

American Health Line

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ELI LILLY: SUBPOENAED OVER TIES TO LONG-TERM CARE PHARMACY

Indianapolis-based Eli Lilly on Thursday in its quarterly report to the Securities and Exchange Commission disclosed that the U.S. attorney's office in Massachusetts has subpoenaed the company, Dow Jones/Wall Street Journal reports. The October subpoena sought documents on Lilly's business relationship with an unnamed long-term care pharmacy related to some of the company's drugs, including the antipsychotic drug Zyprexa and diabetes treatments Humalog, Humilin and Actos. Lilly officials said the company plans to cooperate with the inquiry. Lilly in the filing also said the U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania is investigating rebate agreements the company entered into with a pharmacy benefit manager covering Axid, Evista, Humalog, Humulin, Prozac and Zyprexa. The inquiry began in October and includes a review of Lilly's pricing under Medicaid. The same attorney's office in March 2004 began a civil investigation related to Lilly's marketing and promotional practices for Zyprexa, Prozac and Prozac Weekly. In addition, the Medicaid fraud control unit of the Florida attorney general's office in June subpoenaed Lilly for information related to sales, marketing and promotional practices for Zyprexa (Dow Jones/Wall Street Journal, 11/4).