

# Valuation Implications of the 2020 Compensation Surveys

January 13, 2022

2:00 – 3:30 PM ET



*Brought to you by AHLA's Hospitals & Health System  
Practice Group, Fraud & Abuse Practice Group and  
FMV Affinity Group*

# Today's Webinar Panel



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Hall Render



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Bon Secours Mercy Health

# Part 1

## *Background & Regulatory Issues*

Joseph N. Wolfe

*Health Care Regulatory Practice Group Leader*

Hall Render



# Background & Regulatory Issues



## Key Developments in 2020, 2021 and 2022

- **COVID-19 productivity, compensation model and staffing disruptions**
  - “Blanket Waivers” may provide some protection during the PHE
- **New Stark and Anti-Kickback regulations**
  - Clarifications to the “Big 3” (FMV, commercially reasonable and volume/value) Stark standards
  - New value-based framework
  - New group practice and directed referral rules

# Background & Regulatory Issues



## Key Developments in 2020, 2021 and 2022

- **Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (“MPFS”) Adjustments**
  - wRVU Impact - Material increases in allocations associated with certain E&M codes
  - Reimbursement/collections impact – Decrease in Medicare conversion factor
- **Market Survey Data**
  - Changes impact both the FMV analysis and the mechanics of compensation model implementation

# Background & Regulatory Issues



## Assessing Physician Compensation Strategies

- **Understand your current state**

- What actions have you taken during the COVID-19 Pandemic? Can you rely on the “Blanket Waivers”?
- What MPFS fee schedule are you utilizing to calculate wRVUS?
- What market survey data do you rely on for FMV assessments and model implementation?
- Are key stakeholders engaged (e.g., internal stakeholders, outside counsel, appraisers)?

# Background & Regulatory Issues



## Assessing Physician Compensation Strategies

- **Proactively assess potential options/scenarios**
  - Model out potential productivity and compensation scenarios and determine defensibility of potential strategies
  - Specialty specific approaches may be needed - wRVU and survey data adjustments may impact some specialties more than others
  - Examine current contractual language
  - Consider options (e.g., implement, freeze, adjust) and seize on opportunities to innovate

# Background & Regulatory Issues



## Important Regulatory Considerations

- Regardless of the ultimate strategy chosen, compensation must be defensible under the “Big 3” (FMV, commercially reasonable and volume/value) standards.
- Which MPFS and which market survey data years (2020, 2021, 2022) will be utilized for compensation plan implementation? Are the approaches in sync?
- What (if any) adjustments must be made to language in the actual contracts and compensation models (wRVU thresholds, market survey data references, MPFS references)?
- Key stakeholders should be engaged to weigh business, compliance and contract considerations.
- When and how will implementation occur?
- Explore how policies, processes and/or contractual language be developed to account for future disruption and material adjustments.

# Part 2

## *Valuation Implications*

Todd A. Zigrang, ASA, CVA, FACHE

*President*

Health Capital Consultants



# Valuation Implications



## Valuation of Compensation Engagements

- Valuation of Hospital Employment and Professional Services Arrangements
- Valuation of Healthcare Enterprises
  - *Normalized Earnings resulting after consideration of the “reasonable amount for the services performed by the owner or partners engaged in the business.”*
- Fair Market Value

# Valuation Implications



## Valuation of Compensation Engagements

- Valuation Approaches
  - Income Approach
  - Cost Approach
  - Market Approach
    - Advantages
    - Challenges

# Valuation Implications



## Perfect Storm



### COVID-19

- Reduced Volume during pandemic may lead to artificially high compensation/production rates

### Changes to the MPFS

- Changes to wRVU value to procedures may lead to higher wRVU production for similar or even reduced procedure volume (or “work”)
- Changes to reimbursement may impact available funds for physician compensation from that surveys reported

### Shift to Value-Based Care

- Compensation is increasingly becoming based on value of care rather than volume of care

