

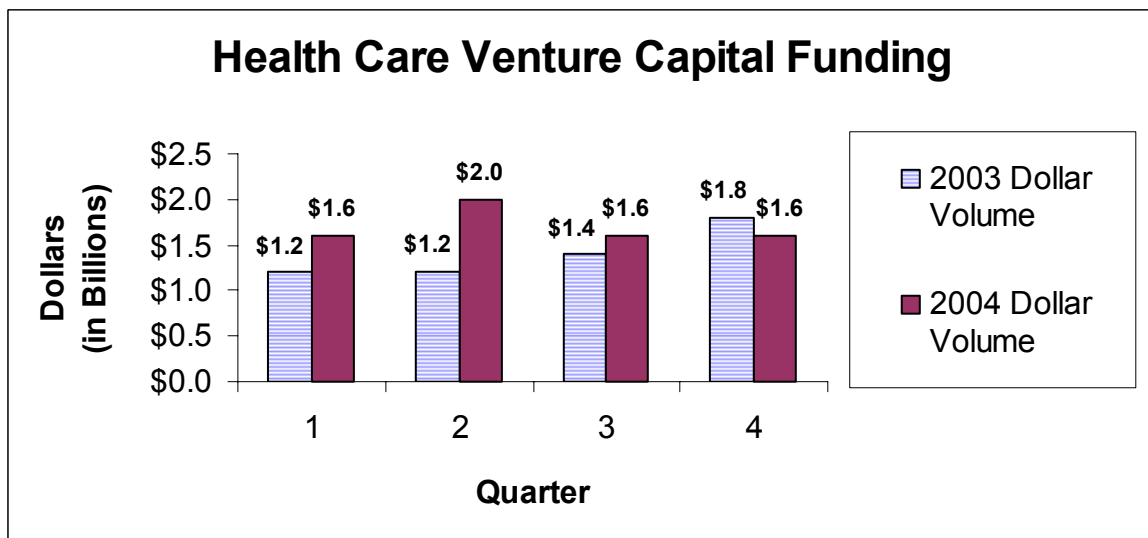
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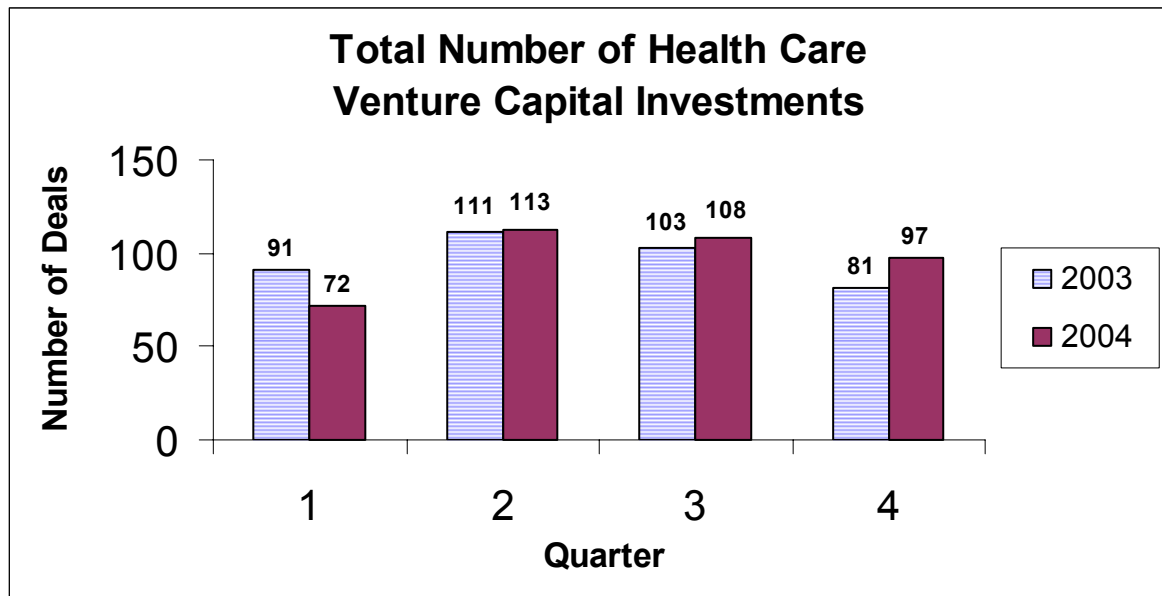
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**HEALTH CARE VENTURE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS INCREASED 23% IN 2004,
ACCORDING TO IRVING LEVIN ASSOCIATES, INC.**

NEW CANAAN, CT — January 6, 2005 — During the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2004, more than \$1.6 billion financed 97 publicly announced venture capital investments in health care companies, according to Irving Levin Associates, Inc. Preliminary figures indicate that for the year ended December 31, 2004, more than \$6.9 billion was channeled into a total of 390 venture capital transactions, representing a 23% increase in total dollars committed, compared with 2003, while deal volume was fairly level with the previous year. The most impressive quarter of 2004 was the second, with a total of more than \$2 billion in deals; activity was steady during the first, third and fourth quarters of 2004, each of which posted approximately \$1.6 billion in total dollars invested.



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Total deal volume increased by just 1% in the year ended December 31, 2004, compared with the previous year, but the two biggest deals of 2004 had higher price tags than the two largest deals done in 2003. Jazz Pharmaceuticals secured \$250 million in venture financing during the second quarter 2004, and managed care company Ion Health Holdings secured \$200 million during the fourth quarter 2004. The continuing trend in health care venture capital is primarily toward investments in biotechnology, biopharmaceutical, pharmaceutical and medical device companies. “Despite the recent problems with the large, publicly traded pharmaceutical stocks, venture capital funds continue to flow into the sector,” remarked the Managing Editor of Irving Levin Associates, Inc., Stephen M. Monroe.

The top 15 venture capital firms of the year contributed to at least 10 financings, and the most active, Burrill & Company, participated in 18 health care financings during 2004. Also very active in the health care

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markets during 2004 were 3i Group, Alta Partners and MPM Capital, each having contributed to 16 venture deals during the year, plus Oxford Bioscience, having invested in 15 venture rounds. The rankings below show venture capital firms (15) that were involved in 10 or more financings during the year ended 2004, and separately, those (10) that were involved in three or more deals during the quarter ended December 31, 2004.

<u>TOP 15 VENTURE INVESTORS, YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004</u>	
<i>Venture Capital Firm</i>	<i>Number of Investment s</i>
Burrill & Company	18
3i Group	16
Alta Partners	16
MPM Capital	16
Oxford Bioscience	15
TVM Techno Venture Management	14
Novartis Venture Fund	13
New Enterprise Associates	12
Novo A/S	12
Versant Ventures	12
Interwest Partners	11
MDS Capital	11
Schroder Ventures	11
Sofinnova Ventures	11
Prospect Venture Partners	10

<u>TOP 10 VENTURE INVESTORS, Q4: 04</u>	
<i>Venture Capital Firm</i>	<i>Number of Investments</i>
MPM Capital	7
3i Group	5
Burrill & Company	4
InterWest Partners	4
Novartis Ventures	4
Alta Partners	3
Novo A/S	3
Sofinnova Ventures	3
Versant Ventures	3
Vivo Ventures	3

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