

VENTAS INC
Form 8-K
November 21, 2003

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):

November 19, 2003

VENTAS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-10989
(Commission File Number)

61-1055020
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

4360 Brownsboro Road, Suite 115, Louisville, Kentucky
(Address of principal executive offices)

40207-1642
(Zip Code)

(502) 357-9000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Item 5. Other Events

On November 19, 2003, Ventas, Inc. (the Company) entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement) by and among the Company, Ventas Sub, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company (Ventas Sub) and ElderTrust. Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, Ventas Sub will merge with and into ElderTrust with ElderTrust becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company (the Merger). The consummation of the Merger is subject to various conditions set forth in the Merger Agreement.

A copy of the Merger Agreement is being included as Exhibit 2.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference. The foregoing description is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Merger Agreement.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Current Report on Form 8-K includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). All statements regarding the Company's and its subsidiaries' expected future financial position, results of operations, cash flows, funds from operations, dividends and dividend plans, financing plans, business strategy, budgets, projected costs, capital expenditures, competitive positions, growth opportunities, expected lease income, continued qualification as a real estate investment trust (REIT), plans and objectives of management for future operations and statements that include words such as anticipate, if, believe, plan, estimate, expect, intend, may, could, should, will and other are forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain, and security holders must recognize that actual results may differ from the Company's expectations. The Company does not undertake a duty to update such forward-looking statements.

Actual future results and trends for the Company may differ materially depending on a variety of factors discussed in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Factors that may affect the plans or results of the Company include, without limitation, (a) the ability and willingness of Kindred Healthcare, Inc. (Kindred) and certain of its affiliates to continue to meet and/or perform their obligations under their contractual arrangements with the Company and the Company's subsidiaries, including without limitation the lease agreements and various agreements entered into by the Company and Kindred at the time of the Company's spin-off of Kindred on May 1, 1998 (the 1998 Spin Off), as such agreements may have been amended and restated in connection with Kindred's emergence from bankruptcy on April 20, 2001, (b) the ability and willingness of Kindred to continue to meet and/or perform its obligation to indemnify and defend the Company for all litigation and other claims relating to the healthcare operations and other assets and liabilities transferred to Kindred

in the 1998 Spin Off, (c) the ability of Kindred and the Company's other operators to maintain the financial strength and liquidity necessary to satisfy their respective obligations and duties under the leases and other agreements with the Company, and their existing credit agreements, (d) the Company's success in implementing its business strategy, (e) the nature and extent of future competition, (f) the extent of future healthcare reform and regulation, including cost containment measures and changes in reimbursement policies, procedures and rates, (g) increases in the cost of borrowing for the Company, (h) the ability of the Company's operators to deliver high quality care and to attract patients, (i) the results of litigation affecting the Company, (j) changes in general economic conditions and/or economic conditions in the markets in which the Company may, from time to time, compete, (k) the ability of the Company to pay down, refinance, restructure, and/or extend its indebtedness as it becomes due, (l) the movement of interest rates and the resulting impact on the value of and accounting for the Company's interest rate swap agreement, (m) the ability and willingness of the Company to maintain its qualification as a REIT due to economic, market, legal, tax or other considerations, (n) final determination of the Company's taxable net income for the year ending December 31, 2003, (o) the ability and willingness of the Company's tenants to renew their leases with the Company upon expiration of the leases and the Company's ability to relet its properties on the same or better terms in the event such leases expire and are not renewed by the existing tenants (p) risks associated with the proposed Merger, and (q) the impact on the liquidity, financial condition and results of operations of Kindred and the Company's other operators resulting from increased operating costs and uninsured liabilities for professional liability claims, and the ability of Kindred and the Company's other operators to accurately estimate the magnitude of such liabilities. Many of such factors are beyond the control of the Company and its management.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (a) Financial statements of businesses acquired.

Not applicable.

- (b) Pro forma financial information.

Not applicable.

- (c) Exhibits:

- 2.1 Agreement and Plan of Merger by and among Ventas, Inc., Ventas Sub, LLC and ElderTrust dated as of November 19, 2003 (Certain exhibits and schedules have been omitted in accordance with Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K. A copy of such exhibits and schedules shall be furnished supplementally to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request.)

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger by and among Ventas, Inc., Ventas Sub, LLC and ElderTrust dated as of November 19, 2003 (Certain exhibits and schedules have been omitted in accordance with Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K. A copy of such exhibits and schedules shall be furnished supplementally to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request.)