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Weekly Newsletter

January 21st, 2025

Allen Mooney Barnes | Investment Banking

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Market Updates

[More patients are surviving cancer, but incident rates rising among women and younger adults](#)

Though cancer mortality overall is dropping, the burden of disease is shifting to women and younger adults, the American Cancer Society (ACS) reported Thursday. The cancer mortality rate dropped by 34% from 1991 to 2022. This saved about 4.5 million lives. Still, incidence rates in women between ages 50 and 64 have surpassed men, and rates in women under 50 are 82% higher than in men, according to a new ACS report. The ACS predicts in 2025 there will be more than 2.04 million new cancer diagnoses and 618,120 cancer deaths.

[Not enough hospitals are testing their predictive AI models for accuracy, bias, study finds](#)

Many U.S. hospitals using predictive models are not evaluating their tools internally for accuracy, and fewer still are evaluating them for potential biases, according to a study published in the most recent edition of Health Affairs. The “concerning” analysis noted that hospitals reporting local evaluation of their predictive models and AI were more often those that developed their tools in-house, rather than using an algorithm provided through their electronic health record vendor’s platform.

[Amazon expands healthcare AI ambitions](#)

Amazon Web Services is teaming up with Aidoc to develop advanced AI tools that improve patient care. Through this partnership, AWS will invest in Aidoc’s AI technology, aiming to create systems that quickly identify critical medical conditions using real-time data from medical imaging, according to a January 21st news release. Aidoc’s CARE Foundation Model is at the heart of this initiative. The model can analyze a variety of medical images and adapt to detect a wide range of conditions, such as fractures and tumors.

Healthcare Operators

[Mayo Clinic selling hospice operations in Southwest Minnesota](#)

Rochester, Minnesota based Mayo Clinic Health System has signed a definitive agreement to sell its hospice operations in Southwest Minnesota to St. Croix Hospice. The providers have a longstanding referral relationship, with St. Croix serving as a leading agency for hospice patients referred outside the Mayo Clinic Health System. Mayo Clinic Vice President Karthik Ghosh, MD, said the deal with St. Croix is a “natural alignment of values and will help strengthen and ensure the long-term success of hospice services across Southwest Minnesota.”

[Imagine360 acquires Ardent Health 3rd-party administrator HealthFirst](#)

Self-funded Pennsylvania-based health plan Imagine360 is buying Ardent Health’s third-party administrator HealthFirst, the two companies revealed January 15th. As part of the deal, Imagine360 will also acquire two related companies—Medical Management Solutions and Risk Funding Alternatives. The medical management division will be folded into Imagine360’s team. Other terms were not disclosed, but Imagine360 said HealthFirst’s employees will be retained.

[Yale New Haven to extend transport services in acquisition](#)

Yale New Haven Health has agreed to acquire Nelson Ambulance, a family-owned medical transportation provider based in North Haven, Connecticut, and its affiliates, including Access Ambulance. The proposed acquisition, announced January 14th, aims to strengthen the health system’s transport capabilities and build upon its existing relationship with Nelson. YNHHS expects to complete the transaction within the first half of 2025, pending regulatory approval.

Healthcare Legislative and Legal Updates

[FTC secures 11th hour settlement from PE firm Welsh Carson over alleged roll-up scheme](#)

Private equity firm Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe has agreed to a settlement with the Federal Trade Commission that will pare back its role in a portfolio anesthesia practice the regulator accused of anticompetitive behavior. The deal comes with no monetary penalties but requires the private equity firm to freeze its investments in Texas-based U.S. Anesthesia Partners at current levels and reduce its board representation to a single, non-chair seat, according to the proposed consent order. Further, Welsh Carson will need to secure prior approval for any future investments in anesthesia.

[Justice Department sues Walgreens over alleged part in opioid crisis](#)

The Justice Department on January 16th filed a civil complaint against Walgreens Boots Alliance and its subsidiaries alleging unlawful dispensation of millions of prescriptions in violation of the Controlled Substances Act. The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, also alleges that Walgreens sought reimbursements from federal health programs in violation of the False Claims Act.