Impact  
on  
Industry  
(Market)  
Physician  
Compensation  
Survey  
Data

# Valuation Implications

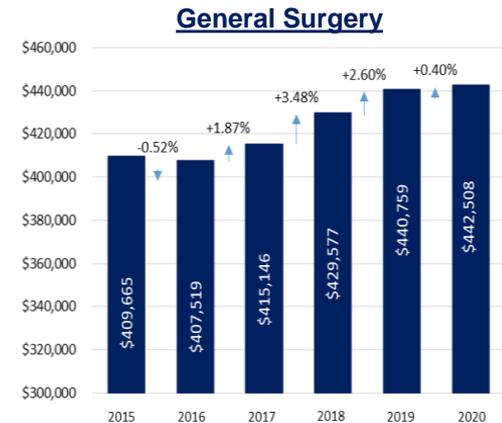
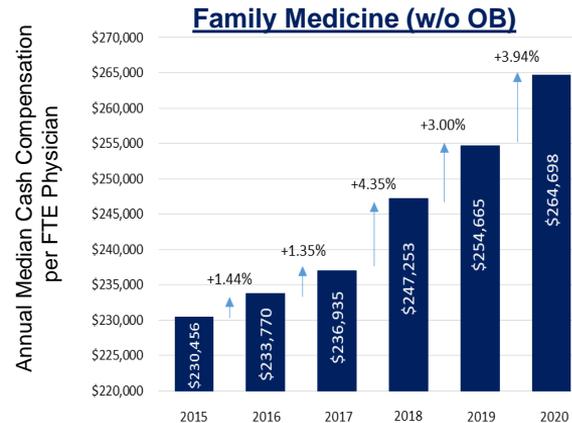


## Market Survey Data Results

- Physician compensation has generally increased year-over-year
- In 2020, median provider compensation increased by 0.76% from 2019

### Change in Annual Compensation, 2019 to 2020

- Primary Care Physicians **+2.6%**
- Advanced Practice Provider (APP) **+1.25%**
- Specialist Physicians **-1.91%**
- Surgical Specialists **-0.89%**
- Non-Surgical Specialists **-1.29%**



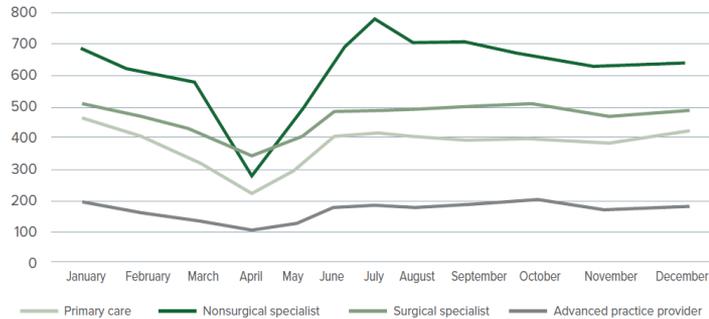
# Valuation Implications



## Market Survey Data Results

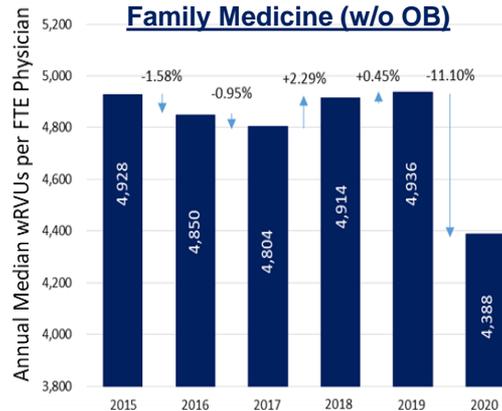
- While physician productivity (as measured by work RVUs) has had varying year-over-year trends, but not to extent experienced in 2020 !
- wRVU productivity appears to have rebounded by the end of 2020

