

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS



Annual Report

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o our Shareholders:

On September 30, 2007, the net asset value (NAV) per share of the Fund was \$19.14. During the twelve-month period ended September 30, 2007, total return at net asset value of your Fund was 20.20%. During the most recent six-month period ended September 30, 2007, total return at net asset value of your Fund was 11.85%. The total investment return at market was 12.34% during the twelve-month period ended September 30, 2007 and was 5.41% during the six-month period ended September 30, 2007. Comparisons to relevant indices are listed below:

Investment Returns	Six months Ended 9/30/07	Fiscal Year Ended 9/30/07
Investment Return at Market	+5.41%	+12.34%
Net Asset Value	+11.85%	+20.20%
NASDAQ Biotech Index (NBI)	+9.96%	+13.27%
S&P 500 Index	+8.44%	+16.44%

During both the fiscal year and six month period ending September 30, 2007, the NAV of the Fund exceeded both its NBI benchmark and the S&P 500 Index. In addition, during this period, the discount at which the Fund's shares trade increased. As of September 30, 2007 the Fund traded at a discount of 9.61% compared to a year earlier when the discount was 3.29%. Such widening of discount was observed in many other closed end funds during fiscal 2007, probably resulting from recent dynamics in the U.S. credit markets. Though we are unaware of any significant credit exposure in our portfolio, our Fund's discount may have been negatively affected by this general trend. The discount may have also been adversely affected by what we perceive as a recent trend in sentiment away from higher volatility investments. Our Fund typically exhibits greater volatility than the broad market indices.

During the twelve-month period ending September 30, 2007, a number of broad trends have been observed in the healthcare sector. In general, the biotechnology, managed care, pharmacy benefit manager, diagnostics and life science tool sub-sectors have been among the best performers during the twelve month period while the healthcare provider and small developing biotech sub-sectors have been among the weakest performers.

During the last twelve-months, merger and acquisition activity has been a major theme in the healthcare sector in general and in the biotech sub-sector particularly. The planned or completed acquisition of Fund holdings, such as MedImmune, Inc. and Cytoc Corporation for example, has had positive effects on the NAV of the Fund. We believe that other acquisitions within the sector, including the acquisitions of Caremark Rx, Inc., Organon BioSciences N.V. and New River Pharmaceuticals Inc. by

CVS Corporation, Schering-Plough Corporation and Shire Plc, respectively, have helped to create general market interest in healthcare.

As always, specific clinical and marketing events, both positive and negative, have had significant apparent impact on interest in healthcare. The approval and rapid launch of Merck & Co., Inc.'s Januvia has been impressive. On the other hand, the apparent failure to attain market adoption by Pfizer Inc./Nektar Therapeutics's inhaled insulin product, Exubera, has been a significant disappointment.

We have also observed a general developing interest in technologies related to RNAi therapeutics and similar target-specific approaches. Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Sangamo Biosciences, Inc. are all relatively early stage companies developing technologies and/or products in this area of science. Most have exhibited significant increases in the price of their stock over the last year. Sirna Therapeutics, Inc., a company developing related technologies, was acquired by Merck & Co., Inc. (Please note that regarding the above discussion of the companies mentioned, the Fund owned positions in Cytoc Corporation, CVS Caremark Corporation, Schering-Plough Corporation and Shire Plc at fiscal year end.)

During the report period the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reimbursement for products marketed by a number of companies including the anemia treating drugs sold by Amgen, Inc., the largest component of the NBI index, came under great debate. CMS reimbursement of other products made by such companies as Sepracor Inc., Cephalon, Inc. and Endo Pharmaceuticals Holdings was also affected. Separately, there were a number of developments affecting the way Hepatitis C may be treated in the future. These developments have had material impact on Idenix Pharmaceuticals Inc., Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Schering-Plough Corporation, Human Genome Sciences, Inc. and others.

Within the last year, several of our private venture companies have either attained public listing or have declared their intention to do so. In particular, Masimo Corporation has completed a very successful IPO and Cougar Biotechnology, Inc. completed a reverse merger which resulted in a public listing. Concentric Medical, Inc. and CardioNet, Inc. made S-1 filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), each declaring its intention to undertake an IPO.

During the twelve-month period ending September 30, 2007, Align Technology, Inc., MedImmune, Inc., Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd., Conor Medsystems, Inc. and VNUS Medical Technologies, Inc. produced the greatest positive impact on the Fund's NAV. Note that Conor

Medsystems, Inc. and VNUS Medical Technologies, Inc. were originally venture investments. During the same twelve-month period, Amgen, Inc., Emageon, Inc., and Idenix Pharmaceuticals Inc. had the largest negative effect on Fund's NAV among the public portfolio. Write downs of venture investments in Raven biotechnologies, Inc. and OmniSonics Medical Technologies, Inc. also had a significant negative impact on NAV.

During the twelve-month period ended September 30, 2007, within the public portfolio, the Fund established positions in several companies including Applera Corp.-Applied Biosystems Group, Becton, Dickinson and Company, Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings, PerkinElmer, Inc. and Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. During the same twelve-month period, the Fund exited its positions in several companies including DJ Orthopedics Inc., Emageon, Inc., Forest Laboratories, Inc., MedImmune, Inc. and Pfizer, Inc. The Fund exited its position in Conor Medsystems, Inc. when it was acquired by Johnson & Johnson and also exited its position in Myogen, Inc. when it was acquired by Gilead Sciences, Inc.

During the same twelve-month period, within the venture portfolio, the Fund established a position in Athersys, Inc., FlowCarida, Inc., Magellan Biosciences, Inc. and Xoft, Inc. and made follow on investments in Agensys, Inc., CardioNet, Inc., Ceres, Inc., TargeGen, Inc. and Xanthus Life Sciences, Inc. Also, Cougar Biotechnology, Inc. exited the Fund's venture portfolio when its registration statement was declared effective by the SEC and the company's shares became publicly traded. The Fund wrote off its position in Galileo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Therion Biologics Corporation.

Please note that during this report period, the Fund began to engage in options transactions with Board approval.

As always, if you have questions, please feel free to call us at (617)772-8500.



Daniel R. Omstead
President

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

LARGEST HOLDINGS BY ISSUER

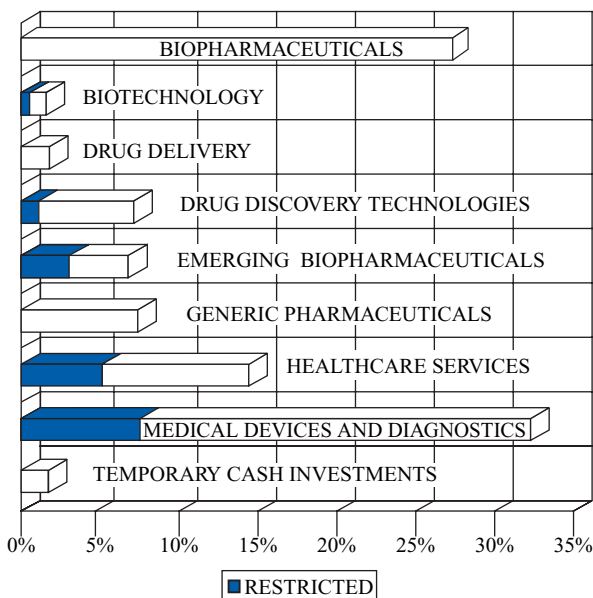
As of September 30, 2007

	<u>% of Net Assets</u>
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	3.81%
Celgene Corporation	3.31%
Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd.	3.07%
Masimo Corporation	2.53%
Genzyme Corporation	2.44%
Becton, Dickinson and Company	2.36%
Concentric Medical, Inc.	2.29%
Amgen Inc.	2.27%
ACADIA Pharmaceuticals Inc.	2.14%
Align Technology, Inc.	2.13%

