

ABBOTT ACQUISITION OF ALERE SET TO CLOSE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2017

- Creates the leading point of care testing portfolio in the world and further expands Abbott's global reach
- Acquisition is aligned to Abbott's strategy of achieving leadership positions in key business segments and geographies

ABBOTT PARK, Ill., Sept. 29, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Abbott (NYSE: ABT) announced today it intends to close the acquisition of Alere, Inc., on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017. The announcement follows receipt of all regulatory clearances necessary for closing.

The transaction establishes Abbott as the global leader in point of care testing – the fastest-growing segment of the \$50 billion *in vitro* diagnostics market – and further strengthens the company's diagnostics presence. The addition of this business aligns with Abbott's long-standing strategy of shaping the company for growth and complements the leadership positions it has built across its other businesses, which include medical devices, nutritionals and established pharmaceuticals.

"Creating the world's leading point of care business will help Abbott meet the growing demand for fast, accurate and actionable information," said Brian Blaser, executive vice president, Diagnostics Products, Abbott.

"Combined with Abbott's existing point of care business and its leading hand-held platform, i-STAT[®], we now have the broadest point of care testing portfolio to help improve care for patients in more parts of the world."

Point of care testing is a \$7 billion segment of the *in vitro* diagnostics market and is growing rapidly in part because many health care systems are increasing their reliance on these technologies to inform patient care decisions with easy-to-use tests that provide speed and accuracy, particularly in the outpatient setting.

With the addition of Alere, Abbott has approximately \$7 billion in diagnostics sales worldwide, including approximately \$2.5 billion in point of care testing.

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.

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— Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 — A Caution Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

Some statements in this news release may be forward-looking statements for purposes of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. 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, including but not limited to the ability of the parties to consummate the proposed transaction on a timely basis or at all, the ability of the parties to satisfy the conditions precedent to consummation of the proposed transaction at all or in a timely manner, the ability of Abbott to successfully integrate Alere's operations, and the ability of Abbott to implement its plans, forecasts and other expectations with respect to Alere's business after the completion of the transaction and realize expected synergies. 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, which is 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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