### 2020 Monthly wRVUs for Full Time Physicians and APPs

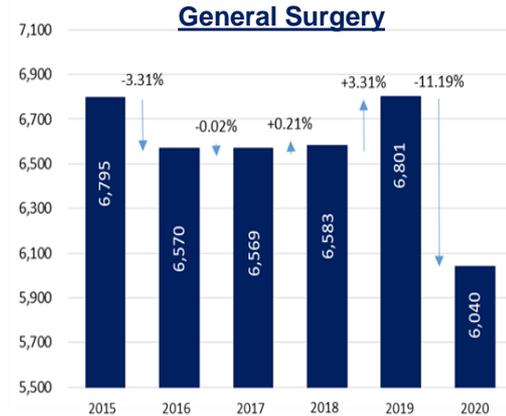


Source: 2020 MGMA Monthly Survey

### Family Medicine (w/o OB)



### General Surgery

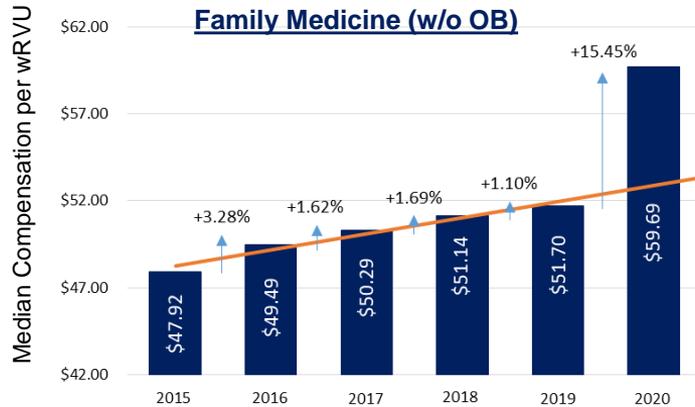


# Valuation Implications

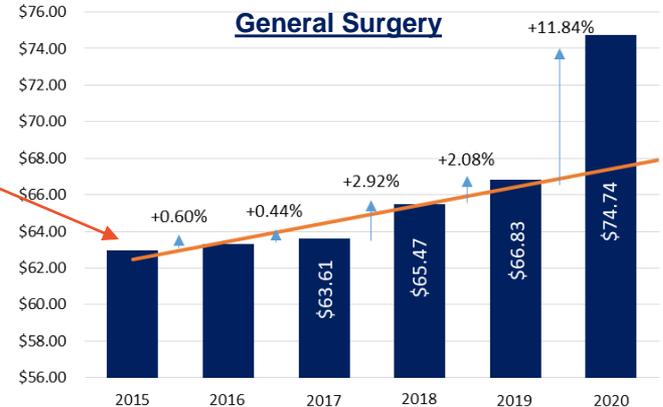


## Market Survey Data Results

- A spike in the compensation-to-wRVU ratios as reported in 2021 market surveys (based on 2020 data) resulted from the steady compensation (numerator) and the reduced wRVU productivity (denominator)
- Prior to 2020, compensation-to-wRVU ratios for most specialties have risen year-over-year



Trend line based on increase 2015 through 2019



# Valuation Implications



## Impact of COVID-19 and MPFS on the Market Survey Data

- Many compensation arrangements based on production
- Basing valuation on 2020 survey results in potential overcompensation
- Need for Normalization

# Valuation Implications



## Sample Normalization Process – Family Medicine

- Eliminate the Impact of Nonrecurring Impacts (COVID-19)
- Adjusted for Potential/Probable Impacts (MPFS and other factors)

