



March 17th, 2025

# **Market Updates**

### The future of immunotherapy: a game-changer in cancer treatment

In a sponsored episode of Podnosis, host Chris Hayden speaks with Dr. Steven O'Day, chief medical officer at Agenus, about the latest advancements in immunotherapy. With more than 30 years of experience in oncology, O'Day discusses how immunotherapy is changing cancer treatment and providing new hope where traditional methods, such as chemotherapy and radiation, often fall short. Unlike conventional treatments that directly attack cancer cells, immunotherapy strengthens the body's immune system—particularly T-cells—to recognize and destroy cancer.

### Federal funding cuts disrupt medical schools

Worcester, Massachusetts based UMass Chan Medical School and Baltimore-based Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine have shared disruptions to their medical schools amid ongoing federal funding cuts. The Morningside Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at UMass Chan Medical School rescinded dozens of provisional acceptance offers to PhD applicants the week of March 10<sup>th</sup> for this fall due to concerns over biomedical research funding stability.

### Public health officials say CDC cuts, misinformation 'from the top down' hinder measles response efforts

Amid a growing measles outbreak in west Texas and New Mexico, many doctors and nurses are fielding questions from patients about an infectious disease they have never seen and assumed they never would. Measles was considered eliminated in 2000 thanks to a highly effective vaccine and high vaccination rates. Public health officials are warning that declining immunization are hindering efforts to combat the measles outbreak, along with rising cases of other preventable diseases.

# **Healthcare Operators**

### Healthcare group to buy, reopen shuttered Wisconsin hospital

The Chippewa Valley Health Cooperative, an independent nonprofit organization, has finalized a purchase agreement with Hospital Sisters Health System for the St. Joseph's Hospital building in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. This follows the initial letter of intent signed between the two parties in December. Last year, Springfield, Illinois based HSHS closed St. Joseph's and Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The cooperative has 90 days to complete due diligence to determine the financial feasibility of reopening the facility. If viable, it could welcome patients to the St. Joseph's campus by winter 2025.

#### **Eir Partners announces growth investment in Porter**

Eir Partners, a middle market PE firm focused on healthcare technology and tech-enabled services, today announced a growth investment in Porter, the only platform dedicated to connecting plan members with the resources, services, products, and education they need to live their best lives at home. Porter is led by John Criswell, an experienced healthcare technology founder, who witnessed firsthand how healthcare system complexity negatively impacts the quality of care for members and patients of payors and providers.

### New Day Healthcare acquires Patient Recovery Home Healthcare Services

The Texas-based home-based care provider New Day Healthcare has acquired the home health agency Patient Recovery Home Healthcare Services in Houston. The transaction marks New Day's 14th successful acquisition to date and comes approximately one month after it acquired Christian Senior Care, also in Houston. Patient Recovery Home Healthcare has been in operation for 15 years and will not rebrand post-acquisition. The company's current staff will remain in place, according to New Day.

# Healthcare Legislative and Legal Updates

### HHS probationary firings reversed by judge as threat of more terminations looms

A judge has told the government it must reinstate fired probationary employees at nearly all federal agencies, delivering the strongest legal resistance yet to the Trump administration's plans to reshape the federal workforce. In a lawsuit filed by a collection of state attorneys general, the judge said probationary employees in the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veteran Affairs and other departments must be reinstated by Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. ET. Only employees in the Department of Defense, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the National Archives and Records Administration were exempted.

## Senate passes bill with key healthcare extensions, no Medicare physician pay fix

The Senate voted March 14 to approve a government funding bill that extends key healthcare provisions, delays Medicaid disproportionate share hospital cuts and provides additional support for rural hospitals. The legislation, which heads to President Donald Trump for approval, passed the Senate in a 54-46 vote. The House had earlier passed the bill on March  $11^{th}$  in a 217-213 vote, ensuring government operations continue through September  $30^{th}$ .

### FTC sues to block merger of device coatings companies

The Federal Trade Commission has filed a lawsuit to block private equity firm GTCR BC Holdings from acquiring Surmodics, a medical technology company, arguing the deal would reduce competition for critical device coatings. The proposed acquisition would combine the two largest providers of outsourced hydrophilic coatings, Surmodics and Biocoat, which is majority owned by GTCR, giving the merged company control of over 50% of the market.

## **Transactions Overview**

## M&A Transactions from 3/10/2025 to 3/16/2025

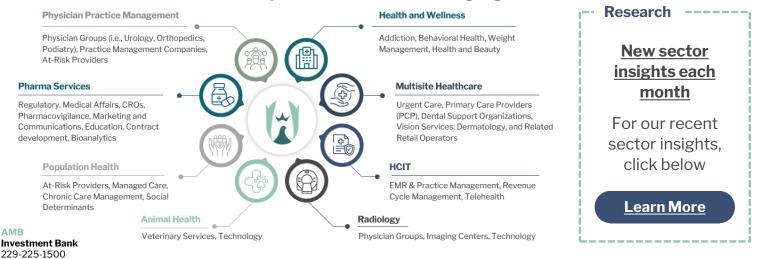
Date	Target	Buyer/Investor	Description	Status	Healthcare Vertical
3/10/2025	April Health	Wysa, Kae Capital	Operator of a collaborative care platform integrating mental health into primary care.	Closed	Behavioral Health
3/10/2025	Korean American Medical Group	Seoul Medical Group	Provider of healthcare services improving access for underserved communities.	Closed	Healthcare Service
3/10/2025	Pathline Labs	NeoGenomics Laboratories (NASDA: NEO)	Provider of anatomic pathology and hematopathology testing services.	Closed	Clinical Diagnostics
3/10/2025	TrackCore	PAR Excellence Systems, OceanSound Partners	Developer of tissue and implant tracking software for hospitals.	Closed	Digital Health, IT, & Software
3/10/2025	VitalTech	CoachCare, Catalyst Investors	Developer of a remote patient management system for chronic conditions.	Closed	HCIT - Monitoring
3/11/2025	EQ2	TMA Systems, Silversmith Capital Partners	Developer of a hospital equipment management system for asset tracking.	Closed	Digital Health, IT, & Software
3/11/2025	PPM Partners	Knack RCM	Provider of revenue cycle management services, including anesthesia billing.	Closed	Revenue Cycle Management
3/11/2025	Project Farma	PerkinElmer (NASDA: PKI)	Provider of biomanufacturing consulting for strategy and execution.	Closed	Healthcare Consulting
3/12/2025	Brown Family Dentistry	Straine Dental Management, Chatham Capital	Operator of a dental clinic in Greenville, SC.	Closed	Dentistry
3/12/2025	Garrison Family Dentistry	Straine Dental Management, Chatham Capital	Operator of a dental clinic in Smithville, MO.	Closed	Dentistry
3/12/2025	Leedy Dental	Straine Dental Management, Chatham Capital	Operator of a dental clinic in Abilene, TX.	Closed	Dentistry
3/12/2025	Lippian Family Dentistry	Straine Dental Management, Chatham Capital	Operator of a dental clinic offering general, cosmetic, and restorative treatments.	Closed	Dentistry
3/12/2025	SageLife Senior Living	Solera Senior Living	Provider of senior living communities across multiple states.	Closed	Senior Living
3/12/2025	Tiger Family Dental	Straine Dental Management, Chatham Capital	Operator of a dental clinic in Sedalia, MO.	Closed	Dentistry

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:



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