[\\$150 million sought from California hospital over alleged breach of contract](#)

LA-based Cedars-Sinai is facing allegations of appropriating the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic’s reputation and assets without compensation in a \$150 million lawsuit. The lawsuit, filed in LA County Superior Court, accuses the hospital of conspiring with Santa Monica Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Group. Cedars and Kerlan-Jobe were in a contract that expired on October 1st, and when it was executed, the hospital allegedly demanded that the orthopedic group’s physicians bring patient services through Cedars’ facilities.

Transactions Overview

M&A Transactions from 1/13/2025 to 1/20/2025

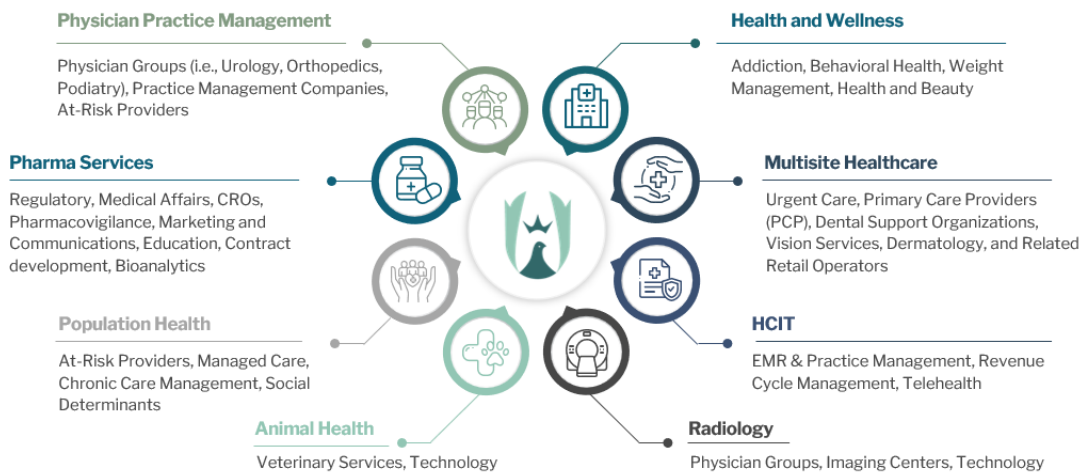
Date	Target	Buyer/Investor	Description	Status	Healthcare Vertical
1/13/2025	Pediatrics Plus Partners	Leavitt Equity Partners	Provider of pediatric therapy provider based in Conway, AR.	Closed	Pediatrics
1/13/2025	Kinship Pointe Northridge	Omega Senior Living	Provider of senior living services based in Kearney, NE.	Closed	Elder Care- SNF
1/13/2025	Mayo Clinic Health System	St. Croix Hospice, H.I.G Capital	Provider of hospice services based in MN, United States.	Announced	Hospice
1/13/2025	Tyber Medical	Montagu Private Equity	Developer of orthopedic and spinal implant devices.	Closed	Medical Devices
1/14/2025	Access Healthcare	New Mountain Capital	Provider of revenue cycle management services.	Closed	Revenue Cycle Management
1/15/2025	PL Consultants	Innovative Lab Services	Provider of physician and clinical lab consulting services.	Closed	Healthcare Consulting
1/16/2025	KT Health	Bridges Consumer Healthcare, Charlesbank Capital Partners	Designer, developer, and distributor of sports medicine products.	Closed	Pain Management
1/17/2025	Devotion Hospice	Choice Health at Home, Coltala Holdings	Provider of hospice care services.	Closed	Hospice
1/17/2025	Doctor & Associates	SightMD	Provider of eye care services for adults and children across Norwalk, CT.	Closed	Eye Care

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:



Research

New sector insights each month

For our recent sector insights, click below

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