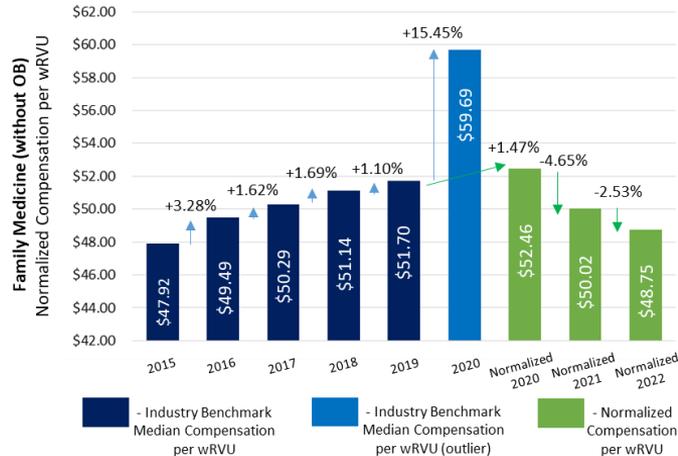
Family Medicine (without OB)			Notes		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
					Historical Data						Normalized Data		
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 as Reported	2020	2021	2022		
1	Annual Procedures Performed by the Physician	# of procedures and procedure mix performed in 2015 assumed to remain unchanged	5,873	5,873	5,873	5,873	5,873	5,873	5,873	5,873	5,873	5,873	5,873
2	MPFS Impact	Total Annual wRVUs performed	4,928	4,928	4,928	4,915	4,915	4,918	4,918	5,929	5,929		
3		Change in wRVUs from previous year	% Change in Line 2 from Previous Year		★ 0.00%	0.00%	-0.28%	0.00%	0.07%	0.07%	20.57%	0.00%	
4		Total Medicare reimbursement for procedures	Based on the MPFS	\$337,323	\$336,088	\$338,250	\$338,275	\$340,601	\$342,414	\$342,414	\$389,746	\$376,118	
5		Change in Medicare reimbursement from previous year	% Change in Line 4 from Previous Year		★ -0.37%	0.64%	0.01%	0.69%	0.53%	0.53%	13.82%	-3.50%	
6	MGMA Survey Data and Adjustments	Industry (Market) Benchmark Median Compensation	Reported MGMA Data	★ \$47.92	★ \$49.49	\$50.29	\$51.14	\$51.70	\$59.69				
7		Expected Compensation w/RVU (adjusted for MPFS Impact)	Previous Year Line 6 Adjusted for Lines 3 and 5		★ \$47.74	\$49.81	\$50.43	\$51.49	\$51.94				
8		Historical percent change for Unknown Factors	Calculated Difference between Lines 6 and 7		▲ 3.66%	0.97%	1.40%	0.40%	14.92%				
9		Normalized Compensation per wRVU - Only MPFS Changes	Previous Year Adjusted for Lines 3 and 5							\$51.94	\$49.52	\$48.27	
10		Normalization Percentage Change for Unknown Factors	Assumption based on Column A - E, Line 8							1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	
11		<b>Normalized Compensation per wRVU</b>							<b>\$52.46</b>	<b>\$50.02</b>	<b>\$48.75</b>		
12	Total Compensation	Expected Compensation based on MPFS Impact Only	Line 2 x Line 7 (Historical) or Line 9 (Normalized)		\$235,298	\$245,470	\$247,862	\$253,062	\$255,438	\$255,438	\$293,655	\$286,221	
13		Compensation based on Unknown Factor	Line 15 - Line 12 (Historical)		\$8,602	\$2,374	\$3,472	\$1,024	\$38,119				
14			1.00% of Line 12 (Normalized)							\$2,554	\$2,937	\$2,862	
15		Annual Compensation per MGMA Data (as Reported)	Line 2 x Line 6	\$236,163	\$243,900	\$247,843	\$251,334	\$254,086	\$293,558				
16	Annual Compensation per MGMA Data (Normalized)	Line 12 + Line 14							\$257,993	\$296,592	\$289,083		

