

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange  
Act of 1934

DECEMBER 16, 1999  
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(Date of earliest event reported)

LABORATORY CORPORATION OF AMERICA HOLDINGS  
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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE -----	1-11353 -----	13-3757370 -----
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification Number)

358 SOUTH MAIN STREET, BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 27215  
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(Address of principal executive offices)

336-229-1127  
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(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

On December 16, 1999, Laboratory Corporation of America-Registered Trademark-Holdings announced today that it has been awarded a contract by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to perform clinical laboratory testing services.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL  
INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS

- (c) Exhibit  
20 Press release of the Company dated  
December 16, 1999.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

LABORATORY CORPORATION OF AMERICA HOLDINGS

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(Registrant)

By:/s/ BRADFORD T. SMITH

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Bradford T. Smith  
Executive Vice President,  
General Counsel, Secretary  
and Compliance Officer

Date: December 22, 1999



Laboratory Corporation of America-Registered Trademark- Holdings  
358 South Main Street  
Burlington, NC 27215  
Telephone: 336-584-5171

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: 336-584-5171 Shareholder Direct: 800-LAB-0401  
Pamela Sherry, Ext. 4855 www.labcorp.com

LabCorp-Registered Trademark- Captures Virginia's Public Health Care  
Contract Laboratory Testing

Burlington, NC, December 16, 1999 - Laboratory Corporation of America-Registered Trademark-Holdings (LabCorp-Registered Trademark-) (NYSE: LH) announced today that it has been awarded a contract by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to perform clinical laboratory testing services. Terms of the multi-year contract were not disclosed.

"With a significant presence in the Virginia area, LabCorp is unique in its ability to respond to the state's growing need for clinical laboratory testing services," said Richard L. Novak, executive vice president and chief operating officer at LabCorp. "Testing services are available to public entities throughout Virginia who serve the behavioral and medical health care needs of consumers who are eligible for publicly funded services. " This cooperative procurement, by taking advantage of volume economies, has enabled Virginia public entities with low service volume to receive favorable pricing for laboratory services.

Laboratory Corporation of America-Registered Trademark- Holdings (LabCorp-Registered Trademark-) is a national clinical laboratory with annual revenues of \$1.6 billion in 1998. With 18,000 employees and over 100,000 clients nationwide, the company offers more than 2,000 clinical tests, ranging from simple blood analyses to more sophisticated technologies. Included in LabCorp's network of 25 major laboratories are three Centers of Excellence. The Center for Molecular Biology and Pathology, in Research Triangle Park (RTP), North Carolina, develops applications for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technology. Its Center for Occupational Testing in RTP is the world's largest substance abuse testing facility, and the Center for Esoteric Testing in Burlington, North Carolina, performs the largest volume of rare analyses in the network. LabCorp's clients include physicians, state and federal governments, managed care organizations, hospitals, clinics, pharmaceutical and Fortune 1000 companies, and other clinical laboratories.

The Company noted that each of the above forward-looking statements was subject to change based on various important factors, including without limitation, competitive actions in the marketplace and adverse actions of governmental and other third-party payors. Further information on potential factors that could affect the Company's financial results is included in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1998 and subsequent SEC filings.

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