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

PORTFOLIO

As of September 30, 2007



H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES

AND WARRANTS - 13.7% OF NET ASSETS

SHARES	Convertible Preferred (Restricted) ^(d) - 13.7%	VALUE
<i>Drug Discovery Technologies - 1.1%</i>		
2,380,953	Agilix Corporation Series B ^{(a) (b)}	\$141,809
375,000	Ceres, Inc. Series C ^(a)	2,437,500
32,193	Ceres, Inc. Series C-1 ^(a)	209,255
280,105	Ceres, Inc. Series D ^(a)	1,820,682
40,846	Ceres, Inc. Series F ^(a)	265,499
8,170	Ceres, Inc. warrants (expiration 9/05/15) ^(a)	0
300,000	Zyomyx, Inc. Series A New ^(a)	30,000
300	Zyomyx, Inc. Series B New ^(a)	30
<i>Emerging Biopharmaceuticals - 3.0%</i>		
1,117,381	Agensys, Inc. Series C ^(a)	4,022,572
198,961	Agensys, Inc. Series D ^(a)	716,260
1,818,182	Raven biotechnologies, Inc. Series B ^(a)	377,273
2,809,157	Raven biotechnologies, Inc. Series C ^(a)	582,900
4,083,022	Raven biotechnologies, Inc. Series D ^(a)	300,102
2,123,077	TargeGen, Inc. Series C ^(a)	2,760,000
586,871	TargeGen, Inc. Series D ^(a)	762,932
4,001,078	Xanthus Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Series B ^(a)	4,001,078
<i>Healthcare Services - 4.4%</i>		
1,577,144	CardioNet, Inc. Series C ^(a)	5,520,004
928	CardioNet, Inc. Mandatorily Cvt. Pfd. ^(a)	954,381
52,882	CardioNet, Inc. warrants (expiration 5/01/11) ^(a)	0
2,085	CardioNet, Inc. warrants (expiration 8/29/11) ^(a)	0
484,829	CytoLogix Corporation Series A ^{(a) (b)}	4,848
227,130	CytoLogix Corporation Series B ^{(a) (b)}	522,399
160,000	I-trax, Inc. Series A ^(a)	7,290,959
5,384,615	PHT Corporation Series D ^{(a) (b)}	4,200,000
1,204,495	PHT Corporation Series E ^{(a) (b)}	939,506
<i>Medical Devices and Diagnostics - 5.2%</i>		
4,852,940	Concentric Medical, Inc. Series B ^{(a) (b)}	6,794,116
1,744,186	Concentric Medical, Inc. Series C ^{(a) (b)}	2,441,860
683,000	Concentric Medical, Inc. Series D ^{(a) (b)}	956,200
222,222	EPR, Inc. Series A ^(a)	2,222
2,292,152	FlowCardia, Inc. Series C ^(a)	2,458,333
3,669,024	Labcyte Inc. Series C ^(a)	1,920,000
2,950,000	Magellan Biosciences, Inc. Series A ^(a)	2,950,000
1,547,988	OmniSonics Medical Technologies, Inc. Series A-1 ^(a)	1,171,827
631,549	OmniSonics Medical Technologies, Inc. Series B-1 ^(a)	478,083
65,217	TherOx, Inc. Series H ^(a)	251,803
149,469	TherOx, Inc. Series I ^(a)	577,100

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

SHARES	Convertible Preferred (Restricted)^(d) - continued	VALUE
4,220	TherOx, Inc. warrants (expiration 1/26/10) ^(a)	\$0
8,141	TherOx, Inc. warrants (expiration 6/09/09) ^(a)	0
921,875	Xoft, Inc. Series D ^(a)	<u>2,950,000</u>
TOTAL CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES AND WARRANTS		
	(Cost \$65,404,499)	<u>\$60,811,533</u>
COMMON STOCKS AND WARRANTS - 84.7%		
Biopharmaceuticals - 27.0%		
156,050	Adams Respiratory Therapeutics, Inc. ^(a)	6,014,167
596,918	Akorn, Inc. ^(a)	4,470,916
202,223	Akorn, Inc. warrants (expiration 3/08/11) ^{(a) (d)}	422,646
178,643	Amgen Inc. ^(a)	10,105,835
53,665	Amylin Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ^(a)	2,683,250
84,500	Biogen Idec Inc. ^(a)	5,604,885
309,286	Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ^(a)	6,535,213
68,930	Genentech, Inc. ^(a)	5,377,919
174,718	Genzyme Corporation ^(a)	10,825,527
413,950	Gilead Sciences, Inc. ^(a)	16,918,136
348,879	Inspire Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ^(a)	1,873,480
182,995	Martek Biosciences Corporation ^(a)	5,312,345
86,600	Medarex, Inc. ^(a)	1,226,256
334,550	Medicines Company ^(a)	5,958,336
147,550	Mentor Corporation	6,794,677
183,900	MGI Pharma, Inc. ^(a)	5,108,742
193,100	Omrix Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. ^(a)	6,818,361
223,600	Schering-Plough Corporation	7,072,468
163,850	Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ^(a)	6,293,478
104,000	Wyeth	<u>4,633,200</u>
		<u>120,049,837</u>
Biotechnology - 1.6%		
472,000	Athersys, Inc. (Restricted) ^{(a) (d)}	2,360,000
118,000	Athersys, Inc. warrants (Restricted, expiration 6/08/12) ^{(a) (d)}	0
407,328	Momenta Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ^(a)	<u>4,639,466</u>
		<u>6,999,466</u>
Drug Delivery - 1.8%		
200,000	CVS Caremark Corporation	<u>7,926,000</u>
Drug Discovery Technologies - 6.0%		
243,433	Avalon Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ^(a)	1,387,568
206,270	Celgene Corporation ^(a)	14,709,114
97,979	Cougar Biotechnology, Inc. ^(a)	2,498,464
79,325	Sepracor Inc. ^(a)	2,181,438

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

SHARES	Drug Discovery Technologies - continued	VALUE
80,650	Shire Plc ^(c)	\$5,966,487
300,000	Zyomyx, Inc. (Restricted) ^{(a) (d)}	3,000
		<u>26,746,071</u>
	Emerging Biopharmaceuticals - 3.7%	
631,098	ACADIA Pharmaceuticals Inc. ^(a)	9,498,025
170,698	DOV Pharmaceutical, Inc. warrants (expiration 12/31/09) ^{(a) (d)}	8,535
592,150	Exelixis, Inc. ^(a)	6,270,868
454,078	NitroMed, Inc. ^(a)	808,259
		<u>16,585,687</u>
	Generic Pharmaceuticals - 7.4%	
135,700	Barr Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ^(a)	7,722,687
422,394	Impax Laboratories, Inc. ^(a)	4,937,786
399,500	Mylan Inc.	6,376,020
306,769	Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd. ^(c)	13,642,017
		<u>32,678,510</u>
	Healthcare Services - 10.1%	
107,200	Allergan, Inc.	6,911,184
222,222	Aveta, Inc. (Restricted) ^{(a) (d)}	2,222,220
45,719	Dako A/S (Restricted) ^{(d) (e)}	1,100,456
179,300	Eclipsys Corporation ^(a)	4,181,276
75,900	HealthExtras, Inc. ^(a)	2,112,297
109,060	ICON Plc ^{(a) (c)}	5,565,332
76,500	Medco Health Solutions, Inc. ^(a)	6,914,835
71,300	PAREXEL International Corporation ^(a)	2,942,551
118,500	Pharmaceutical Product Development, Inc.	4,199,640
306,208	Syntiro Healthcare Services (Restricted) ^{(a) (d)}	306
80,950	UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	3,920,409
57,750	WellPoint, Inc. ^{(a) (f)}	4,557,630
		<u>44,628,136</u>
	Medical Devices and Diagnostics - 27.1%	
373,940	Align Technology, Inc. ^(a)	9,471,900
334,000	American Medical Systems Holdings, Inc. ^(a)	5,661,300
252,450	Applera Corporation- Applied Biosystems Group	8,744,868
117,950	Baxter International Inc.	6,638,226
127,660	Becton, Dickinson and Company	10,474,503
131,640	Cytoc Corporation ^(a)	6,272,646
348,060	eResearch Technology, Inc. ^(a)	3,964,403
56,327	IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. ^(a)	6,172,876
90,357	Inverness Medical Innovations, Inc. ^(a)	4,998,549
103,950	Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings ^(a)	8,132,009
29,500	Masimo Corporation	756,970

