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Weekly Newsletter

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AMB | Investment Banking

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Market Updates

[Medicare Advantage growth decelerates as insurers shed members for 2026](#)

Medicare Advantage growth continues to slow as health insurance giants pull back on the program, rattled by shrinking profits. Almost 35.5 million people were enrolled in the privatized Medicare programs as of February, compared with about 34.4 million people in the same month last year, according to new government data. That's growth of about 3%, a figure that pales in comparison to MA's historical growth, which could be as rapid as 10% annually. MA's expansion has decelerated in recent years as insurers retreat from the program, spooked by unfavorable regulatory changes and rising medical spending cutting into once sky-high profits.

[Employers introducing more family health benefits, but employees don't always recognize them, survey finds](#)

Employers are spending more on women's and family health, but that is not always being felt by employees, a new report finds. The Maven Clinic released its fifth annual State of Women's & Family Health Benefits report. Though employers reported a 39% average increase in women's and family health benefits offered year-over-year, the share of employees who felt their benefits support them "very well" dropped 10% on average.

[UHS eyes rising admissions targets this year despite headwinds](#)

For-profit hospital operator Universal Health Services expects to increase admissions and hit long-standing growth targets in its behavioral health unit this year, executives said on a fourth-quarter earnings call Thursday. Executives said 2026 would be the year its behavioral health unit achieved 2% to 3% growth in adjusted patient days — a number the system has struggled to hit as it tries to address lagging growth at its behavioral facilities.

Healthcare Operators

[DoseSpot, Arrive Health merge to combine prescribing tools with pharmacy, medical benefit data](#)

Healthcare technology companies DoseSpot and Arrive Health have merged to combine an electronic prescribing platform with medical and pharmacy benefits data to advance real-time medication price transparency for providers and patients. The new company, called Interra Health, combines Arrive Health's coverage and pricing network with DoseSpot's e-prescribing capabilities to support prescribing decisions and help patients access the right medication at the lowest cost, according to the companies. Bain Capital Tech Opportunities is backing the deal and will serve as majority owner.

[Honest Health raises \\$140 million to advance value-based care for health systems; NewSpring leads investment](#)

Honest Health announced on Thursday a \$140 million capital raise, led by NewSpring Healthcare, a sector-focused strategy of NewSpring dedicated to partnering with innovative healthcare companies. The investment reflects growing demand for Honest Health's health system-focused approach and its track record of helping organizations execute successfully in value-based payment models.

[Home care giant Dovida acquires A Place At Home, enters US market](#)

Dovida, which provides home care across six international markets, has entered the United States with the acquisition of A Place At Home. The Dovida brand launched in 2025, providing at-home care across Australia, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Switzerland. But expansion into North America was always of interest, with the United States being "the largest and most dynamic home care market" globally, Boyer told HHCN.

Healthcare Legislative and Legal Updates

[State Medicaid budgets to lose \\$664 billion under OBBBA: Study](#)

State Medicaid budgets will shrink by \$664 billion through 2034 as key provisions of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1) take effect, with impacts varying by state depending on expansion status, reliance on provider taxes and the use of state-directed payments, according to a RAND study published Feb. 26. Meanwhile, Medicaid managed care insurers have been flagging a mismatch between state capitation rates and enrollee acuity over the last couple of years following the pandemic-era continuous enrollment unwinding. The researchers noted that the actual impact on coverage and access will depend on state-level decisions.

[CMS unveils new initiatives aimed at cracking down on healthcare fraud](#)

The Trump administration announced late Wednesday new steps it says are designed to crack down on fraud. The new push, which comes just one day after President Donald Trump highlighted the White House's focus on fraudulent behavior across multiple social programs, includes three key prongs. In the first piece, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) said it would hold back \$259.5 million in Medicaid funding for the state of Minnesota.

[Insurance groups say proposed flat Medicare Advantage rates fail to meet the moment](#)

The Trump administration has proposed flat rates in Medicare Advantage (MA) for 2027, and insurers argue in new commentary that those levels do not reflect the realities of the program. The proposal includes a net payment rate increase of 0.09% in MA, meaning levels will be essentially flat if the plan becomes final. The proposed rule drew immediate ire from the industry, which is already navigating significant financial challenges in this market. Multiple leading players have elected to exit certain MA markets.

Transactions Overview

Select M&A Transactions from 02/09/2026 to 03/02/2026

Date	Target	Buyer/Investor	Description	Status	Healthcare Vertical
03/02/2026	DoseSpot / Arrive Health	DoseSpot / Arrive Health	Operator of an electronic prescribing platform with medical and pharmacy benefits data to advance real-time medication price transparency for providers and patients.	Announced	Digital Health: Pharmacy
02/25/2026	A Place At Home	Dovida	Provider of non-medical in-home senior care services including care coordination, specialized care programs, senior living alternatives, and staffing solutions for elderly individuals and their families.	Closed	HS: Home Care
02/25/2026	Huron Consulting Group (Health Care Valuation Services)	SullivanCotter	Provider of healthcare valuation services intended for regulatory needs.	Closed	HS: Consulting
02/25/2026	Damon Technology Solutions	Nexus IT	Provider of managed IT services with a focus on healthcare, based in AZ	Closed	HCIT: Provider Focused Solutions
02/25/2026	Autumn View Hospice	Uplift Hospice	Operator of a community focused hospice in GA.	Closed	HS: Hospice
02/24/2026	My Pediatric Doctor	QC Capital	Provider of pediatric telemedicine services offering 24/7 virtual access.	Closed	Digital Health: Pediatrics
02/24/2026	MedWell360	Zemantics Ventures	Provider of healthcare scheduling, coding, utilization management, and revenue cycle management services serving hospitals, health plans, managed care organizations.	Closed	HCIT: Other Payor Services

Based on publicly available information

The transactions featured in this week's newsletter represent a collection of notable deals, and unless stated otherwise, ambwealth was not involved in these transactions.

AMB at a Glance

AMB focuses on healthcare niches where consumerism and fragmentation meet to disrupt traditional healthcare channels. We are currently most active in the following segments:

Physician Practice Management

Physician Groups (i.e., Urology, Orthopedics, Podiatry), Practice Management Companies, At-Risk Providers

Health and Wellness

Addiction, Behavioral Health, Weight Management, Health and Beauty

Pharma Services

Regulatory, Medical Affairs, CROs, Pharmacovigilance, Marketing and Communications, Education, Contract development, Bioanalytics

Multisite Healthcare

Urgent Care, Primary Care Providers (PCP), Dental Support Organizations, Vision Services, Dermatology, and Related Retail Operators

Population Health

At-Risk Providers, Managed Care, Chronic Care Management, Social Determinants

HCIT

EMR & Practice Management, Revenue Cycle Management, Telehealth

Animal Health

Veterinary Services, Technology

Radiology

Physician Groups, Imaging Centers, Technology

Research

New sector insights each month

For our recent sector insights, click below

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