

long-term care facilities. Also offers substance-abuse tests. At 12/31/11, it had 54 full-service laboratories and over 1,700 service

CEO: David P. King. Inc.: DE. Address: 358 S. Main St., Burlington, NC 27215. Tel.: 336-229-1127. Internet: www.labcorp.com

ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '09-'11 to '15-'17 of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. 5.5% 15.5% Revenues "Cash Flow" 14.5% 6.0% 14.0% 8.5% Earnings 30.0% 14.5% 10.0% Dividends Book Value 17.0% 7.0% 14.0%

1120.5

797.4

1119.4

Current Liab.

2012

Cal-	QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2009	1155.7	1188.8	1185.1	1165.1	4694.7
2010	1193.6	1238.4	1276.5	1295.4	5003.9
2011	1368.4	1403.3	1404.5	1366.1	5542.3
2012	1423.3	1423.4	1419.4	1398.9	5665
2013	1450	1450	1450	1430	5780
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2009	1.22	1.30	1.22	1.16	4.89
2010	1.30	1.46	1.47	1.34	5.55
2011	1.52	1.64	1.61	1.56	6.37
2012	1.74	1.77	1.76	1.63	6.90
2013	1.80	1.85	1.85	1.80	7.30
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2008			-		
2009	NO CASH DIVIDENDS				
2010	BEING PAID				
2011					

Revenue growth has become a serious issue for Laboratory Corporation of Utilization across healthcare landscape is well off from historic levels. Too, patients look to be eschewing doctor's visits for the time being and, therefore, the number of people sent for subsequent lab testing is dropping off. Too, no spike in testing demand seems likely in the near term due to the evolving insurance changes that are coming in one year's time. Sequential revenues have been stagnant for nine months now, and a year-over-year incline of just 2% appears probable for 2012 as a whole. To its credit, LH is on pace to turn that minimal gain into an 8% annual share-net advance via cost trims and an improved testing mix.

We are ratcheting back our 2013 view.

Staring in the face of Obamacare, volume figures are unlikely to ramp up by any considerable margin next year. LH has steadily been adding facilities, for the most part through acquisitions, and their input should move the needle some. Regardless, we think a repeat of the 2% revenue gain anticipated for 2012 is likely. Due to this, we are paring \$0.20 from our earnings

call, which now sits at \$7.30 a share, or a roughly 6% climb for the year.

LabCorp should benefit from industry turmoil in the longer term. The foresee-able future should be bogged down by volume issues and fears that reimbursement rates could be tinkered with. However, for the pull to 2015-2017, we see many of the smaller lab providers exploring strategic options because of rate pressures and eventually being consumed by the larger players (LabCorp and Quest Diagnostics). Additionally, LH should be able to boost its market share by joint ventures and outsourcing agreements.

A recent dip in the stock's quotation may tempt private equity firms. The sweeping reform heading for the healthcare market in 2014 has many vultures already circling. Doctors visits will rise with the number of insured climbing, and labs should get a bounce. Going private just before has some obvious benefits and this fact is not lost on either party.

We find that these neutrally ranked shares are best suited for long-term accounts at this moment in time. Erik M. Manning December 14, 2012

(A) Based on average shares outstanding thru '96, diluted thereafter. Excludes nonrecurring items: '96, d\$3.40, '97, d\$2.38; '98, 55¢; '00, d3¢; '01, d6¢; '02, d7¢; '05, d9¢; '06, d8¢; '07,

ing. Next earnings report due late January.

(B) In millions, adjusted for stock splits.

d25¢; '08, d56¢; '09, 9¢; '10, d26¢; '11, d\$1.26; | (C) Includes intangibles. In '11: \$4302.5 mill., '12, d11¢. Figures may not sum due to round-\$43.99/sh.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 100