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

<u>SHARES</u>	Medical Devices and Diagnostics - continued	<u>VALUE</u>
480,000	Masimo Corporation (Restricted) ^(d)	\$10,469,280
160,000	Masimo Laboratories, Inc. (Restricted) ^{(a) (d)}	1,600
830,292	Medwave, Inc. ^{(a) (b) (d)}	35,287
207,573	Medwave, Inc. warrants (expiration 8/21/11) ^{(a) (b) (d)}	0
93,008	OmniSonics Medical Technologies, Inc. (Restricted) ^{(a) (d)}	930
30,090	Patterson Companies, Inc. ^(a)	1,161,775
318,500	PerkinElmer, Inc.	9,303,385
150,000	Phase Forward Inc. ^(a)	3,001,500
87,000	Quest Diagnostics, Inc.	5,025,990
208	Songbird Hearing, Inc. (Restricted) ^{(a) (d)}	139
63,275	Stryker Corporation	4,350,789
201,600	Symmetry Medical Inc. ^(a)	3,366,720
145,000	Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. ^(a)	8,369,400
260,067	VNUS Medical Technologies, Inc. ^(a)	4,132,466
		<u>120,507,511</u>
	TOTAL COMMON STOCKS AND WARRANTS (Cost \$303,230,266)	<u>\$376,121,218</u>
PRINCIPAL		
<u>AMOUNT</u>	SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS - 1.7%	<u>VALUE</u>
\$5,000,000	General Electric Capital Corporation; 4.65% due 10/03/07	4,998,708
2,599,000	Repurchase Agreement, State Street Bank and Trust Co., repurchase value \$2,599,433 (collateralized by U.S. Treasury Bond 2%, 1/15/26, market value \$2,653,013); 2.00% due 10/01/07	<u>2,599,000</u>
	TOTAL SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS (Cost \$7,597,708)	<u>\$7,597,708</u>
	TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 100.1% (Cost \$376,232,473)	<u>\$444,530,459</u>
	OTHER LIABILITIES IN EXCESS OF ASSETS - (0.1%)	<u>(\$500,580)</u>
	NET ASSETS - 100%	<u>\$444,029,879</u>

(a) Non-income producing security.

(b) Affiliated issuers in which the Fund holds 5% or more of the voting securities (Total Market Value of \$16,036,025).

(c) American Depository Receipt.

(d) Security fair valued by the Valuation Committee of the Board of Trustees.

(e) Foreign Security.

(f) A portion of security is pledged as collateral for call options written.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

SCHEDULE OF WRITTEN OPTIONS

NUMBER OF CONTRACTS (100 SHARES EACH)	CALL OPTIONS WRITTEN	EXPIRATION DATE	CURRENT VALUE
142	Wellpoint, Inc., strike @ 80	Oct-2007	(\$14,200)
			<u>(\$14,200)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

ASSETS:

Investments in non affiliated issuers, at value (identified cost \$358,128,361; see Schedule of Investments)	\$428,494,434
Investments in affiliated issuers, at value (identified cost \$18,104,112; see Schedule of Investments)	16,036,025
Cash	1,394
Dividend and interest receivable	65,415
Receivable for investments sold	30,322
Prepaid expenses	89,741
Total assets	<u>\$444,717,331</u>

LIABILITIES:

Accrued advisory fee	438,986
Accrued audit fee	63,999
Accrued shareholder reporting fees	40,452
Accrued legal fees	44,094
Accrued trustee fee	35,632
Options written, at value (premium received \$29,559)	14,200
Accrued other	50,089
Total liabilities	<u>\$687,452</u>

NET ASSETS \$444,029,879

SOURCES OF NET ASSETS:

Shares of beneficial interest, par value \$.01 per share, unlimited number of shares authorized, amount paid in on 23,202,594 shares issued and outstanding	\$373,966,256
Accumulated undistributed net realized gain on investments and options	1,750,140
Net unrealized gain on investments, options and foreign currency	<u>68,313,483</u>
Total net assets (equivalent to \$19.14 per share based on 23,202,594 shares outstanding)	<u>\$444,029,879</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

INVESTMENT INCOME:

Dividend income (net of foreign tax of \$22,309)	\$993,109	
Interest income from non affiliated issuers	<u>1,180,813</u>	
Total investment income		\$2,173,922

EXPENSES:

Advisory fees	\$4,902,878	
Legal fees	331,328	
Trustees' fees and expenses	192,883	
Administration and auditing fees	174,909	
Custodian fees	123,081	
Shareholder reporting	122,400	
Transfer agent fees	52,625	
Stock exchange listing fee	27,844	
Other (See Note (3))	<u>341,062</u>	
Total expenses		<u>6,269,010</u>

Net Investment loss (\$4,095,088)

NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENTS, OPTIONS AND FOREIGN CURRENCY:

Net realized gain on investments and options	\$37,126,911	
Increase in net unrealized gain on investments, options and foreign currency	<u>42,202,906</u>	
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments, options and foreign currency		<u>\$79,329,817</u>
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations		<u>\$75,234,729</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	For the year ended September 30, 2007	For the year ended September 30, 2006
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS:		
Net investment loss	(\$4,095,088)	(\$2,871,440)
Net realized gain on investments and options	37,126,911	21,188,422
Increase/(decrease) in net unrealized gain on investments, options and foreign currency	<u>42,202,906</u>	<u>(33,329,758)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	<u>\$75,234,729</u>	<u>(\$15,012,776)</u>
DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:		
Net realized capital gains	<u>(\$32,565,626)</u>	<u>(\$34,763,087)</u>
CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS:		
Value of shares issued in reinvestment of distributions (952,611 and 1,022,942 shares, respectively)	<u>\$16,260,113</u>	<u>\$17,758,954</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in net assets	<u>\$58,929,216</u>	<u>(\$32,016,909)</u>
NET ASSETS:		
Beginning of year	<u>385,100,663</u>	<u>417,117,572</u>
End of year	<u>\$444,029,879</u>	<u>\$385,100,663</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Purchases of portfolio securities	(\$455,826,386)
Options written	14,200
Net maturities of short-term investments	20,999,473
Sales of portfolio securities	456,271,332
Interest income received	168,189
Dividends received	928,133
Operating expenses paid	<u>(6,248,815)</u>
Net cash provided from operating activities	<u>\$16,306,126</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Cash distributions paid	<u>(\$16,305,513)</u>
Net cash used for financing activities	<u>(\$16,305,513)</u>
NET INCREASE IN CASH	\$613
CASH AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	<u>781</u>
CASH AT END OF PERIOD	<u><u>\$1,394</u></u>

RECONCILIATION OF NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS TO NET CASH PROVIDED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	\$75,234,729
Purchases of portfolio securities	(455,826,386)
Net maturities of short-term investments	20,999,473
Sales of portfolio securities	456,271,332
Accretion of discount on short-term investments	(1,074,511)
Net realized gain on investments and options	(37,126,911)
Increase in net unrealized gain on investments, options and foreign currency	(42,202,906)
Increase in dividends and interest receivable	(3,089)
Increase in options written	14,200
Increase in accrued expenses	29,563
Increase in prepaid expenses	<u>(9,368)</u>
Net cash provided from operating activities	<u><u>\$16,306,126</u></u>

Noncash financing activities not included herein consist of reinvested distributions to shareholders of \$16,260,113.

