			Vice Pres., Sales & Marketing	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
				<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	318	D	Â
Common Stock	926 ⁽³⁾	I	401(k)/SDCP

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock Options (Right to buy)	07/17/2004 ⁽¹⁾	07/17/2012	Common Stock	7,200	\$ 70.015	D	Â
Stock Options (Right to buy)	02/27/2004 ⁽²⁾	02/27/2012	Common Stock	9,200	\$ 71.065	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Peters Robert E ONE MALCOLM AVENUE TETERBORO, NJ 07608	Â	Â	Â Vice Pres., Sales & Marketing	Â

Signatures

Sirisha Gummaregula, attorney-in-fact for Robert E. Peters 01/05/2005

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Two-thirds of the option have vested. The final one-third will vest on July 17, 2005.

(2) Two-thirds of the option have vested. The final one-third will vest on February 27, 2005.

(3) These underlying shares were acquired on a periodic basis by the Quest Diagnostics Incorporated's (the "Company") tax qualified Profit Sharing (401(k)) plan and/or the Company's 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.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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