# Valuation Implications

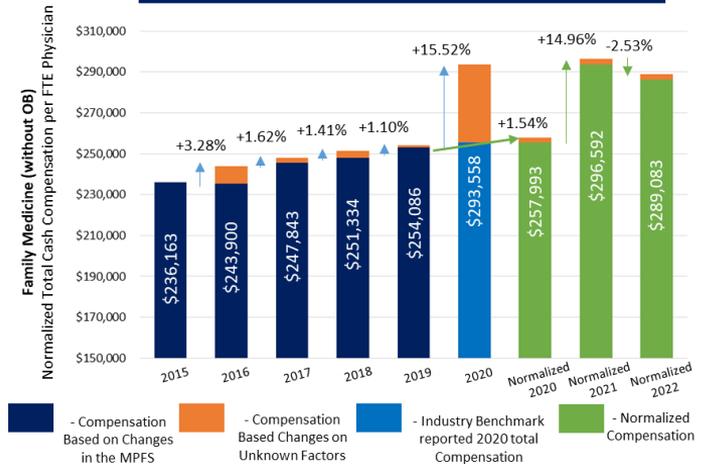


## Sample Normalization Process – Family Medicine

**Normalization of 2020 Survey Data + Adjusted for Potential/Probable Impacts (MPFS and other factors)**



**Resulting Compensation from Reported/Normalized Median from Market Surveys**



# Valuation Implications



## Sample Normalization Process – General Surgery

- Eliminate the Impact of Nonrecurring Impacts (COVID-19)
- Adjusted for Potential/Probable Impacts (MPFS and other factors)

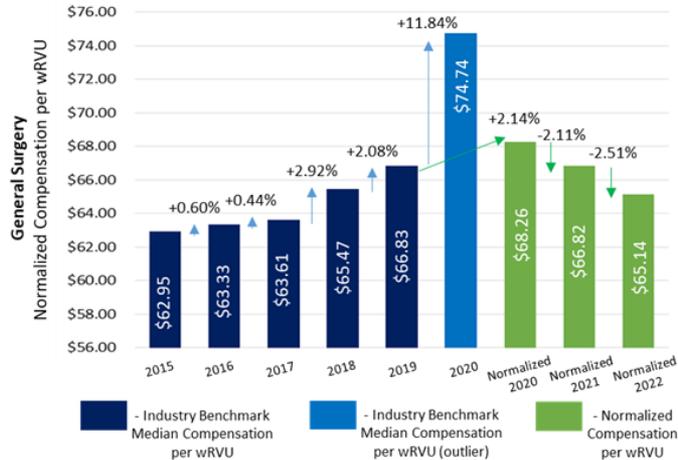
General Surgery		Notes	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I		
			Historical Data						Normalized Data				
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 as Reported	2020	2021	2022		
1	Annual Procedures Performed by the Physician	# of procedures and procedure mix performed in 2015 assumed to remain unchanged	3,875	3,875	3,875	3,875	3,875	3,875	3,875	3,875	3,875		
2	MPFS Impact	Total Annual wRVUs performed	6,795	6,795	6,717	6,690	6,690	6,690	6,690	7,234	7,234		
3		Change in wRVUs from previous year		0.00%	-1.15%	-0.39%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.13%	0.00%		
4		Total Medicare reimbursement for procedures	Based on the MPFS	\$530,459	\$527,731	\$516,822	\$519,160	\$523,031	\$528,911	\$528,911	\$554,314	\$535,044	
5		Change in Medicare reimbursement from previous year	% Change in Line 4 from Previous Year		-0.51%	-2.07%	0.45%	0.75%	1.12%	1.12%	4.80%	-3.48%	
6		MGMA Survey Data and Adjustments	Industry (Market) Benchmark Median Compensation	\$62.95	\$63.33	\$63.61	\$65.47	\$66.83	\$74.74				
7	Expected Compensation/wRVU (adjusted for MPFS Impact)			\$62.63	\$62.74	\$64.15	\$65.96	\$67.58					
8	Historical percent change for Unknown Factors		Calculated Difference between Lines 6 and 7		1.12%	1.38%	2.06%	1.32%	10.59%				
9	Normalized Compensation per wRVU - Only MPFS Changes		Previous Year Adjusted for Lines 3 and 5							\$67.58	\$66.16	\$64.50	
10	Normalization Percentage Change for Unknown Factors		Assumption based on Column A - E, Line 8							1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	
11			<b>Normalized Compensation per wRVU</b>							<b>\$68.26</b>	<b>\$66.82</b>	<b>\$65.14</b>	
12	Total Compensation	Expected Compensation based on MPFS Impact Only		\$425,556	\$421,443	\$429,187	\$441,289	\$452,149	\$452,149	\$478,604	\$466,586		
13		Compensation based on Unknown Factor	Line 15 - Line 12 (Historical)		\$4,782	\$5,811	\$8,836	\$5,833	\$47,894				
14			1.00% of Line 12 (Normalized)							\$4,521	\$4,786	\$4,666	
15		Annual Compensation per MGMA Data (as Reported)	Line 3 x Line 7	\$427,757	\$430,339	\$427,255	\$438,023	\$447,122	\$500,043				
16		Annual Compensation per MGMA Data (Normalized)							\$456,671	\$483,390	\$471,252		