Noncash operating activities not included herein consist of three conversions of restricted preferred stock with a total cost of \$4,993,162 to common stock of the same issuer.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(Selected data for each share of beneficial interest outstanding throughout the period indicated)

	For the year ended September 30,				
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Net asset value per share:					
Beginning of Year	<u>\$17.31</u>	<u>\$19.65</u>	<u>\$18.12</u>	<u>\$19.63</u>	<u>\$18.16</u>
Net investment loss ⁽¹⁾	(\$0.18)	(\$0.13) ⁽²⁾	(\$0.21)	(\$0.28)	(\$0.23)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	<u>3.45</u>	<u>(0.60)</u>	<u>3.18</u>	<u>0.57</u>	<u>3.87</u>
Total increase (decrease) from investment operations	<u>\$3.27</u>	<u>(\$0.73)</u>	<u>\$2.97</u>	<u>\$0.29</u>	<u>\$3.64</u>
Capital gain distributions to shareholders	<u>(\$1.44)</u>	<u>(\$1.61)</u>	<u>(\$1.44)</u>	<u>(\$1.80)</u>	<u>(\$2.17)</u>
Net asset value per share:					
End of Year	<u>\$19.14</u>	<u>\$17.31</u>	<u>\$19.65</u>	<u>\$18.12</u>	<u>\$19.63</u>
Per share market value:					
End of Year	\$17.30	\$16.74	\$18.64	\$18.11	\$17.66
Total investment return at market value	12.34%	(1.58%)	11.56%	12.99%	43.49%

RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

Net Assets, end of year	\$444,029,879	\$385,100,663	\$417,117,572	\$369,303,076	\$286,754,854
Ratio of operating expenses to average net assets	1.52%	1.54%	1.56%	1.63%	1.65%
Ratio of net investment loss to average net assets	(1.00%)	(0.73%) ⁽²⁾	(1.17%)	(1.42%)	(1.27%)
Portfolio turnover rate	115.77%	63.78%	92.68%	33.65%	32.80%
Number of shares outstanding at end of year	23,202,594	22,249,983	21,227,041	20,380,445	14,608,952

(1) Net investment loss per share has been computed using average shares outstanding.

(2) Includes a special dividend from an issuer in the amount of \$0.08 per share. Excluding the special dividend, the ratio of net investment loss to average net assets would have been (1.14%).

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2007

(1) *Organization*

H&Q Healthcare Investors (the Fund) is a Massachusetts business trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 as a diversified closed-end management investment company. The Fund's investment objective is long-term capital appreciation through investment in companies in the healthcare industry. This is a broad mandate and includes all companies that the Investment Adviser determines to be healthcare related. The Fund invests primarily in securities of public and private companies that are believed to have significant potential for above-average growth. The Fund was organized on October 31, 1986 and commenced operations on April 22, 1987.

(2) *Significant Accounting Policies*

The preparation of these financial statements requires the use of certain estimates by management in determining the entity's assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. Actual results could differ from these estimates. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund, which are in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In June 2006, Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – an interpretation of FASB Statement 109 (FIN 48), was issued and is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. FIN 48 sets forth a threshold for financial statement recognition, measurement and disclosure of a tax position taken or expected to be taken on a tax return.

In September 2006, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS 157), was issued and is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (SFAS No. 159), which is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. Early adoption is permitted as of the beginning of a fiscal year that begins on or before November 15, 2007, provided the entity also elects to apply the provision of SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements. SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value. SFAS 159 also establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities.

Management is currently evaluating the impact, if any, that these pronouncements may have on the Fund's financial statements.

Investment Valuation

Investments traded on national securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter market that are National Market System securities are valued at the last sale price or, lacking any sales, at the mean between the last bid and asked prices. Other over-the-counter securities are valued at the most recent bid prices as obtained from one or more dealers that make markets in the securities. Publicly traded investments for which market quotations are not readily available or whose quoted price may otherwise not reflect fair value are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Trustees of the Fund. The fair value of venture capital and other

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

restricted securities is determined in good faith by the Trustees. However, because of the uncertainty of fair valuations these estimated values may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market for the securities existed, and the differences could be material. Each such fair value determination is based on a consideration of relevant factors. Factors the Trustees consider may include (i) the existence of any contractual restrictions on the disposition of securities; (ii) information obtained from the issuer which may include an analysis of the company's financial statements, the company's products or intended markets or the company's technologies; and (iii) the price of a security negotiated at arm's length in an issuer's completed subsequent round of financing. See note 3 below. Short-term investments with maturity of 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost.

Changes in Investment Policies

At the July 20, 2007 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, shareholders approved (i) the elimination of the restriction that prohibits the Fund from purchasing more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any one issuer (the 10% Restriction) and (ii) the amendment to the fundamental investment restriction on securities lending to increase the percentage of portfolio securities that may be on loan from 20% to 33% of the Fund's net assets. For more information regarding these amendments, reference is made to the Fund's proxy statement dated May 16, 2007, which is available on the Fund's website and on the SEC's website at <http://sec.gov>.

The Board of Trustees of the Fund has eliminated the non-fundamental policy restricting the Fund from investing for control (the Control Restriction) in order to enhance the Fund's ability to take advantage of investment opportunities and achieve its investment objective. The Board expects that the elimination of the Control Restriction will not have a significant effect upon the Fund's investment management and practices (by itself or together with the elimination of the 10% Restriction described above). The Fund may now make investments in any company with the objective of controlling or influencing the management and policies of a company, which could potentially make the Fund less diversified and more susceptible to declines in the value of the company's stock. The Adviser expects to seek a control position in private venture capital investments only when the Adviser believes that its knowledge and experience will be of significant benefit to the portfolio company. The Adviser expects to seek control in public companies only occasionally and most often in companies with a small market capitalization. The Fund will continue to operate as a diversified investment company in compliance with the 1940 Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

The Board has also eliminated the non-fundamental investment restriction prohibiting the Fund from investment in put or call options. Following is a discussion of put and call options and the potential use of such instruments in the Fund's investment strategy.

Options on Securities

The Fund may purchase and sell (or write) put or call options on any security in which it is permitted to invest or on any security the change in value of which has a correlation with the changes in value of the Fund's portfolio securities.

Purchasing Put and Call Options. By purchasing a call option on a security, the Fund will obtain the right to buy the securities underlying the option from its counterparty at a specified exercise price prior to or at the expiration of the option. The Fund would normally purchase call options in anticipation of an increase in the price of the security. Conversely, when the

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

Fund purchases a put option on a security, the option gives the Fund the right to sell the securities underlying the option to its counterparty at the exercise price prior to or at the expiration of the option. The Fund would normally purchase put options in anticipation of a decline in the market value of securities in its portfolio (or which the Fund intends to or has the right to acquire).

In case of either put or call options that it has purchased, if the option expires without being sold or exercised, the Fund will experience a loss in the amount of the option premium plus any related commissions.

Writing Put and Call Options. When the Fund sells (writes) put and call options, it receives a premium as the writer of the option. By selling (writing) a call option, the Fund will obligate itself to sell the securities underlying the option to its counterparty at the specified exercise price prior to or at the expiration of the option if it is assigned an exercise notice. If the price of the underlying securities at expiration of the option is below the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium. That amount, less the commission paid for the option, provides a partial hedge against any decline that may have occurred in the Fund's portfolio securities. During the term of the option, however, a covered call writer has, in return for the premium on the option, given up the opportunity for capital appreciation above the exercise price of the option if the value of the underlying securities increases, but has retained the risk of loss should the price of the underlying security decline. Conversely, by selling (writing) a put option, the Fund obligates itself to buy the securities underlying the option from its counterparty at the exercise price prior to or at the expiration if it is assigned an exercise notice. Writing a put option constitutes a partial hedge against increasing prices of securities the Fund intends to purchase. If the price of the securities at the expiration of the option is higher than the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium which provides a partial hedge against any increase in the price of securities which the Fund intends to purchase. A secured put writer, however, retains the risk of loss should the market value of the underlying security decline below the exercise price of the option, less the premium received on the sale of the option.

