

## Lessons Learned: Academic Medical Centers Acquiring Community Hospitals

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### Today's Objectives

- Level set on the issues facing health systems and associated <u>M&A trends and predictions</u>
- Review how you might design an <u>organizational governance model</u> to oversee an integration
- Gain a sense of the considerations and components of <u>integration management</u>
- Hear firsthand some of the <u>issues providers face</u> after consolidation
- Walk away with <u>some real-world lessons learned</u> about what we may have done differently



## Healthcare Environment and M&A Trends



#### Change of Control Transactions 2016 – Q2 2023



Figure excludes affiliations & joint ventures \*Data is January – June 2023

### Change of Control Transactions 2016 – Q2 2023



#### Number of Change of Control Transactions

#### 2022-2023 Takeaways

- Continued M&A activity
- Persistent consolidation drivers
- Megamerger disruption continues
- Growing Private Equity [PE] Involvement

#### 2024 Predictions

- Accelerated AMC activity
- BOD focus on M&A ROI
- Continued growth of nontraditional healthcare entities
- Community hospitals focus on financial resilience strategies

## Case Study – MUSC Health

#### Case Study Framework



## DEAL PRESENTATION & DUE DILLIGENCE

The deal is reviewed, performance assumptions made, and the ultimate go / no go decision is cast.

#### **PLANNING & READINESS**

Lots of work to be done – assumptions vetted, processes planned, contingencies made, and a structure put in place that can handle all of it.



## INTEGRATION & OPERATIONALIZATION

Day 1 launch occurs, the integration plans begin to get tested, and now we must operate and integrate.

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#### Overview – MUSC Health [pre-acquisition]



86 Ambulatory Sites across the Charleston peninsula & greater Tri-county region JVs & Affiliations with 4 Regional Hospitals & Community Systems

Acute Hospital Campus with 779 Inpatient Beds

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### Overview – CHS Acquisition Opportunity



MUSC Health was presented with the *opportunity to acquire 4 CHS hospitals*, nearly doubling total inpatient beds and number of ambulatory sites



### Due Diligence Process

- CHS presents the confidential opportunity only a few senior leaders are in the know
- Leadership believes it aligns with strategy and feels it is a good idea...the why



## The "Why" – MUSC Health Acquisition



*Prevent market disruption* of a new competitor & associated *impacts to financial/clinical performance* 

*Control physician recruitment pipeline* and help with *physician staffing* via telehealth capabilities

Encourage learners to *stay in the local community* long term and *enhance the medical work force* 



*Remain competitive* in attracting the best applicants by *expanding clinical sites* for students & GME

Presented *strong EBITDA margin & cash flow* to meet MUSC Health's strategic financial goals

*Protect and grow* patients from *outside of MUSC Health's primary catchment area* 

Total covered lives, access points & footprint are key to a *sustainable financial plan for population health* 

### Due Diligence Process [Continued]

- CHS presents the confidential opportunity only a few senior leaders are in the know
- Leadership believes it aligns with strategy and feels it is a good idea...the why
- LOI gets executed, and due-diligence time clock starts
- Checklists are available however many are too generic or too nascent to drive the process
- Experts are engaged to help assess financials, FTC, infrastructure, etc.
- Numerous data requests are made of CHS and experts build models/scenarios
- Deadline approaches Go or No Go.....
- Never doing this before, there is really no decision-making framework in place
- MUSC decides GO....Board of Directors executes Definitive Agreement



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### The Integration Planning Clock Starts



- DA signed <u>closing set to occur in 90 days</u>
- Must begin to engage a broader group of stakeholders all who have questions and opinions
- Stakeholders generate an initial integration planning timeline of six months Leadership says you have 90 days....and there are a few major holidays in the mix
- Budget models are aggressive, teams asking for more resources....assumptions proving to be 'off'
- Priority conflicts and 'noise' abounds as all internal resources are being asked to do two jobs



#### Project Governance







#### Project Governance



#### Role of ISC:

- Review & approve Day 1 Plans
- Review & approve budget requests
- Provide guidance in planning the transition of processes / systems
- Interaction with acquired corporate entity

