QUEST DIAGNOSTICS INC

Form 4 May 19, 2006

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Washington, D.C. 20549

January 31, Expires: 2005

Form 4 or Form 5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

ZIEGLER JOHN B

Symbol QUEST DIAGNOSTICS INC

(Check all applicable)

[DGX]

(Last)

(Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

_X__ Director 10% Owner

(Month/Day/Year)

Officer (give title __ Other (specify below)

1290 WALL STREET WEST 05/17/2006

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

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

> _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

LYNDHURST, NJ 07071

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	ole I - Non-	Derivative	Secu	rities Acquir	ed, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit ord Dispos (Instr. 3, 4)	ed of (`	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	05/17/2006		M	10,000	A	\$ 15.0313	13,334 (1) (2)	D	
Common Stock	05/17/2006		S	5,390	D	\$ 58.7	7,944 (1) (2)	D	

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

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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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	CransactionDerivative Code Securities		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)	\$ 15.0313	05/17/2006		M		10,000	05/09/2001	05/09/2010	Common Stock	10,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer Other				
ZIEGLER JOHN B 1290 WALL STREET WEST LYNDHURST, NJ 07071	X						

Signatures

Leo C. Farrenkopf, Jr., atty-in-fact for John B.

Ziegler

05/17/2006

**Signature of Reporting Person

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) Reporting Person's direct holdings are in compliance with the Company's executive share ownership guidelines.
- (2) Certain of these shares are subject to restrictions on transfer and/or certain other terms contained in the underlying stock agreements and related plan documents.

Date

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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