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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, DC 20549

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**SCHEDULE TO**  
Tender Offer Statement under Section 14(d)(1) or 13(e)(1)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. 4)

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**ALERE INC.**  
(Name of Subject Company)

**ABBOTT LABORATORIES**  
(Offeror)  
(Names of Filing Persons)

**SERIES B CONVERTIBLE PERPETUAL PREFERRED STOCK, \$0.001 PAR VALUE**  
(Title of Class of Securities)

**01449J204**  
(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

**Hubert L. Allen**  
**Abbott Laboratories**  
**100 Abbott Park Road**  
**Abbott Park, Illinois 60064-6100**  
**Telephone: (224) 667-6100**  
(Name, address, and telephone number of person authorized to receive notices  
and communications on behalf of filing person)

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**Copies to:**  
**Richard B. Aftanas, P.C.**  
**Ross M. Leff**  
**Kirkland & Ellis LLP**  
**601 Lexington Avenue**  
**New York, New York 10022**  
**Telephone: (212) 446-4800**

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**CALCULATION OF FILING FEE**

Transaction valuation*	Amount of filing fee**
\$713,489,054.70	\$82,693.38

\* Estimated for purposes of calculating the filing fee only. The transaction valuation was calculated by multiplying 1,774,407 shares of Series B Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the "Preferred Stock"), of Alere Inc. outstanding by the offer price of \$402.00 per share of Preferred Stock, plus accrued but unpaid dividends due on the Preferred Stock. The transaction value is also based on an estimate of \$177,440.70 of accrued but unpaid dividends on the Preferred Stock as of October 3, 2017.

\*\* The filing fee was calculated in accordance with Rule 0-11 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and Fee Rate Advisory No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2017, issued August 31, 2016, by multiplying the Transaction Valuation by 0.0001159.

Check the box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing with which the offsetting fee was previously paid. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes below to designate any transactions to which the statement relates:

- third-party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.
- issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.
- going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.
- amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer:

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This Amendment No. 4 (this "Amendment") amends and supplements the Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO initially filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission on July 17, 2017 (together with any amendments and supplements thereto, the "Schedule TO") relating to the offer by Abbott Laboratories, an Illinois corporation ("Abbott"), to purchase for cash all of the outstanding shares of Series B Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock of Alere Inc., par value \$0.001 per share (the "Preferred Stock"), at a purchase price of \$402.00 per share of Preferred Stock (the "Offer Price"), plus accrued but unpaid dividends to, but not including, the settlement date of the Offer, net to the seller thereof in cash, without interest thereon and subject to any withholding taxes required by applicable law, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase, dated as of July 17, 2017 (as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the "Offer to Purchase"), and the related Letter of Transmittal (as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the "Letter of Transmittal," which, together with the Offer to Purchase, collectively constitute the "Offer"), copies of which are attached as Exhibits (a)(1)(A) and (a)(1)(B), respectively, to the Schedule TO.

All the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase, including Schedule I thereto, is incorporated herein by reference in response to Items 1 through 9 and Item 11 of the Schedule TO, except that such information is amended and supplemented to the extent specifically provided in this Amendment. Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined in this Amendment shall have the meanings assigned to such terms in the Offer to Purchase on in the Schedule TO.

#### **Items 1, 4 and 11. Summary Term Sheet; Terms of the Transaction; Additional Information.**

Items 1, 4 and 11 of the Schedule TO are hereby amended and supplemented by adding the following text thereto:

On October 2, 2017, Abbott announced an extension of the Offer to 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on October 3, 2017, unless the Offer is further extended or earlier terminated in accordance with the terms thereof. The Offer was previously scheduled to expire at 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on September 29, 2017.

The Depository has advised Abbott that, as of 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on September 29, 2017, greater than 98 percent of the issued and outstanding shares of Preferred Stock had been validly tendered pursuant to the Offer and not properly withdrawn.

The full text of the press release issued by Abbott announcing the extension of the Offer is attached hereto as Exhibit (a)(5)(E) and is incorporated by reference herein.