Closing Purchase or Sale Transactions. Prior to exercise or expiration, an option position can be terminated only by entering into a closing purchase or sale transaction. Closing purchase transactions are ordinarily effected to realize a profit on an outstanding call option, to prevent an underlying security from being called, to permit the sale of an underlying security or to enable another call option on the underlying security (with either a different exercise price or expiration date or both) to be written. If the Fund is not able to enter into a closing transaction or an offsetting position, it will be required to maintain the securities subject to the call, or the collateral underlying the put, even though it might not be advantageous to do so, until a closing transaction can be entered into or the option is exercised or expires.

The Fund's ability to close out its position as a writer of an option is dependent upon the existence of a liquid secondary market. There is no assurance that a liquid market will exist, particularly in the case of over-the-counter ("OTC") options, as OTC options will generally be closed out only by entering into a closing transaction with a dealer. In the case of OTC options, the Fund is also subject to the credit risk associated with its counterparties.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

Stock Index Options. The Fund may purchase and sell (write) options on stock indices (“index options”). Index options are similar to options on securities except that, rather than taking or making delivery of securities underlying the option at a specified price upon exercise, an index option gives the holder the right to receive cash upon exercise of the option if the level of the stock index upon which the option is based is greater, in the case of a call, or less, in the case of a put, than the exercise price of the option.

The Fund will enter into transactions in index options to hedge against adverse price movements in the stock market generally or in particular market segments. If the Investment Adviser anticipates a general market decline, the Fund could purchase a stock index put option. If the expected market decline materialized, the resulting decrease in the value of the Fund’s portfolio securities would be offset to the extent of the increase in the value of the put option. If the Investment Adviser anticipates a market rise, the Fund may purchase a stock index call option to enable the Fund to participate in the rise until the Fund completes anticipated purchases of securities. Purchasing and selling stock index options may also enable the Investment Adviser to achieve changes in equity positions more efficiently.

Stock index options involve risks similar to those associated with options on securities. Because exercises of stock index options are settled in cash, however, call writers such as the Fund cannot provide in advance for their potential settlement obligations by acquiring and holding the underlying securities.

Coverage Requirements. All options on securities and securities indices written by the Fund are required to be covered. When the Fund writes a call option, this means that during the life of the option the Fund may own or have the contractual right to acquire the securities subject to the option or may maintain with the Fund’s custodian in a segregated account cash, U.S. Government Securities or other appropriate high quality liquid debt obligations or other liquid securities in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities underlying the option or may utilize any other instrument or transaction consistent with SEC guidelines. When the Fund writes a put option, this means that the Fund may maintain with the Fund’s custodian in a segregated account cash, U.S. Government Securities or other appropriate high quality debt obligations or other liquid securities in an amount at least equal to the exercise price of the option or may utilize any other instrument or transaction consistent with SEC guidelines.

Transactions in call options written for the year ended September 30, 2007 were as follows:

	<u>Contracts</u>	<u>Premiums</u>
Options outstanding, September 30, 2006	—	\$—
Options written	2,079	313,690
Options terminated in closing purchase transactions	(1,832)	(242,447)
Options exercised	<u>(105)</u>	<u>(41,684)</u>
Options outstanding, September 30, 2007	<u>142</u>	<u>\$29,559</u>

Investment Transactions and Income

Investment transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Gains and losses from sales of investments are recorded using the “identified cost” method. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis, adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

The aggregate cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investment securities (other than short-term investments) for the year ended September 30, 2007 totaled \$452,987,352 and \$451,685,793 respectively.

Repurchase Agreements

In managing short-term investments the Fund may from time to time enter into transactions in repurchase agreements. In a repurchase agreement, the Fund's custodian takes possession of the underlying collateral securities, the market value of which is at least equal to the principal, including accrued interest, of the repurchase transaction at all times. In the event of default or bankruptcy by the other party to the agreement, realization and/or retention of the collateral by the Fund may be delayed or limited.

Distribution Policy

Distributions will automatically be paid in newly issued shares of the Fund unless otherwise instructed by the shareholder. Pursuant to an SEC exemptive order, the Fund has implemented a fixed distribution policy that permits the Fund to make quarterly distributions at a rate of 2% of the Fund's net assets to shareholders of record. The Fund intends to use net realized capital gains when making quarterly distributions. This could result in a return of capital to shareholders if the amount of the distribution exceeds the Fund's net investment income and realized capital gains. It is anticipated that net realized capital gains in excess of the total distributed under this policy would be included in the December distribution. The Fund's distribution policy has been established by the Board of Trustees. The distribution policy may be changed by the Board of Trustees without Shareholder approval.

The current distribution policy is to declare distributions in stock. Distributions will automatically be paid in newly-issued full shares of the Fund plus cash in lieu of any fraction of a share, unless otherwise instructed by the shareholder. The Fund's transfer agent delivers an election card and instructions to each registered shareholder in connection with each distribution. For shareholders other than registered shareholders with book entry accounts at the Fund's transfer agent, fractional shares will generally be settled in cash. The number of shares issued will be determined by dividing the dollar amount of the distribution by the lower of net asset value or market price on the pricing date. If a shareholder elects to receive a distribution in cash, rather than in shares, the shareholder's relative ownership in the Fund will be reduced. The shares will be valued at the lower of the net asset value or market price on the pricing date. Distributions in stock will not relieve shareholders of any federal, state or local income taxes that may be payable on such distributions.

Federal Taxes

It is the Fund's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute to its shareholders substantially all of its taxable income and its net realized capital gains, if any. Therefore, no Federal income or excise tax provision is required.

Distributions

The Fund records all distributions to shareholders from net investment income, if any, and realized gains on the ex-dividend date. Such distributions are determined in conformity with income tax regulations. Due to permanent book/tax differences in accounting for certain

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

transactions, certain distributions may be treated as distributions from capital as opposed to distributions of net investment income or realized capital gains.

At September 30, 2007, the cost and related gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation are as follows:

Cost of investments for tax purposes	\$380,540,732
Gross tax unrealized appreciation	\$100,558,203
Gross tax unrealized depreciation	\$ 36,568,476
Net tax unrealized appreciation on investments	\$ 63,989,727

As of September 30, 2007, the components of distributable earnings on a tax basis were as follows:

Long-term capital gain	\$ 6,058,398
Net unrealized appreciation	\$ 64,005,224

The tax character of distributions paid during the years ended September 30, 2007 and September 30, 2006 were as follows:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Distributions paid from Ordinary income	—	—
Long-term capital gain	\$32,565,626	\$34,763,087

Net realized gains and losses may differ for financial and tax reporting purposes primarily as a result of the deferral of losses relating to wash sale transactions.

Pursuant to Section 852 of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund has designated \$32,565,626 as long-term capital gain distributions for its taxable year ended September 30, 2007.

Statement of Cash Flows

The cash amount shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is the amount included in the Fund's Statement of Assets and Liabilities and represents cash on hand at its custodian and does not include short-term investments at September 30, 2007.

