

Covidien plc
Form 425
January 05, 2015

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

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): January 2, 2015

Medtronic, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Minnesota
(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

1-7707
(Commission

File Number)

41-0793183
(IRS Employer

Identification No.)

710 Medtronic Parkway

Minneapolis, Minnesota
(Address of principal executive offices)

(763) 514-4000

55432
(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- ☒ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 8.01 Other Events.

As previously disclosed in the Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") by Medtronic, Inc. ("Medtronic") on November 21, 2014 (the "definitive proxy statement"), a putative shareholder class action complaint was filed on July 2, 2014, in the District Court, Fourth Judicial District, of Hennepin County, Minnesota (the "State Court"), by a purported shareholder of Medtronic under the caption Merenstein v. Medtronic, Inc., et al., 27-CV-14-11452, and on August 21, 2014, a putative shareholder class action complaint was filed in that same court by a purported shareholder of Medtronic under the caption Steiner v. Richard H. Anderson, et al., 27-CV-14-14420, which actions were later consolidated together with all cases subsequently filed or transferred into State Court into a single action under the caption In re Medtronic, Inc. Stockholder Litigation, 27-CV-14-11452. On September 30, 2014, the plaintiffs in the consolidated action filed a consolidated amended class action complaint challenging certain transactions to be taken by Medtronic in connection with the proposed acquisition of Covidien plc ("Covidien") by Medtronic, and on October 10, 2014, the defendants moved to dismiss such complaint.

On December 5, 2014, the plaintiffs in the consolidated State Court action filed a motion for a preliminary injunction seeking to, among other things, enjoin the defendants from effectuating the acquisition in the absence of additional disclosure prior to the Medtronic shareholder vote. On December 30, 2014, a hearing was held in the State Court on plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction and on defendants' motion to dismiss. On January 2, 2015, the State Court denied the plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction and on January 5, 2015 issued its opinion.

Also as previously disclosed in the definitive proxy statement, on September 19, 2014, a shareholder derivative action was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota (the "Federal Court"), by a purported shareholder of Medtronic under the caption William A. Houston v. Omar Ishrak, et al., 14-cv-03540, and on October 3, 2014, a shareholder derivative action was filed in that same court by a purported shareholder of Medtronic, captioned Clark v. Omar Ishrak, et al., 14-cv-04142. The complaints assert various causes of action under Minnesota law, including that the individual defendants allegedly breached fiduciary duties in providing for excise tax reimbursements to certain individuals who were and/or are directors and executive officers of Medtronic in connection with the acquisition. By an Order dated October 14, 2014 the Federal Court consolidated these actions.

On October 23, 2014, the plaintiffs in the consolidated Federal Court action filed a motion for a preliminary injunction seeking to enjoin the reimbursement payment in respect of the excise tax. On December 16, 2014, a hearing was held in the Federal Court on plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction and on December 22, 2014, the Federal Court denied the motion.

NO OFFER OR SOLICITATION

This communication is not intended to and does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to subscribe for or buy or an invitation to purchase or subscribe for any securities or the solicitation of any vote or approval in any jurisdiction pursuant to the acquisition, the merger or otherwise, nor shall there be any sale, issuance or transfer of securities in any jurisdiction in contravention of applicable law. No offer of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Medtronic Holdings Limited, which will be renamed Medtronic plc (New Medtronic), has filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4 that includes the Joint Proxy Statement of Medtronic and Covidien that also constitutes a Prospectus of New Medtronic. The registration statement has been declared effective by the SEC. Medtronic and Covidien have commenced making available to their respective shareholders the Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus (including the Scheme) in connection with the transactions. **INVESTORS AND SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS (INCLUDING THE SCHEME) AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED OR TO BE FILED WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN OR WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MEDTRONIC, COVIDIEN, NEW MEDTRONIC, THE TRANSACTIONS AND RELATED MATTERS.** Investors and security holders are able to obtain free copies of the Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus (including the Scheme) and other documents filed with the SEC by New Medtronic, Medtronic and Covidien through the website maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov. In addition, investors and shareholders are able to obtain free copies of the Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus (including the Scheme) and other documents filed by Medtronic and New Medtronic with the SEC by contacting Medtronic Investor Relations at investor.relations@medtronic.com or by calling 763-505-2696, and will be able to obtain free copies of the Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus (including the Scheme) and other documents filed by Covidien by contacting Covidien Investor Relations at investor.relations@covidien.com or by calling 508-452-4650.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SOLICITATION

