

Covidien plc
Form 425
November 13, 2014

Filed by Medtronic, Inc. (SEC File No.:
001-07707)

pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act of
1933

and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12

under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subject Company: Covidien plc

Form S-4 File No.: 333-197406

Date: November 13, 2014

Colleagues,

Recently, I announced the structure of the new Medtronic organization and the Medtronic executive leadership team for our combined company. Since that announcement, this new leadership team has worked to identify their leadership teams for our new organization upon closing of the transaction.

More details of the new organization can be [found here](#). Click on **View Organization** under each leader's name for more information.

Guiding Principles

As you review these details, I want to provide you some of the principles that drove these decisions and some context on the information we are providing today.

We must maintain current business momentum and ensure our post closing structure preserves our ability to continue this momentum.

We used a common talent selection process to ensure fairness in decisions and consideration of members from both companies. Factors such as experience, scope of responsibility and job location were part of the selection process. These were difficult decisions to make, since there is so much capable and experienced talent in both organizations.

Our regions, groups and functions will operate under defined operating principles and governance procedures. We will provide clear scopes of responsibilities and decision-making rights in the new organization. These policies will be shared with the new organization in the future, beginning with these new leaders.

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The leadership structures and teams identified today and the process used to select them support these principles, and we will continue to strive to ensure there is a fair and uniform talent selection process for identifying future leaders as well.

Understanding Our Organizing Principles

There are some foundational elements included in today's announcements that I would also like to highlight.

Each Group will have a lead in each region.

Human Resources, Legal/Compliance, Finance and Quality functional leaders are named for each of the four regions and groups. Additional functional leads are named in some cases.

Within the Regions, we have named specific Country leaders where those decisions have been made. Decisions on the remaining Country leaders may not be made until after close of the transaction. In those cases, critical integration planning decisions at a country level will be deferred to the Medtronic leader, with full consultation of their Regional leader and the appropriate Covidien leadership team.

Leading up to the close of the transaction, we may announce some additional organizational structures and leadership teams. These announcements will be made in areas where operational continuity requires that we have a clearly defined organization and leadership structure in place for Day 1 operations. Most organizational structures and leadership teams, however, will not be named until after close.

Moving Toward Close

With the announcement of these leadership selections, it's important that each of us not lose sight of the legal requirement that we continue to operate as independent companies, under our current leadership teams, until closing of the transaction.

I am very pleased with our progress on the integration planning and our regulatory approval process. Our Integration Management Office and key leaders from both organizations will continue to ensure that we make timely and clear decisions to provide you as much clarity as possible as we move closer to and through the acquisition closing period. We continue to make great strides, and I am confident we will close the transaction in early calendar year 2015 as stated.

On behalf of the leadership team, I can't thank each of you enough for your hard work and focus during this time. People across both organizations—particularly those serving on our various regional, functional and group integration teams—have given so much to this effort.

Our hard work will pay off, and we will emerge after closing as a formidable player in the health care industry. Our future and the potential we have to treat more patients, in more ways and in more places around the world is inspiring to me, and I hope that you are equally energized about what the combination of Covidien and Medtronic can do together.

Regards,

/s/ Omar Ishrak
Omar Ishrak

Chairman and CEO

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 Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) a registration statement on Form S-4 that includes the preliminary Joint Proxy Statement of Medtronic, Inc. (Medtronic) and Covidien plc (Covidien) that also constitutes a preliminary Prospectus of New Medtronic. The registration statement is not complete and will be further amended. Medtronic and Covidien plan to make available to their respective shareholders the final Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus (including the Scheme) in connection with the transactions. **INVESTORS AND SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE PRELIMINARY 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 preliminary 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 preliminary 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 preliminary 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, will be set forth in the final Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus when it is filed with the SEC. 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 27, 2013 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 27, 2013, 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 document. 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 document is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.