Indemnifications

Under the Fund's organizational documents, its officers and Trustees may be indemnified against certain liabilities and expenses arising out of the performance of their duties to the Fund. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Fund enters into agreements with service providers that may contain indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these agreements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet occurred. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

(3) Investment Advisory Fees and Other Transactions with Affiliates

The Fund has entered into an Investment Advisory Agreement (the Advisory Agreement) with Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management LLC (the Adviser). Pursuant to the terms of the Advisory Agreement, the Fund pays the Adviser a monthly fee at the rate when annualized of (i) 2.5% of the average net assets for the month of its venture capital and other restricted securities up to 25% of net assets and (ii) for the month, for all other assets, 0.98% of the average net assets up to \$250 million, 0.88% of the average net assets for the next \$250 million, 0.8% of the average net assets for the next \$500 million and 0.7% of the average net assets thereafter. The aggregate fee may not exceed a rate when annualized of 1.375%. Prior to

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

July 1, 2006, the Fund paid a monthly fee at the rate when annualized of (i) 2.5% of the average net assets for the month of its venture capital and other restricted securities up to 25% of net assets and (ii) for the month, for all other assets, 1.0% of the average net assets up to \$250 million, 0.9% of the average net assets for the next \$250 million, 0.8% of the average net assets for the next \$500 million and 0.7% of the average net assets thereafter. The aggregate fee could not exceed a rate when annualized of 1.375%.

The Fund has entered into a Services Agreement (the Agreement) with the Adviser. Pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, the Fund reimburses the Adviser for certain services related to a portion of the payment of salary and provision of benefits to the Fund's Chief Compliance Officer. During the year ended September 30, 2007 these payments amounted to \$110,531 and are included in the "other" category in the Statement of Operations together with insurance expenses of \$85,307 incurred to unaffiliated entities. Such expenses are the major components of "other" in the Statement of Operations. Expenses incurred pursuant to the Agreement as well as certain expenses paid for by the Adviser are allocated in an equitable fashion as approved by the Board to the Fund.

Certain officers and Trustees of the Fund are also officers of the Adviser. Trustees who are not affiliates of the Adviser receive an annual fee of \$20,000 plus \$500 for each Committee on which they serve and \$500 for each meeting attended.

An affiliate company is a company in which the Fund holds 5% or more of the voting securities. Transactions with such companies during the year ended September 30, 2007 were as follows:

Issuer	Value on October 1, 2006	Purchases	Sales (b)	Income	Value on September 30, 2007
Agilix Corporation	\$ 141,809	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 141,809
CardioNet, Inc. (a)	5,844,332	928,807	324,328	3,774	6,474,385
Concentric Medical, Inc.	10,192,176	—	—	—	10,192,176
CytoLogix Corporation	755,703	—	168,337	—	527,247
Medwave, Inc.	1,136,255	—	—	—	35,287
PHT Corporation	5,139,506	—	—	—	5,139,506
	<u>\$23,209,781</u>	<u>\$928,807</u>	<u>\$492,665</u>	<u>\$ 3,774</u>	<u>\$22,510,410</u>

(a) As of September 30, 2007 CardioNet, Inc. is no longer an affiliate.

(b) Sales of affiliates represent paydowns of convertible notes.

(4) *Venture Capital and Other Restricted Securities*

The Fund may invest in venture capital and other restricted securities if these securities would currently comprise 40% or less of net assets. The value of these securities represents 17% of the Fund's net assets at September 30, 2007.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

The following table details the acquisition date, cost, carrying value per unit, and value of the Fund's venture capital and other restricted securities at September 30, 2007, as determined by the Trustees of the Fund. The Fund on its own does not have the right to demand that such securities be registered.

Security ^(a)	Acquisition Date	Cost	Carrying Value per Unit	Value
Agensys, Inc.				
Series C Cvt. Pfd.	2/14/02, 9/27/05	\$3,307,024	\$3.60	\$4,022,572
Series D Cvt. Pfd.	6/28/07	716,665	3.60	716,260
Agilix Corporation				
Series B Cvt. Pfd.	11/8/01	2,495,500	0.06	141,809
Athersys, Inc.				
Restricted Common	6/7/07	2,366,693	5.00	2,360,000
Warrants (expiration 6/08/12)	6/7/07	0	0.00	0
Aveta, Inc.				
Restricted Common	12/21/05	3,003,525	10.00	2,222,220
CardioNet, Inc.				
Series C Cvt. Pfd.	5/3/01 - 3/25/03	5,552,574	3.50	5,520,004
Mandatorily Cvt. Pfd.	8/15/05 - 3/7/07	930,061	1,028.43	954,381
Warrants (expiration 5/01/11)	5/1/06	0	0.00	0
Warrants (expiration 8/29/11)	8/29/06	0	0.00	0
Ceres, Inc.				
Series C Cvt. Pfd.	12/23/98	1,502,732	6.50	2,437,500
Series C-1 Cvt. Pfd.	3/31/01	111,508	6.50	209,255
Series D Cvt. Pfd.	3/14/01	1,668,294	6.50	1,820,682
Series F Cvt. Pfd.	9/5/07	265,499	6.50	265,499
Warrants (expiration 9/05/15)	9/5/07	0	0.00	0
Concentric Medical, Inc.				
Series B Cvt. Pfd.	5/7/02, 1/24/03	3,329,510	1.40	6,794,116
Series C Cvt. Pfd.	12/19/03	1,500,000	1.40	2,441,860
Series D Cvt. Pfd.	9/30/05	957,768	1.40	956,200
CytoLogix Corporation				
Series A Cvt. Pfd.	1/13/98-7/21/99	1,623,851	0.01	4,848
Series B Cvt. Pfd.	1/11/01	761,240	2.30	522,399
Dako A/S				
Restricted Common	6/14/04, 2/16/07	1,306,894	24.07	1,100,456
EPR, Inc.				
Series A Cvt. Pfd.	3/9/94	1,000,409	0.01	2,222
FlowCardia, Inc.				
Series C Cvt. Pfd.	8/29/07	2,458,333	1.07	2,458,333
I-trax, Inc.				
Series A Cvt. Pfd.	3/18/04	4,003,650	45.57	7,290,959
Labcyte, Inc.				
Series C Cvt. Pfd.	7/18/05	1,923,506	0.52	1,920,000
Magellan Biosciences, Inc.				
Series A Cvt.	11/28/06	2,953,810	1.00	2,950,000
Masimo Corporation				
Restricted Common	8/14/96	1,120,657	21.81	10,469,280

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

Security ^(g)	Acquisition Date	Cost	Carrying Value per Unit	Value
Masimo Laboratories, Inc. Restricted Common	3/31/98	\$0	\$0.01	\$1,600
OmniSonic Medical Technologies, Inc.				
Series A-1 Cvt. Pfd.	10/1/03	1,800,514	0.76	1,171,827
Series B-1 Cvt. Pfd.	6/4/07	482,433	0.76	478,083
Common	5/24/01	2,409,033	0.01	930
PHT Corporation				
Series D Cvt. Pfd.	7/23/01	4,205,754	0.78	4,200,000
Series E Cvt. Pfd.	9/12/03 - 10/14/04	941,669	0.78	939,506
Raven biotechnologies, Inc.				
Series B Cvt. Pfd.	12/12/00	3,001,725	0.21	377,273
Series C Cvt. Pfd.	11/26/02	2,331,600	0.21	582,900
Series D Cvt. Pfd.	6/23/05	1,205,415	0.07	300,102
Songbird Hearing, Inc. Restricted Common	12/14/00	3,004,861	0.67	139
Syntiro Healthcare Services Restricted Common	2/5/97	1,200,325	0.001	306
TargeGen, Inc.				
Series C Cvt. Pfd.	8/30/05	2,763,495	1.30	2,760,000
Series D Cvt. Pfd.	5/8/07	764,407	1.30	762,932
TherOx, Inc.				
Series H Cvt. Pfd.	9/11/00	3,002,506	3.86	251,803
Series I Cvt. Pfd.	7/8/05	579,407	3.86	577,100
Warrants (expiration 1/26/10)	1/26/05	0	0.00	0
Warrants (expiration 6/09/09)	6/9/04	0	0.00	0
Xanthus Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Series B Cvt. Pfd.	12/5/03 - 11/15/06	4,004,952	1.00	4,001,078
Xoft Series D	3/23/07	2,958,518	3.20	2,950,000
Zyomyx, Inc.				
Series A New Cvt. Pfd.	1/12/04	299,700	0.10	30,000
Series B New Cvt. Pfd.	2/19/99, 1/12/04	468	0.10	30
New Restricted Common	2/19/99 - 7/22/04	3,602,065	0.01	3,000
		<u>\$83,418,550</u>		<u>\$76,969,464</u>

