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Weekly Newsletter

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AMB | Investment Banking

677 King Street, Suite 410 | Charleston, SC 29403

www.ambwealth.com

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Market Updates

[At HIMSS26, Dr. Oz, CMS officials push agentic AI adoption. Are Medicare beneficiaries ready?](#)

As agentic artificial intelligence hits the mainstream—and messaging coming out this week demonstrates that it has—federal healthcare leaders are fully on board with moving quickly to put AI agents in the hands of patients. On Thursday, Mehmet Oz, M.D., administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), said the use of AI agents could expand access to care in underserved areas such as rural communities and could give patients and Medicare beneficiaries better control of their medical information and help them make healthcare decisions.

[AHA: Hospitals' total expenses rose by 7.5% in 2025](#)

Hospitals' total spending rose 7.5% last year amid patient volume increases, persistent wage pressure and a jump in drug spending, according to industrywide numbers shared by the AHA in its annual "Costs of Caring" report. The lobbying group's analysis, largely built on industry benchmark data from Strata Decision Technology and other sources, showed that the year-over-year total expense included a 5.6% increase in workforce spending, a 9.9% increase in supplies and a 13.6% bump in drug spending.

[CMS wants seniors to use AI for care navigation](#)

The CMS wants to deploy artificial intelligence tools to Medicare beneficiaries to help navigate their care, CMS officials said at the HIMSS conference Thursday. The agency is already using the technology to detect fraud. But the CMS also hopes to get the technology into patients' hands, both to assist seniors and to hopefully bring down rising healthcare spending, which continues to outpace the rest of the economy.

Healthcare Operators

[Universal Health Services, Inc. to Acquire Talkspace, Inc.](#)

Universal Health Services, Inc. (NYSE: UHS) announced today that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Talkspace, Inc. (NASDAQ: TALK) for \$5.25 per share. The enterprise value for the transaction is approximately \$835 million, which UHS intends to finance with borrowings pursuant to its existing revolving credit facility. Talkspace is a leading virtual behavioral healthcare company, with a network of approximately 6,000 licensed professionals that serve all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. As of December 31, 2025, Talkspace's services were available to more than 200 million individuals.

[BV Investment Partners takes majority stake in clinical data exchange platform Moxe Health](#)

Middle-market private equity firm BV Investment Partners has made a majority investment in Moxe Health, an EHR-neutral clinical data exchange platform. Piper Sandler served as the exclusive financial adviser. Moxe CEO Mike Coyne, CFO/COO Katie Mallett, and Founder Dan Wilson will partner with BV to accelerate network expansion, deepen embedded EHR relationships, and scale the technology.

[New Medicaid-focused doula provider Malama launches with \\$9.2 million](#)

Malama Health, a doula-led maternal care provider focused on Medicaid, has closed a \$9.2 million seed round. The oversubscribed round was led by Acumen America, a VC firm focused on health and economic justice, with participation from Wisdom Ventures, Capital F, Coyote Ventures and angel investors. It includes a \$2.3 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant and more than \$1 million in California state funding.

Healthcare Legislative and Legal Updates

[Developers stand to lose IT certification if found information blocking](#)

Ease of health data exchange is a top priority for the nation's health IT regulator, and the agency is taking steps to sanction companies that block the free flow of information, according to Dr. Thomas Keane, assistant secretary for technology policy and the national coordinator for health information technology. The ASTP/ONC is in the process of issuing notices of nonconformity to IT developers accused of information blocking who participate in the agency's health IT certification program, the first potential enforcement action in nearly a decade since Congress banned information blocking.

[The feds will overpay Medicare Advantage plans by \\$76 billion this year, MedPAC estimates](#)

The federal government will pay \$76 billion more for individuals enrolled in Medicare Advantage than it would have for enrollees in the traditional program, according to a new report. The advisory group said that favorable selection and coding intensity are the largest factors driving up payments in Medicare Advantage. In the former case, individuals with risk scores that overpredict what they'll spend on care enroll in an MA plan, and they generally cost less to cover than an individual in traditional Medicare.

[Lawmakers scrutinize payers: What it means for healthcare providers](#)

As lawmakers intensify scrutiny of the insurance industry, healthcare providers are watching closely. Large insurers have expanded beyond insurance into pharmacies, PBMs, and physician practices, raising serious questions about consolidation and accountability. While payers claim to champion affordability, providers continue to face eroding reimbursements and a growing prior authorization burden.

Transactions Overview

Select M&A Transactions from 03/09/2026 to 03/15/2026

| Date | Target | Buyer/Investor | Description | Status | Healthcare Vertical |
|------------|---------------------------------|---|--|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 03/12/2026 | Family First Homecare (Florida) | Aveanna Healthcare Holdings (NAS: AVAH) | Provider of home healthcare services for children with serious injuries, illnesses, disabilities, or chronic conditions. | Announced | HS: Home Care |
| 03/12/2026 | MedCare Express | AMKY Health CT | Provider of clinic and walk-in care services in the Greater Hartford area, including pediatrics, family care, women's care, occupational health, urgent care. | Closed | HS: Urgent Care |
| 3/11/2026 | A Caring Experience | HouseWorks Holdings, LLC | Provider of in-home personalized care and nurse staffing services across RI, specializing in home care. | Closed | HS: Staffing |
| 03/10/2026 | Spero Rehab | Intune Physical Therapy | Provider of physical therapy and occupational therapy, operating seven clinics across Texas, | Closed | HS: Physical Therapy |
| 3/10/2026 | Lilac Software, Inc. | Medisolv | Provider of healthcare quality data management, helping hospitals, health systems, and accountable care organizations manage clinical quality measurement and regulatory reporting | Closed | HCIT: Data Management |
| 03/10/2026 | Moxe | BV Investment Partners | Developer of a clinical data integration platform enabling health systems and health plans to exchange medical records and patient insights. | Closed | HCIT: Provider Solutions |
| 3/10/2026 | Ostro | Veeva Systems (NYS: VEEV) | Operator of a patient engagement and telemedicine platform streamlining the patient journey from consumer engagement to provider education. | Closed | HCIT: Provider Solutions |
| 03/09/2026 | Talkspace (NAS: TALK) | Universal Health Services (NYS: UHS) | Provider of behavioral healthcare services connecting individuals, health plans, and enterprises with licensed therapists, psychologists, and psychiatrists. | Announced | Digital Health: Behavioral Health |

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

[Learn More](#)

AMB
Investment Bank
229-225-1500
info@ambwealth.com

AMB Investment Banking | Key Contacts

Ryan Loehr, Managing Director
843-405-1108
ryan.loehr@ambadvisors.com

Mikel Parker, Managing Director
843-501-2183
mikel.parker@ambadvisors.com

Johnny Cross, Vice President
843-371-8596
johnny.cross@ambadvisors.com

