



# amb | investment banking

**Weekly Newsletter**

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**AMB | Investment Banking**

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## Market Updates

### [Break stuff: ten things the healthcare market is telling us in 2026](#)

Health Enterprise Partners' sixth annual executive survey identifies ten trends shaping healthcare in 2026, centered on a core tension: AI adoption is widespread, but true workflow redesign remains rare. Persistent cost pressures are forcing organizations to make structural moves — from narrowing MA networks to shifting capital toward ambulatory care settings like ASCs and specialty practices. Virtual care is also maturing, converging around high-impact use cases like behavioral health and care coordination rather than broad-based telehealth. Despite the turbulence, 86% of executives expect the pace of health IT company creation to accelerate.

### [1 in 3 adults use AI for health information: poll](#)

About one in three U.S. adults now use AI tools to access health information, with usage highest among younger adults. People commonly use AI for mental health support, symptom checking, and general medical guidance. Despite widespread use, many do not follow up with healthcare professionals after receiving AI-generated advice. Trust in the accuracy and reliability of AI health information remains limited for most users.

### [The future of quality in Medicare and Medicaid: Themes from the CMS Quality Conference](#)

Avalere Health's recap of the 2026 CMS Quality Conference highlights a decisive shift in federal quality strategy toward prevention-focused, digitally-enabled care — with CMS Administrator Dr. Mehmet Oz leading sessions alongside FDA and NIH leadership to emphasize a "bench-to-bedside" vision. Seven themes emerged, including whole-person care, real-time quality measurement powered by AI, streamlined value-based payment models, and faster innovation through CMMI.

## Healthcare Operators

### [Infosys to acquire Optimum Healthcare IT in \\$465 million deal](#)

Infosys is acquiring Optimum Healthcare IT in a \$465 million all-cash deal, expanding its healthcare technology presence. Optimum Healthcare IT specializes in digital transformation, IT services, and technology solutions for healthcare providers. The acquisition will enhance Infosys' capabilities in cloud computing, data analytics, and AI-driven healthcare solutions. It is part of Infosys' broader strategy to strengthen its position in the growing healthcare technology market. Infosys has also entered a definitive agreement to acquire technology solutions provider Stratus for \$95 million in an all-cash deal, per the SEC filing.

### [Cencora to buy EyeSouth's retina business for \\$1.1 billion](#)

Cencora is acquiring EyeSouth Partners' retina business for approximately \$1.1 billion, expanding its specialty healthcare portfolio. The acquisition will integrate EyeSouth's retina physicians into Cencora's Retina Consultants of America unit. This deal strengthens Cencora's presence in the ophthalmology and retina services market. The company expects the acquisition to close after its fiscal year ends on September 30 and to be slightly accretive to earnings.

### [Qualified Health raises \\$125 million to scale generative AI in health systems](#)

Qualified Health, a public benefit company providing AI evaluation and implementation in healthcare, announced a \$125 million Series B raise led by New Enterprise Associates. New investors Transformation Capital, GreatPoint Ventures, Cathay Innovation, Anthropic and Menlo Ventures' Anthology fund participated in the round, alongside existing investors SignalFire, Frist Cressey Ventures, Flare Capital Partners, Healthier Capital, Town Hall Ventures and Intermountain Ventures.

## Healthcare Legislative and Legal Updates

### [10 million could lose Medicaid due to work requirements, more frequent eligibility checks: study](#)

Between 5 million and 10 million people could lose Medicaid coverage in 2028 due to work requirements and more frequent eligibility checks mandated under the "Big Beautiful Bill" passed last year, according to an analysis by the Urban Institute and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Two million to 3.1 million enrollees could lose coverage because states will have to redetermine their eligibility every six months, instead of annually. And between 3 million and 7 million could lose Medicaid due to policies that require many beneficiaries to log work, education or volunteer hours to stay enrolled.

### [Trump team claims successes against ACA fraud while pushing for more controls](#)

Complaints about enrollment fraud in Affordable Care Act health insurance coverage have bedeviled the federal marketplace for years. Now, the Trump administration is claiming wins in reducing the problem while simultaneously saying more controls are needed. It has proposed a sweeping set of ACA regulations for next year, including stepped-up requirements for some applicants to prove eligibility for subsidies or enrollment and new scrutiny of sales agents and marketing practices.

### [Medicare banned for private equity-owned nursing homes under new bill](#)

A new bill proposes to bar nursing homes owned by private equity firms from receiving Medicare funding, targeting over 400 facilities currently under such ownership. Supporters argue the measure could improve quality and transparency in these care homes, addressing longstanding concerns about management practices. Critics, however, caution that it could disrupt access to care for residents who rely on Medicare-funded services.

# Transactions Overview

## Select M&A Transactions from 03/22/2026 to 03/29/2026

Date	Target	Buyer/Investor	Description	Status	Healthcare Vertical
03/27/2026	HealthTech Solutions (Consulting Services)	Health Management Associates	Operator of a healthcare platform and consulting firm offering project management, policy consulting, and technology tools to health systems.	Closed	HS: Consulting
03/26/2026	Pledge Health	Collectly	Developer of a patient billing platform that automates out-of-pocket cost estimation and payment collection for independent healthcare practices.	Closed	HCIT: RCM
03/25/2026	Optimum Healthcare	Infosys	IT is a healthcare technology and consulting firm that helps hospitals and health systems modernize clinical and operational systems.	Announced	HCIT: Consulting
03/25/2026	Terns Pharmaceuticals	Merck	Clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing small-molecule medicines for serious diseases.	Closed	Pharma
03/24/2026	Georgia Long Term Care and Consulting	HealthDrive	Provider of primary care, geriatric medicine, and medical directorship services to skilled nursing, and assisted living in GA.	Closed	HS: PAC - Hospice
03/24/2026	Efferent	Hopper OS	Developer of a cloud-based healthcare platform that connects and automates operational processes among providers, patients, hospitals, and suppliers.	Closed	HCIT: Provider Solutions
03/24/2026	Clairo Holdings	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Clinical trial data company that provides digital endpoint data solutions to pharmaceutical and biotech customers.	Closed	HCIT: Pharma
03/24/2026	Ramp Health	Vitality Group	Operator of a digital health and safety platform offering employers wellness services to support workforce health and productivity.	Closed	HS: Employer

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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