On September 18, 2017, Alere declared a cash dividend of \$3.00 per share of Preferred Stock. The dividend is payable on October 16, 2017 to holders of record of the Preferred Stock at the close of business on October 2, 2017. The dividend will cover the amount of all dividends accrued from and including July 1, 2017 through and including September 30, 2017.

At the Tender Settlement Date, Abbott will pay holders tendering shares of Preferred Stock \$402.00 per share of Preferred Stock, plus accrued but unpaid dividends from and including October 1, 2017 to, but not including, the Tender Settlement Date. Holders of record of Preferred Stock at the close of business on October 2, 2017 will receive their accrued but unpaid dividends for the period from and including July 1, 2017 through and including September 30, 2017 on October 16, 2017, whether or not such shares of Preferred Stock are tendered in the Offer.

#### **Item 12. Exhibits**

Item 12 of the Schedule TO is hereby amended and supplemented by adding the following exhibit:

(a)(5)(E) Press Release issued by Abbott Laboratories on October 2, 2017.

## **Amendments to the Offer to Purchase and the Other Exhibits to the Schedule TO**

All references to "11:59 p.m., New York City time, on September 29, 2017" in the Offer to Purchase (Exhibit (a)(1)(A) to the Schedule TO), Letter of Transmittal (Exhibit (a)(1)(B) to the Schedule TO), Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees (Exhibit (a)(1)(C) to the Schedule TO) and Letter to Clients for Use by Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees (Exhibit (a)(1)(D) to the Schedule TO) are hereby amended and replaced with "11:59 p.m., New York City time, on October 3, 2017". The Offer to Purchase and Items 1 through 9 and 11 of the Schedule TO, to the extent such Items incorporate by reference the information contained in any of the foregoing exhibits, are hereby amended and supplemented to reflect the same.

**SIGNATURES**

After due inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

**Abbott Laboratories**

By: /s/ BRIAN B. YOOR

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Name: Brian B. Yoor

Title: *Executive Vice President, Finance and  
Chief Financial Officer*

Date: October 2, 2017

## INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Description
(a)(1)(A)*	Offer to Purchase, dated as of July 17, 2017.
(a)(1)(B)*	Letter of Transmittal.
(a)(1)(C)*	Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees.
(a)(1)(D)*	Letter to Clients for Use by Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees.
(a)(1)(E)*	Form of Summary Advertisement published in the Wall Street Journal on July 17, 2017.
(a)(1)(F)*	Press Release issued by Abbott Laboratories on July 17, 2017.
(a)(5)(A)*	Press Release issued by Abbott Laboratories on August 14, 2017.
(a)(5)(B)*	Supplemental Letter to Holders, dated as of August 21, 2017.
(a)(5)(C)*	Press Release issued by Abbott Laboratories on September 1, 2017.
(a)(5)(D)*	Press Release issued by Abbott Laboratories on September 18, 2017.
(a)(5)(E)	Press Release issued by Abbott Laboratories on October 2, 2017.
(d)(1)	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of January 30, 2016, by and among Alere Inc. and Abbott Laboratories (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Abbott Laboratories with the SEC on February 2, 2017).
(d)(2)	Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of April 13, 2017, by and among Alere Inc., Abbott Laboratories and Angel Sub, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Abbott Laboratories with the SEC on April 14, 2017).

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\* Previously filed.

## QuickLinks

[Item 12. Exhibits](#)

[SIGNATURES](#)

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## Abbott Announces Extension of Cash Tender Offer for All Outstanding Shares of Series B Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock of Alere Inc.

ABBOTT PARK, Ill., Oct. 2, 2017 — Abbott announced today that it is extending its previously announced tender offer to purchase for cash all outstanding shares of Series B Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock (the “Preferred Stock”) of Alere Inc. (“Alere”) at a price of \$402.00 per share of Preferred Stock, plus accrued but unpaid dividends to, but not including, the settlement date of the tender offer, net to the seller thereof in cash, without interest thereon and subject to any withholding of taxes required by applicable law (the “Offer”). The Offer is being made pursuant to an Offer to Purchase, dated July 17, 2017 (the “Offer to Purchase”), and in connection with Abbott’s previously announced agreement to acquire Alere (the “Merger”). The Merger is not conditioned upon, or otherwise subject to, the completion of the Offer.

