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Warnex Inc. announced that it has initiated a review of various strategic options for its ongoing laboratory services business in order to enhance shareholder value. These options include, but are not limited to, partnerships, mergers or the sale of the Company. The Board of Directors has created an Independent Committee to identify and evaluate such options and has mandated an investment banking firm to act as its advisor in this process. "The Board of Directors believes in the potential of Warnex's core competencies in laboratory-based services to generate value and long-term growth," said Richard Laferrière, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Warnex. "However, in light of current market conditions, we believe this process is in the best interest of shareholders and one that reflects strong corporate governance." "Following the announcement of the planned divestiture of our pathogen detection business, our strategy has been to focus on the profitable laboratory services sector. We take great pride in the success of our analytical, bioanalytical and medical laboratory divisions, which have always been profitable and have generated a strong 5-year compound annual growth rate of 44%," said Mark Busgang, President and CEO of Warnex. "We now wish to explore all strategic options for our ongoing business in order to maximize shareholder value. We have already received inquiries, which demonstrate the recognition of our leadership in the lab sector and the attractive opportunity that our Company presents."

[Wal-Mart to open 400 in-store clinics in 2-3 years](#)
Source: *Company Press Release 24 April 2007*

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Wal-Mart Stores Inc. said that it will contract with local hospitals and other organizations to open as many as 400 in-store health clinics in the next two to three years. Should current market forces continue, up to 2,000 clinics could be in Wal-Mart stores over the next five to seven years. Wal-Mart said the effort marks an expansion of a pilot program it started in 2005, when it leased space within its stores to medical clinics. Currently, 76 clinics are operating inside Wal-Mart stores in 12 states. "We think the clinics will be a great opportunity for our business. But most importantly, they are going to provide something our customers and communities desperately need -- affordable access at the local level to quality health care," said Wal-Mart CEO Lee Scott. Wal-Mart said the health clinics, which will lease space in its stores, will be managed by local or regional hospitals and/or other organizations that are independent of Wal-Mart.

[CDC Ponders Proficiency Testing Updates](#)
Source: *Clinical Laboratory News, April 2007*

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Story gives a snapshot on the CDC's efforts to update Proficiency Testing regulations to address changes that have occurred since 1992 when CLIA PT regulations were established. A working group had been formed comprised of officials from the CMS, CAP, American Association of Bioanalysts, the Joint Commission, the New York State Department of Health, Quest Diagnostics and Bio-Rad. This effort is part of the overall project by the CMS to define best practices for Laboratory Medicine and describe current and future state of lab medicine.

To prepare these reports the CDC is soliciting input on five questions:

1. Are the current PT programs meeting expectations?
2. How programs could be improved?
3. Can the educational value of programs be improved?
4. Are programs keeping up with changes in the field?
5. What would be the result of accrediting PT programs to a recognized international standard?

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