# Valuation Implications

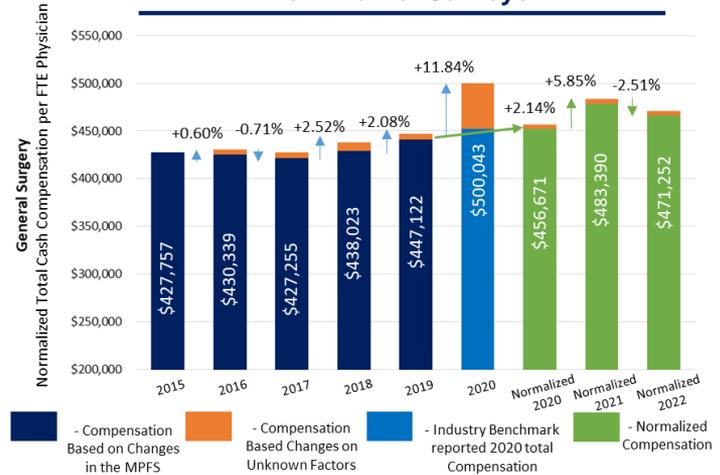


## Sample Normalization Process – General Surgery

**Normalization of 2020 Survey Data + Adjusted for Potential/Probable Impacts (MPFS and other factors)**



**Resulting Compensation from Reported/Normalized Median from Market Surveys**



# Valuation Implications



## Reliance on Market Survey Data in the Near Future

- There is no indication for the need to abandon the use of Market Survey Data
  - Just additional caution and care is warranted
- Need for Normalization of Survey Data
- Compensation Valuation Process is Otherwise Unchanged
  - Market Approach is a Starting Point/Frame of Reference
  - Consideration/Employment of Other Valuation Methods (Income and Cost Approaches)
  - Other Considerations
- Commercial Reasonableness Opinions

# Part 3

## *Practical Strategies & Considerations*

Roger W. Logan, MS CPA/ABV ASA CMPE

*Chief Physician Services Development Officer*

Bon Secours Mercy Health



# Practical Strategies & Considerations



## Bon Secours Mercy Health Profile

### Who We Are

ONE OF THE 5 LARGEST  
Catholic health care systems in the US,  
the LARGEST private provider in Ireland



