

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 13, 2000

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New Jersey

001-4802

22-0760120

(State or other juris-
diction of incorporation)

(Commission
File Number)

(IRS Employer Iden-
tification Number)

1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey

07417-1880

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(201) 867-6800

N/A

(Former name of former addresses if changed since last report.)

Item 7. Exhibits

The Registrant is filing herewith the exhibit referenced in the
Index To Exhibit annexed hereto and made a part hereof.

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.

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Bridget M. Healy

Bridget M. Healy
Vice President and Secretary

Date: January 14, 2000

-3-

INDEX TO EXHIBIT

Exhibit
Number

Description of Exhibit

13

Litigation: Subsequent Events

On January 13, 2000 in the matter of Usrey v. Becton, Dickinson and Company, et al. (Case No. 342-173329-98, Tarrant County District Court), filed in Texas state court on April 9, 1998, the Court signed an order conditionally granting plaintiffs' motion for class certification on behalf of certain Texas healthcare workers, subject to modification and alteration under Texas procedural law. Under Texas law, the order is subject to an immediate appeal, and any trial in the matter is stayed pending appeal.

Becton, Dickinson and Company intends to appeal the order and will otherwise continue to vigorously defend this matter.

On January 13, 2000 in the matter of Benner v. Becton, Dickinson and Company, et al., originally filed on June 1, 1999 in Supreme Court of the State of New York (Case No. 99-111372) and removed to federal court on July 1, 1999 (No. 99 Civ. 4785, United States District Court, Southern District of New York), the Court granted Becton, Dickinson and Company's motion to dismiss the plaintiff's complaint for failure to state a cause of action. The Benner matter was an action seeking class action certification on behalf of certain New York healthcare workers alleging that syringes and other medical devices were defectively designed. The Court dismissed the complaint without prejudice, giving the plaintiff twenty-one days within which to file an amended complaint.