



SUMMARY OF PATIENT SERVICES	
IMMEDIATE CARE ROOM	\$6,950.09
LABORATORY SERVICES	\$10,017.00
EMERGENCY CARE SERVICES	\$8,715.00
PHARMACY	\$6,405.00
TOY CHARGES	\$6,063.00
	\$3,032.00
	\$1,795.35
<b>TOTAL CHARGES</b>	<b>\$36,027.35</b>

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## Weekly Newsletter

May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## Market Updates

### [CMS Announces Aggressive Nationwide Crackdown on Fraud with six-month hospice and home health moratoria](#)

CMS is implementing a six-month nationwide freeze on new Medicare enrollments for hospices and home health agencies to combat widespread fraud. During this period, they'll ramp up investigations, use data analytics, and remove providers suspected of fraud. Existing providers are unaffected and can continue serving patients. This follows a similar freeze already in place for certain medical equipment suppliers, making these among the most significant fraud prevention actions in CMS history. Recent efforts have already resulted in suspended payments to around 800 providers in Los Angeles alone, accounting for \$1.4 billion in Medicare spending.

### [The use of AI is expanding in hospital revenue cycles](#)

Thirty-seven percent of health systems are using generative AI within the revenue cycle, according to a new report. Additionally, 85% of those not yet using it are interested or very interested. Among large health systems, adoption is 48%, according to findings from the second annual 2026 State of Healthcare Affordability: The Provider Perspective report by PayZen. The survey of more than 200 healthcare revenue leaders was done in partnership with HFMA.

### [Physicians skeptical of insurer pledges to reform prior authorization: survey](#)

Physicians are broadly unconvinced that recent commitments from insurers to reform prior authorization will result in any meaningful difference to the practice, according to a new survey from the American Medical Association. The Trump administration last year secured voluntary pledges from major insurers to reform their prior authorization policies. But only 33% of 1,000 physicians surveyed by the powerful provider lobby said they believed those promises would make a meaningful difference for patients and physicians.

## Healthcare Operators

### [9amHealth raises \\$26 million to expand into chronic conditions driving the majority of employer pharmacy spend](#)

9amHealth, a leading virtual specialty care platform, today announced \$26 million in Series B funding led by Define Ventures, with new participation from SemperVirens VC, Catalio Capital Management, and NewHealth Ventures. After generating more than \$50 million in projected medical and pharmacy savings across two Fortune 100 employers, 9amHealth is expanding its AI-driven specialty care platform beyond cardiometabolic care to address the high-cost chronic conditions that account for up to 70% of employer spend. These conditions often require ongoing specialty medications, repeat interventions, and coordinated care.

### [Kinderhook finalizes acquisition of home health and hospice provider Enhabit](#)

On Friday Kinderhook Industries finalized its previously announced take-private buyout of Enhabit, a provider of home health and hospice care. Under terms of the deal, Enhabit shareholders received \$13.80 per share in cash, and the aggregate purchase price for all outstanding shares is approximately \$762 million, according to a regulatory filing (PDF) with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

### [Salesforce Ventures, Echo Health Ventures back Optura's \\$17.5 million series A to track AI performance](#)

Healthcare organizations are rapidly adopting artificial intelligence technologies but without a clear blueprint for how to measure the business value of these investments. The company landed a \$17.5 million series A round led by Salesforce Ventures, with participation from Echo Health Ventures and continued investment from Susa Ventures, Matrix Partners and HC9 Ventures. Optura has raised \$25 million to date. A year ago, the startup pocketed \$6.5 million in seed funding from Susa Ventures and Matrix Partners.

## Healthcare Legislative and Legal Updates

### [CMS launches initiative to speed electronic prior authorization adoption](#)

The CMS is launching a new effort to speed progress on electronic prior authorization as the healthcare sector prepares to implement new requirements on digital pre-approvals next year. Thirty healthcare organizations — including providers like Cleveland Clinic and Providence; electronic health record developers Epic and Oracle Health; and health data networks like CommonWell and Kno2 — signed onto the pledge to address challenges in electronic prior authorization, the CMS said Wednesday. They'll work with payers that have already joined the agency's Health Tech Ecosystem to integrate electronic prior authorization in clinical systems.

### [CMS pulls back limits on non-standard ACA plans in final rule](#)

The Trump administration has finalized annual regulations governing the Affordable Care Act's exchanges, including a plan that would pull back limits on non-standardized plan options offered by insurers. The final Notice of Benefit Payment Parameters was issued late Friday, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services said in a press release that the rule aims to crack down on fraud — a focus across wide swaths of the government — and afford states greater control over their marketplaces.

### [The federal healthcare fraud crackdown, explained](#)

From the Oval Office to Congress, fraud has become one of the loudest rallying cries of the federal government's healthcare agenda this year. Minnesota was an early target of the Trump administration's healthcare fraud crackdown, but the scrutiny has since expanded. A flurry of investigations, task forces and enrollment pauses rooted in Medicaid and Medicare concerns have dominated the first half of 2026.

# Transactions Overview

## Select M&A Transactions from 05/11/2026 to 05/17/2026

Date	Target	Buyer/Investor	Description	Status	Healthcare Vertical
05/15/2026	Enhabit	Kinderhook Industries	Provider of home health and hospice services, with a nationwide footprint spanning 251 home health locations and 117 hospice locations across 35 states.	Closed	HS: Home Health
05/14/2026	Glow Aesthetics Medical Spa	MD Esthetics Platform	Operator of a medical aesthetics practice offering a comprehensive range of non-surgical aesthetic, skin rejuvenation, and wellness services in Vermont.	Closed	HS: MedSpa & Aesthetics
05/13/2026	Unicare Health	Lafitte & Co. and Ember Ridge Equity	Provider of home ventilator management for complex pediatric and ALS patients.	Closed	Medical Devices
05/13/2026	San Feliz Urgent Care	Mederi Urgent Care	Operator of a leading urgent care provider serving the Glendale community.	Announced	HS: Urgent Care
05/13/2026	Aesthetic Artistry Laser Center	Aviva Aesthetics	Operator of a luxury medical spa providing state-of-the-art injectable aesthetics and laser treatments.	Closed	HS: MedSpa & Aesthetics
05/13/2026	ARAI Solutions	IKS Health	Provider of biomedical knowledge graphs, clinical ontologies, and explainable AI systems designed to improve reasoning, transparency, and traceability in healthcare applications.	Closed	HCIT: Provider Solutions
05/11/2026	PayerAlly	Healthscape Advisors	Provider of independent pharmacy benefit management consulting, auditing, and benchmarking services to help health plans, employers, and government entities manage prescription drug costs.	Closed	HCIT: Pharma

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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