MORE THAN **1,000** SITES OF CARE  IN THE US AND IRELAND

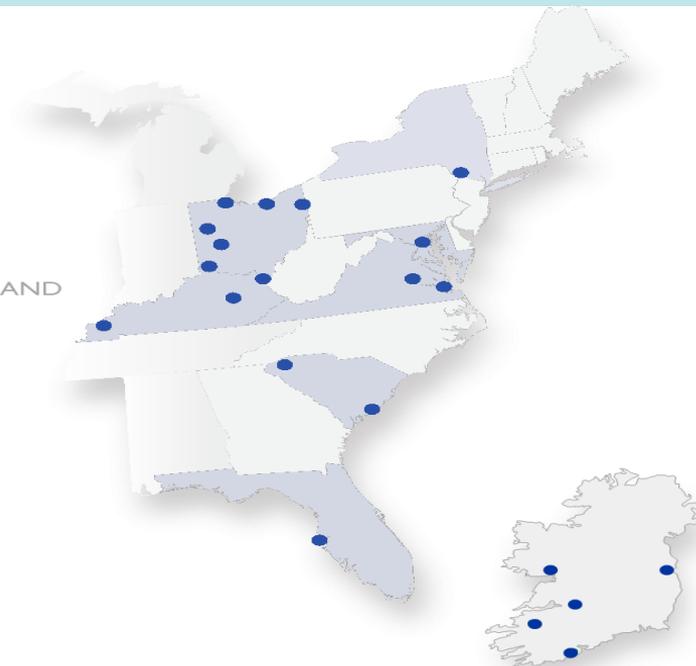


MORE THAN **\$10 BILLION**  
in pro forma net operating revenue

MORE THAN **\$2 MILLION** A DAY  
IN COMMUNITY BENEFITS



MORE THAN **2,600** PROVIDERS IN THE US  
**450** CONSULTANTS IN IRELAND  
MORE THAN **60,000** TOTAL ASSOCIATES



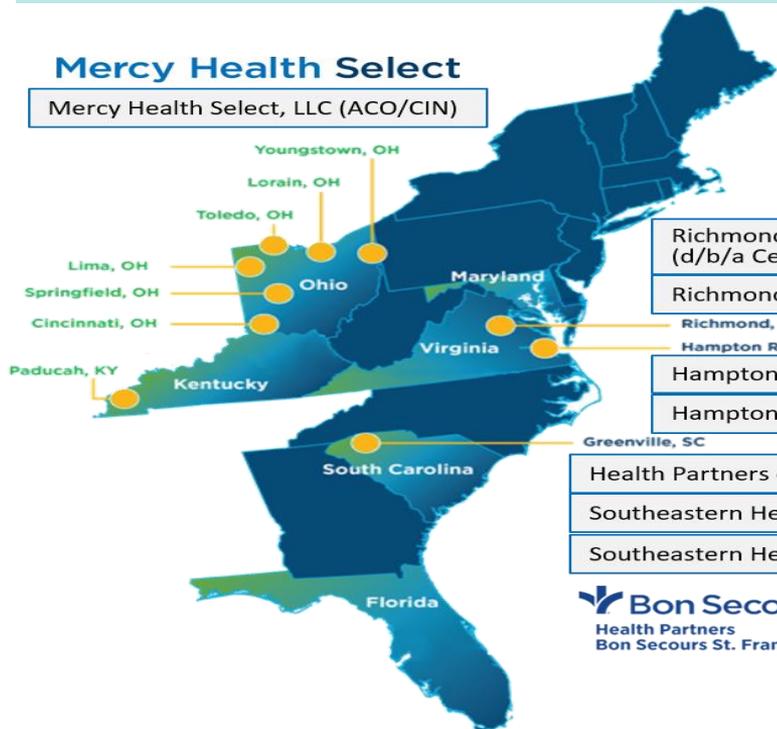
# Practical Strategies & Considerations



## Bon Secours Mercy Health Profile - Continued

### Mercy Health Select

Mercy Health Select, LLC (ACO/CIN)



### Providers & Lives Under Management

	Employed	Affiliate	Total	Lives
<b>BSMH Totals</b>	<b>3,393</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>5,494</b>	<b>704,817</b>

Richmond CIN, LLC  
(d/b/a Cenergy Health Partners)

Richmond Good Help ACO, LLC

Richmond, VA  
Hampton Roads, VA

Hampton Roads Good Help ACO, LLC

Hampton Roads CIN, LLC

Health Partners of Bon Secours St. Francis, LLC (CIN)