(g) See Schedule of Investments and corresponding footnotes for more information on each issuer.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(continued)

(5) Sources of Net Assets

The changes in the sources of net assets for the period from October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007 are as follows:

	Capital Paid in on Shares of Beneficial Interest	Accumulated Net Investment Loss	Accumulated Net Realized Gain on Investments	Net Unrealized Gain on Investments	Total Net Assets
As of October 1, 2006:	\$358,700,570	\$ 0	\$ 289,516	\$ 26,110,577	\$385,100,663
For the period from October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007:					
Net investment loss		(4,095,088)			(4,095,088)
Net realized gains			37,126,911		37,126,911
Distributions			(32,565,626)		(32,565,626)
Value of shares issued in reinvestment of dividends	16,260,113				16,260,113
Increase in net unrealized gain on investments				42,202,906	42,202,906
Reclassification for Federal income purposes	(994,427)	4,095,088	(3,100,661)	—	—
As of September 30, 2007:	<u>\$373,966,256</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 1,750,140</u>	<u>\$ 68,313,483</u>	<u>\$444,029,879</u>

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Trustees and Shareholders of H&Q Healthcare Investors:

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of H&Q Healthcare Investors (the "Fund"), including the schedule of investments, as of September 30, 2007, and the related statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and financial highlights for each of the four years in the period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits. The financial highlights for the year ended September 30, 2003 were audited by other auditors whose report, dated November 23, 2003, expressed an unqualified opinion on the financial highlights.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. The Fund is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of September 30, 2007, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of H&Q Healthcare Investors as of September 30, 2007, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the four years in the period then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP
Boston, Massachusetts
November 16, 2007

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

TRUSTEES

H & Q Healthcare Investors
30 Rowes Wharf, Suite 430
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
(617) 772-8500

Name, Address¹ and Date of Birth	Position(s) Held with Fund, Term of Office² and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years and Other Directorships Held	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee
Independent Trustees:			
Rakesh K. Jain, Ph.D. 12/1950	Trustee (since July 2007)	Director of Steele Lab, Department of Radiation Oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital (since 1991); A.W. Cook Professor of Radiation Oncology at Harvard Medical School (since 1991); Ad hoc Consultant/Scientific Advisory Board Member for pharmaceutical/biotechnology companies (various times since 2002); Ad hoc Consultant for Gershon Lehman Group (since 2004); Advisory Committee Member of Department of Biotechnology, Government of India (since 2004).	2
Lawrence S. Lewin 4/1938	Trustee (since 1987) and Chairman (since 2000)	Executive Consultant (since 1999) of the Lewin Group (healthcare public policy and management consulting); Director of Medco Health Solutions, Inc. (since 2003); Director of CardioNet, Inc. (since 2001); Director of Care Fusion (solutions for patient care providers, 2005-2006); and Director of Intermountain Healthcare (non-profit organization, since 1984).	2
Robert P. Mack 8/1935	Trustee (since 1991)	Orthopedic Surgeon at Orthopedic Associates of Aspen (since 2000).	2
Eric Oddleifson 4/1935	Trustee (since 1992)	Self-employed Consultant (since 2005); Investment Committee Chair (from 2003-2005) and Partner (from 1997-2003) of GMO Renewable Resources LLC (timber investment management).	2

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

TRUSTEES

(continued)

Name, Address¹ and Date of Birth	Position(s) Held with Fund, Term of Office² and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years and Other Directorships Held	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee
Independent Trustees:			
Oleg M. Pohotsky 3/1947	Trustee (since 2000)	Self-employed Financial Consultant (since 2002).	2
Uwe E. Reinhardt, Ph.D. 9/1937	Trustee (since 1988)	Professor of Economics at Princeton University (since 1968); Director of Triad Hospitals, Inc. (since 2000); Director of Duke University (since 2001); Director of The Duke University Health System (since 2001); Director of Boston Scientific (since 2002); Director of Amerigroup, Inc. (since 2002); and Director of the National Bureau of Economic Research (since 2002).	2
Lucinda H. Stebbins, CPA 11/1945	Trustee (since 2006)	Self-employed Financial Consultant (since 2004); Director of Deutsche Asset Management (from 2002-2004); Senior Vice President of Scudder Investments (from 2000-2002).	2
Interested Trustees:			
Daniel R. Omstead, ³ Ph.D. 7/1953	President (since 2001); Trustee (since 2003)	President of HQH and of HQL (since 2001); Trustee of HQH and HQL (since 2003); President, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Member of Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management LLC (since 2002); President and Chief Executive Officer (from 2001 to 2002) and Managing Director (from 2000 to 2002) of Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management Inc.; Director of Concentric Medical, Inc. (since 2003); and Magellan Biosciences (since 2006).	2

¹ The address for each Trustee is c/o the Fund at the Fund's address as set forth above.

² Each Trustee currently is serving a three year term.

³ Trustee considered to be an "interested person" within the meaning of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") through position or affiliation with Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management LLC, the Fund's investment adviser.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

OFFICERS

Name, Address¹ and Date of Birth	Position(s) Held with Fund, Term of Office² and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
Officers:		
Daniel R. Omstead, Ph.D. 7/1953	President (since 2001); Trustee (since 2003)	President of HQT and of HQL (since 2001); Trustee of HQT and HQL (since 2003); President, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Member of Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management LLC (since 2002); President and Chief Executive Officer (from 2001 to 2002) and Managing Director (from 2000 to 2002) of Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management Inc.; Director of Concentric Medical, Inc. (since 2003); and Magellan Biosciences (since 2006).
Carolyn P. Haley, CPA, MS 7/1966	Chief Compliance Officer, Secretary and Treasurer (since July 2007)	Chief Compliance Officer of Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management LLC (since May 2007); Chief Compliance Officer, Secretary and Treasurer of HQT and HQL (since May 2007); Senior Manager of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (from 1998 to 2001 and 2003 to 2007).

¹ The address for each officer is c/o the Fund at the Fund's address as set forth above.

² Each officer serves in such capacity for an indefinite period of time at the pleasure of the Trustees.

The Fund's Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about the fund Directors and is available without charge, upon request by calling (617) 772-8500 or writing to Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management LLC at 30 Rowes Wharf, Boston, MA 02110-3328.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT APPROVAL

The Investment Advisory Agreement (Advisory Agreement) between the Fund and the Adviser provides that the Advisory Agreement will continue in effect so long as its continuance is approved at least annually by (i) by the Trustees of the Fund or the shareholders by affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares and (ii) a majority of the Trustees of the Fund who are not interested persons, by vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval.

On April 12, 2007, the Board, and the independent Trustees voting separately, determined that the terms of the Advisory Agreement are fair and reasonable and approved the continuance of the Advisory Agreement as being in the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders. In making its determination, the Board considered materials that were specifically prepared by the Adviser at the request of the Board and Fund counsel for purposes of the contract review process, including comparisons of (i) the Fund's performance to its benchmark and to other investment companies, (ii) the Fund's expenses and expense ratios to those of a peer group of other investment companies, and (iii) the Adviser's profitability with respect to its services for the Fund to the profitability of other investment managers, as described below. The Trustees took into account that the Adviser presently provides investment management services only to the Fund and to H&Q Life Sciences Investors and does not derive any benefit from its relationship with the Fund other than receipt of advisory fees pursuant to the Advisory Agreement. The Board also received and reviewed information throughout the year about portfolio performance, investment strategy, the portfolio management team and fees and expenses of the Fund.