The Offer is being extended to allow additional time for the consummation of the Merger, which is a condition to the completion of the Offer. The Offer was previously scheduled to expire at 11:59 p.m. New York City time on Friday, Sept. 29, 2017, and will now expire at 11:59 p.m. New York City time on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017 (such date and time, as it may be extended or earlier terminated, the “Expiration Date”). If, at the Expiration Date, any of the conditions to the Offer have not been satisfied or waived, Abbott may elect to further extend the Offer for any length of time and in its sole discretion, but is under no obligation to do so.

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC, the depositary for the Offer, has advised Abbott that as of 11:59 p.m. New York City time on Friday, Sept. 29, 2017, greater than 98 percent of the issued and outstanding shares of Preferred Stock had been tendered in the Offer. Holders of Preferred Stock who have already tendered their shares do not have to re-tender their shares or take any other action as a result of the extension of the expiration of the Offer.

On September 18, 2017, Alere declared a cash dividend of \$3.00 per share of Preferred Stock. The dividend is payable on October 16, 2017 to holders of record of the Preferred Stock at the close of business on October 2, 2017. The dividend will cover the amount of all dividends accrued from and including July 1, 2017 through and including September 30, 2017.

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At the settlement date of the Offer (the “Tender Settlement Date”), Abbott will pay holders tendering shares of Preferred Stock \$402.00 per share of Preferred Stock, plus accrued but unpaid dividends from and including October 1, 2017 to, but not including, the Tender Settlement Date. Holders of record of Preferred Stock at the close of business on October 2, 2017 will receive their accrued but unpaid dividends for the period from and including July 1, 2017 through and including September 30, 2017 on October 16, 2017, whether or not such shares of Preferred Stock are tendered in the Offer.

For more information, contact Barclays Capital Inc., the Dealer-Manager for the Offer, or

D.F. King & Co., Inc., the Information Agent for the Offer.

**D.F. King & Co., Inc.**  
48 Wall Street — 22nd Floor  
New York, New York 10005

Banks and Brokers Call: (212) 269-5550  
All others call Toll-Free: (877) 283-0316  
Email: [alr@dfking.com](mailto:alr@dfking.com)

**Barclays**  
745 Seventh Avenue, 5th Floor  
New York, New York 10019  
Attn: Liability Management Group

Banks and Brokers Call: (212) 528-7581  
All others call Toll-Free: (800) 438-3242

### Additional Information and Where to Find It

This announcement is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell securities. The Offer for the outstanding shares of Alere’s Preferred Stock described in this news release is being made pursuant to an Offer to Purchase and related materials that Abbott has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) pursuant to a Schedule TO. The Schedule TO, Offer to Purchase, a related letter of transmittal and other Offer documents contain important information that should be read carefully before any decision is made with respect to the Offer. These materials (and all other documents Abbott has filed with the SEC) will be available at no charge on the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

### About Abbott

Abbott is a global healthcare company devoted to improving life through the development of products and technologies that span the breadth of healthcare. With a portfolio of leading, science-based offerings in diagnostics, medical devices, nutritionals and branded generic pharmaceuticals, Abbott serves people in more than 150 countries and employs approximately 94,000 people.

Visit Abbott at [www.abbott.com](http://www.abbott.com) and connect with us on Twitter at [@AbbottNews](https://twitter.com/AbbottNews).



## **A Caution Concerning Forward-Looking Statements**

Some statements in this news release may be forward-looking statements. Abbott cautions that these forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements. Economic, competitive, governmental, technological and other factors that may affect Abbott's operations are discussed in Item 1A, "Risk Factors," in Abbott's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2016, and are incorporated by reference. Abbott undertakes no obligation to release publicly any revisions to forward-looking statements as a result of subsequent events or developments, except as required by law.

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