**Functional Area Integration Planning** 

**USC** Health



### **Functional Area Identification**





#### MUSC Health

## Degree of Integration





## Degree of Integration





### Critical Path & Key Decisions



#### MUSC Health

	December		r 📘	January					February				March			
	10	17	24	1	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	4	11	18	25
Information Solutions	Draft Phase I Day Implementation			y 1 EMR / AMR / MM Plan		Plan	Phase I and EMR / AMR Imp					MR Implei	plementation			
Finance Integration					ue Cycle F or Day 1 2		Confirm M Care Con		Fina 3		ınting, Budg hain, etc.	jet, i	Syı	nergy Trac	cking	
Organizational Structure					alize Lega tures, Tax		Day 1 /Futur Models 8	re State Lea & Org Struct			onfirm Close diness / Leg			elop Lead ernance C		
Physician Operations			Design a Physician En	and Fina nployme			Physician Or	boarding /	Credentia	aling						
Clinical Quality						Clinica	l Quality Ove Plan	rsight	Joint Co	ommissior	n Plan					
Human Resources			Plan for MUHA	Onboard Employe		Em	ployee Comn Onboar		Ind		Training		Tale	ent Asses	sment	
Communication / Branding			Executive			nd Brand Facilitie		nior Leade		Staff Enga	igement					
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#### Case Study Framework



### Day 1 Celebrations





#### The Situation



- Deal is closed; operationalization has begun
- CHS utilizes a strong, central command and control.....MUSC is very matrixed
- CHS had 3 EHRs, MUSC is an Epic shop
- The new providers were made part of the Faculty Practice.... part of the COM as adjunct faculty
- The hospitals are run by MUHA.....but the ambulatory clinics by the Faculty Practice
- Nursing is managed at each hospital quality is centralized
- CHS hospitals have agreements with local schools for clinical training rotations MUSC University wants those to stop so they can send their students [RN, OA, CMA, etc]
- MUSC had non-competitive affiliate arrangements....now the newly acquired hospitals compete

### Day 1 and Beyond...



- IT Conversion to Epic. Providers need at-the-elbow support.
- HR Employed providers and staff need support from two different HR groups of MUSC Health
- **Revenue cycle** Initially billing was on paper for the first 2-3 months. Difficult transition period
- Compliance Training for all folks within first few months. MUSC Health has more compliance training requirements than previous employer.
- Hospital based operations [e.g. supply chain] have some challenges but are worked through
- Providers Continued management of physician operations. Still RVU based compensation with new contracts negotiated prior to Day 1. Adjustment from prior systems to new MUSC system requires a few key considerations...



### **Considerations for Onboarding Providers**



- How will the providers be employed?
- Will the providers receive academic appointments?
- Have the community providers been engaged, and what are the gaps if any in understanding and support?
- Have the academic physician leaders been engaged, and what are the gaps if any in understanding and support?
- What is the plan with the payors?



## Integration 'Wins'

Negotiated terms with	Transitioned all faciliti to new GPO, gaining favorable rates <b>PURCHASING</b>	g Implemented up & governance streamline de	odated reporting structures to cision making NANCE	Established initiative to drive interoperability & deliver sub-specialty reading across system IMAGING	Centralized services, leveraging sub-specialty capabilities & mitigating legacy send out costs PATHOLOGY	
PLANNING & REA	DINESS INTI	EGRATION & O	PTIMIZATION	LONG-TER	M VALUE	
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS Transitioned 2,000 employ to new entity, incl. bene enrollment and contract for all employed physicia	Extended influe Lines and physic support growth a yees fits ts	cian leaders to	INTEROPERAE Epic implementa at all new facilit replacing thre legacy system	Transitioned fro <b>SILITY</b> aligned for tion chain proce ies, and cost so e	PHARMACY om third-party vendor and ormularies & supply sses to realize revenue saving opportunities	

# Closing Remarks

#### Lessons Learned – Due Diligence



Remember "...really successful people say no to almost everything" -Warren Buffett

Create formal due-diligence checklists with emphasis on leadership and systems Document the "the why" and have a solid talk track and be ready to cascade

Get comfortable with making assumptions...but watch the tendency to be too optimistic

Utilize a formal 'go / no go' decision matrix and stick to it

#### Lessons Learned – Planning & Readiness



Be thoughtful about when, how, and for what you include leaders from the 'acquired' entities Ensure all stakeholders are on the same page regarding "the why" as well as who owns what [Hospital, University, Practice Plan, Affiliates, etc.]

Know yourself. Areas that you are not as strong in [pre-expansion] should be addressed in the expansion

Appreciate the differences in for-profit vs non-profit academic health systems Communicate, communicate, communicate...set up an internal planning group that meets frequently

#### Lessons Learned – Operationalization



Understand how this work may impact your team – they all have day jobs The value of 'at the elbow' EMR support for providers cannot be underestimated Getting revenue cycle up and running and fully functioning helps mitigate unforeseen financial risks

Be comfortable that mistakes are going to be made And always remember..."culture eats strategy for breakfast" -Peter Drucker

#### Epilogue – Our M&A Journey Continues



#### MUSC Health Today



#### Questions?





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