Medtronic, New Medtronic and Covidien and certain of their respective directors and executive officers and employees may be considered participants in the solicitation of proxies from the respective shareholders of Medtronic and Covidien in respect of the transactions contemplated by the Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus. Information regarding the persons who may, under the rules of the SEC, be deemed participants in the solicitation of the respective shareholders of Medtronic and Covidien in connection with the proposed transactions, including a description of their direct or indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, is set forth in the Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus. Information regarding Medtronic's directors and executive officers is contained in Medtronic's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 25, 2014 and its Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, dated July 11, 2014, which are filed with the SEC. Information regarding Covidien's directors and executive officers is contained in Covidien's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 26, 2014 and its Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, dated January 24, 2014, which are filed with the SEC.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Statements contained in this communication that refer to New Medtronic's, Medtronic's and/or Covidien's estimated or anticipated future results, including estimated synergies, or other non-historical facts are forward-looking statements that reflect Medtronic's and/or Covidien's current perspective of existing trends and information as of the date of this communication. Forward-looking statements generally will be accompanied by words such as anticipate, believe, plan, could, should, estimate, expect, forecast, outlook, guidance, intend, may, might, will, project, or other similar words, phrases or expressions. It is important to note that these goals and expectations are not predictions of actual performance. Actual results may differ materially from current expectations depending upon a number of factors affecting New Medtronic's business, Medtronic's business, Covidien's business and risks associated with the proposed transactions. These factors include, among others, the inherent uncertainty associated with financial projections; restructuring in connection with, and successful close of, the Covidien acquisition; subsequent integration of the Covidien acquisition and the ability to recognize the anticipated synergies and benefits of the Covidien acquisition; the risk that the required regulatory approvals for the proposed transactions are not obtained, are delayed or are subject to conditions that are not anticipated; the anticipated size of the markets and continued demand for Medtronic's and Covidien's products; the impact of competitive products and pricing; access to available financing (including financing for the acquisition or refinancing of Medtronic or Covidien debt) on a timely basis and on reasonable terms; the risks of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates; the risks and uncertainties normally incident to the medical device industry, including competition in the medical device industry; product liability claims; the difficulty of predicting the timing or outcome of pending or future litigation or government investigations; variability of trade buying patterns; the timing and success of product launches; the difficulty of predicting the timing or outcome of product development efforts and regulatory agency approvals or actions, if

any; potential for adverse pricing movement; costs and efforts to defend or enforce intellectual property rights; difficulties or delays in manufacturing; reduction or interruption in supply; product quality problems; the availability and pricing of third-party sourced products and materials; risks associated with self-insurance and commercial insurance; successful compliance with governmental regulations applicable to New Medtronic s, Medtronic s and Covidien s facilities, products and/or businesses; changes in the laws and regulations, affecting among other things, pricing and reimbursement of pharmaceutical products; health care policy changes; risks associated with international operations; changes in tax laws or interpretations that could increase New Medtronic s, Medtronic s and/or Covidien s consolidated tax liabilities, including, if the transaction is consummated, changes in tax laws that would result in New Medtronic being treated as a domestic corporation for United States federal tax purposes; the loss of key senior management or scientific staff; and such other risks and uncertainties detailed in Medtronic s periodic public filings with the SEC, including but not limited to Medtronic s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 25, 2014, in Covidien s periodic public filings with the SEC, including but not limited to Covidien s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 26, 2014, and from time to time in Medtronic s and Covidien s other investor communications. Except as expressly required by law, each of New Medtronic and Medtronic disclaims any intent or obligation to update or revise these forward-looking statements.

Statement Required by the Irish Takeover Rules

The directors of Medtronic accept responsibility for the information contained in this communication. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the directors of Medtronic (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this communication is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

SIGNATURES

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

MEDTRONIC, INC.

By /s/ Bradley E. Lerman

Bradley E. Lerman

Senior Vice President, General Counsel and
Corporate Secretary

Date: January 5, 2015