In approving the Advisory Agreement, the Board considered, among other things, the nature, extent, and quality of the services to be provided by the Adviser, the investment performance of the Fund and the Adviser, the costs of services provided and profits realized by the Adviser and its affiliates, and whether fee levels reflected economies of scale for the benefit of Fund investors and the extent to which economies of scale would be realized as the Fund grows. The Board reviewed information about the foregoing factors and considered changes, if any, in such information since its previous approval. The Board also discussed the financial strength of the Adviser and the capability of the personnel of the Adviser, and specifically the strength and background of its investment analysts. The Board, together with its counsel, reviewed the statutory and regulatory requirements for approval and disclosure of investment advisory agreements. The Board, including the independent Trustees, evaluated all of the foregoing and, considering all factors together, determined in the exercise of its business judgment that the continuance of the Advisory Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders. The following provides more detail on certain factors considered by the Trustees and the Board's conclusions with respect to each such factor:

The nature, extent and quality of the services to be provided by the investment adviser. On a regular basis the Board considers the roles and responsibilities of the Adviser as a whole and for specific portfolio management, support and trading functions servicing the Fund. The Trustees considered the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser to the Fund and concluded that they continue to be satisfied with the quality and value of the investment advisory services provided to the Fund by the Adviser. In particular, the Trustees noted the management style and discipline followed by the Adviser and the quality of the Adviser's research, trading, portfolio management and administrative personnel.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT APPROVAL

(continued)

The investment performance of the Fund and Adviser. On a regular basis the Board reviews performance information on the Fund. The Trustees reviewed performance information for the Fund over the past three-month period and the one-, three-, five-, and ten-year periods ended March 28 and discussed the Fund's strategy with the Adviser and concluded that they continue to be satisfied with the performance of the Fund and the Adviser. In particular the Trustees noted that although during the periods under review the annualized returns of the Fund's stock price and net asset value fluctuated relative to the performance of its benchmark (the NBI), in most cases the Fund outperformed its benchmark.

The costs of services to be provided and profits to be realized by the investment adviser from the relationship with the Fund. The Trustees considered the various services provided by the Adviser to the Fund and comparative information regarding the expenses and expense ratios of the Fund and peer groups of other investment companies. The Trustees noted that the Adviser's fees are within the range of fees presented in the comparative information and noted that a portion of the Fund's investment portfolio is invested in venture and restricted securities, a portfolio management service which can command higher management fees than those charged by the Adviser pursuant to the investment advisory agreement. The Trustees also noted the satisfactory nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser to the Fund. Based on the information provided to and evaluated by the Trustees, the Board determined that the fees charged by the Adviser are within a reasonable range of fees as compared to fees charged by competitors and that the services provided by the Adviser and the amounts paid under the agreement are sufficiently favorable in comparison to the services rendered and fees charged by others for similar services to warrant a finding by the Trustees that the fees to be paid by the Fund are fair. The Trustees also considered financial information provided by the Adviser, including financial statements of the Adviser and a comparison of the Adviser's profitability with respect to its services for the Fund to the profitability of other investment managers based on publicly available information. After such review, the Trustees concluded that the fees charged by the Adviser are fair and reasonable in light of the quality and nature of the services provided by the Adviser and that the profitability of the Adviser's relationship with the Fund has not been excessive.

Whether fee levels reflect economies of scale and the extent to which economies of scale would be realized as the Fund grows. The Trustees noted that the investment advisory agreement provides for breakpoints in the advisory fees so that the Fund will share the benefits of the economies of scale that would inure to the Advisor as the Fund's assets increase. The Trustees considered the recent investment performance of the Fund and the management fees and breakpoints of other funds with similar objectives. The Trustees noted that the Adviser had made reductions to the fee schedule in 2006 to the levels described in financial statement footnote (2) and concluded that the current breakpoint schedule is satisfactory and fair given the asset size of the Fund, the investment strategies being pursued by the Adviser for the Fund and last year's adjustment to the management fee schedule.

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

CERTIFICATIONS

The Fund's President has certified to the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") that as of July 23, 2007, he was not aware of any violation by the Fund of applicable NYSE corporate governance listing standards. In addition, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and applicable Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") rules, the Fund's President and Treasurer made quarterly certifications during the fiscal year that were filed with the SEC as exhibits to Form N-CSR and Form N-Q filings and related to the Fund's disclosure in such reports, disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting, as required.

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

An Annual Meeting of Shareholders was held on June 21, 2007 and adjourned to July 20, 2007 in order to permit shareholders further time to respond to the solicitation of proxies. The description of each proposal and number of votes cast by shareholders are as follows:

1. To elect four Trustees of the Fund for a term of one to three years or until his respective successor shall have been duly elected and qualified. The Trustees were elected to serve until the 2010 Annual Meeting, except for Rakesh K. Jain, Ph.D. who was elected to serve until the 2008 Annual Meeting.

	<u>For</u>	<u>Withheld</u>
Rakesh K. Jain, Ph.D.	14,001,970	739,501
Robert P. Mack, M.D.	14,091,057	650,414
Eric Oddleifson	14,070,147	671,324
Oleg M. Pohotsky	13,956,276	785,195

Lucinda H. Stebbins, CPA will serve until the 2008 meeting. Trustees serving until the 2009 Annual Meeting are Lawrence S. Lewin, Uwe Reinhardt, Ph.D. and Daniel R. Omstead, Ph.D.

2. To ratify the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the independent registered public accountants of the Fund for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007.

<u>For</u>	14,279,474
<u>Against</u>	151,080
<u>Abstain</u>	310,917

3. To eliminate the Fund's fundamental investment restriction with respect to the percentage of the outstanding voting securities of any one issuer that the Fund may purchase.

<u>For</u>	10,432,319
<u>Against</u>	809,066
<u>Abstain</u>	509,846
<u>Non-Votes</u>	3,677,391

4. To amend the Fund's fundamental investment restriction with respect to the percentage of portfolio securities that may be on loan.

<u>For</u>	10,364,961
<u>Against</u>	867,907
<u>Abstain</u>	518,363
<u>Non-Votes</u>	3,677,391

H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

FOR MORE INFORMATION

A description of the Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures and information on how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30, is available (i) without charge, upon request by calling 1-800-451-2597; (ii) by writing to Hambrecht & Quist Capital management LLC at 30 Rowes Wharf, Boston, MA 02110-3328; (iii) on the Fund's website at www.hqcm.com; and (iv) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at www.sec.gov.

The Fund's complete Schedule of Investments for the first and third quarters of its fiscal year will be filed quarterly with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on Form N-Q. This Schedule of Investments will also be available on the Fund's website at www.hqcm.com, or the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. The Fund's Form N-Q may be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC or by calling 1-800-SEC-0330.

DISTRIBUTION POLICY

The Fund has a fixed distribution policy as described in the Notes to Financial Statements. For more information contact your financial adviser.

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H&Q HEALTHCARE INVESTORS

New York Stock Exchange Symbol: HQH

30 Rowes Wharf, 4th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-3328
(617) 772-8500
www.hqcm.com

Officers

Daniel R. Omstead, Ph.D., President
Carolyn P. Haley, CPA, MS, Secretary, Treasurer and
Chief Compliance Officer

Trustees

Rakesh K. Jain, Ph.D.
Lawrence S. Lewin
Robert P. Mack, M.D.
Eric Oddleifson
Daniel R. Omstead, Ph.D.
Oleg M. Pohotsky
Uwe E. Reinhardt, Ph.D.
Lucinda H. Stebbins, CPA

Investment Adviser

Hambrecht & Quist Capital Management, LLC

Administrator & Custodian

State Street Bank and Trust Company

Transfer Agent

Computershare Shareholder Services, Inc.

Legal Counsel

Dechert LLP

Shareholders with questions regarding share transfers may call

1-800-426-5523

Daily net asset value may be obtained from
our website (www.hqcm.com) or by calling

1-800-451-2597