PATTERSON DENTAL CO
Form SC 13G/A
February 17, 2004

SCHEDULE 13G

Amendment No. 5
Patterson Dental Company
Common Stock
Cusip #703412106

Cusip #703412106
Item 1: Reporting Person - FMR Corp.
Item 4: Delaware
Item 5: 41,496
Item 6: 0
Item 7: 8,917,815
Item 8: 0
Item 9: 8,917,815
Item 11: 13.069%
Item 12: HC

Cusip #703412106
Item 1: Reporting Person - Edward C. Johnson 3d
Item 4: United States of America
Item 5: 0
Item 6: 0
Item 7: 8,917,815
Item 8: 0
Item 9: 8,917,815
Item 11: 13.069%
Item 12: IN

Cusip #703412106
Item 1: Reporting Person - Abigail P. Johnson
Item 4: United States of America
Item 5: 0
Item 6: 0
Item 7: 8,917,815
Item 8: 0
Item 9: 8,917,815
Item 11: 13.069%
Item 12: IN

SCHEDULE 13G - TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS
FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b)

Item 1(a). Name of Issuer:

Patterson Dental Company

Item 1(b). Name of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

1031 Mendota Heights Road
St. Paul, MN 55120

Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing:

FMR Corp.

Item 2(b). Address or Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence:

82 Devonshire Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109

Item 2(c). Citizenship:

Not applicable

Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock

Item 2(e). CUSIP Number:

703412106

Item 3. This statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b) and the person filing, FMR Corp., is a parent holding company in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(ii)(G). (Note: See Item 7).

Item 4. Ownership

(a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 8,917,815

(b) Percent of Class: 13.069%

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

(i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 41,496

(ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 0

(iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 8,917,815

(iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Various persons have the right to receive or the power to

direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the Common Stock of Patterson Dental Company. The interest of one person, Fidelity Contrafund, an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, in the Common Stock of Patterson Dental Company, amounted to 5,947,298 shares or 8.716% of the total outstanding Common Stock at December 31, 2003.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company.

See attached Exhibit(s) A, B.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not Applicable. See attached Exhibit A.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not applicable.

Item 10. Certification.

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this Schedule 13G in connection with FMR Corp.'s beneficial ownership of the Common Stock of Patterson Dental Company at December 31, 2003 is true, complete and correct.

February 16, 2004
Date

/s/Eric D. Roiter
Signature

Eric D. Roiter
Duly authorized under Power of Attorney
dated December 30, 1997 by and on behalf
of FMR Corp. and its direct and indirect
subsidiaries

SCHEDULE 13G - TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS
FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b)

Pursuant to the instructions in Item 7 of Schedule 13G, Fidelity Management & Research Company

("Fidelity"), 82 Devonshire Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR Corp. and an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, is the beneficial owner of 8,876,319 shares or 13.008% of the Common Stock outstanding of Patterson Dental Company ("the Company") as a result of acting as investment adviser to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

The ownership of one investment company, Fidelity Contrafund, amounted to 5,947,298 shares or 8.716% of the Common Stock outstanding. Fidelity Contrafund has its principal business office at 82 Devonshire Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109.

Edward C. Johnson 3d, FMR Corp., through its control of Fidelity, and the funds each has sole power to dispose of the 8,876,319 shares owned by the Funds.

Neither FMR Corp. nor Edward C. Johnson 3d, Chairman of FMR Corp., has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of the shares owned directly by the Fidelity Funds, which power resides with the Funds' Boards of Trustees. Fidelity carries out the voting of the shares under written guidelines established by the Funds' Boards of Trustees.

Fidelity Management Trust Company, 82 Devonshire Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR Corp. and a bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, is the beneficial owner of 41,400 shares or 0.061% of the Common Stock outstanding of the Company as a result of its serving as investment manager of the institutional account(s).

Edward C. Johnson 3d and FMR Corp., through its control of Fidelity Management Trust Company, each has sole dispositive power over 41,400 shares and sole power to vote or to direct the voting of 41,400 shares of Common Stock owned by the institutional account(s) as reported above.

Strategic Advisers, Inc., 82 Devonshire Street, Boston, MA 02109, a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR Corp. and an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, provides investment advisory services to individuals. As such, FMR Corp.'s beneficial ownership includes 96 shares, or 0.000%, of the Common Stock stock outstanding of Patterson Dental Company, beneficially owned through Strategic Advisers, Inc.

Members of the Edward C. Johnson 3d family are the predominant owners of Class B shares of common stock of FMR Corp., representing approximately 49% of the voting power of FMR Corp. Mr. Johnson 3d owns 12.0% and Abigail Johnson owns 24.5% of the aggregate outstanding voting stock of FMR Corp. Mr. Johnson 3d is Chairman of FMR Corp. and Abigail P. Johnson is a Director of FMR Corp. The Johnson family group and all other Class B shareholders have entered into a shareholders' voting agreement under which all Class B shares will be voted in

accordance with the majority vote of Class B shares. Accordingly, through their ownership of voting common stock and the execution of the shareholders' voting agreement, members of the Johnson family may be deemed, under the Investment Company Act of 1940, to form a controlling group with respect to FMR Corp.

SCHEDULE 13G - TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS
FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b)
RULE 13d-1(f)(1) AGREEMENT

The undersigned persons, on February 16, 2004, agree and consent to the joint filing on their behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with their beneficial ownership of the Common Stock of Patterson Dental Company at December 31, 2003.

FMR Corp.

By /s/ Eric D. Roiter
Eric D. Roiter
Duly authorized under Power of Attorney
dated December 30, 1997, by and on behalf
of FMR Corp. and its direct and indirect
subsidiaries

Edward C. Johnson 3d

By /s/ Eric D. Roiter
Eric D. Roiter
Duly authorized under Power of Attorney
dated December 30, 1997, by and on behalf
of Edward C. Johnson 3d

Abigail P. Johnson

By /s/ Eric D. Roiter
Eric D. Roiter
Duly authorized under Power of Attorney
dated December 30, 1997, by and on behalf
of Abigail P. Johnson

Fidelity Management & Research Company

By /s/ Eric D. Roiter
Eric D. Roiter
Senior V.P. and General Counsel

Fidelity Contrafund

By /s/ Eric D. Roiter
Eric D. Roiter
Secretary