Southeastern Health Partners, LLC (CIN)

Southeastern Health Partners Medicare ACO, LLC



# Practical Strategies & Considerations

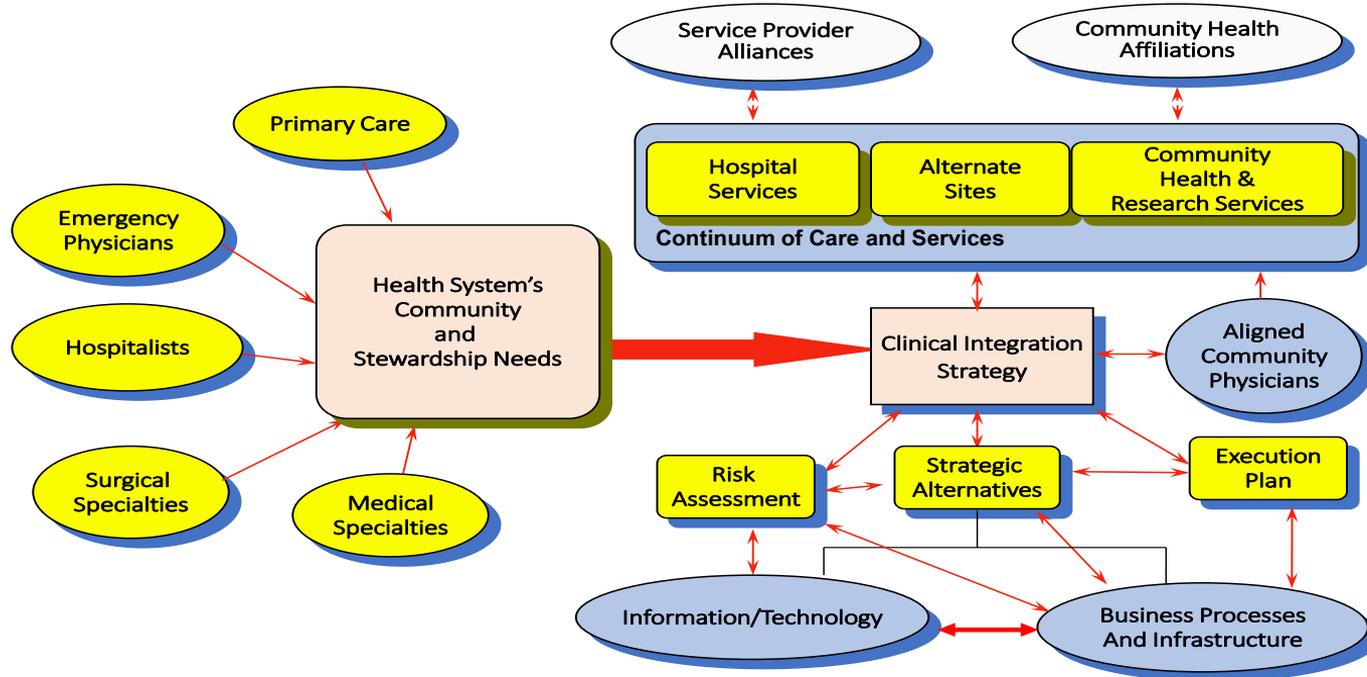
## CYs 2020/21 – COVID 19 Dominated But Wasn't the Whole Story



- CV19 dominated the headlines – the Good, Bad and Ugly
- CV19 Vaccine Roll-out New Standard in Resource Deployment, Attention and Expectations
- The Human Response and Cost of CV19: The Real Story is Yet to be Told
- Party Politics: Priorities, Players, and Perspective
- The Tele-Health, Tele-Medicine and Tele-Triage: Continuity, Communications, Capacity & Convenience
- The Haves and Have-Nots: Disparities in Access, Availability and Affordability
- Cohesiveness and Consistency among and between Payors, Providers and Patients
- Site of Care Shifts – New Era of Ambulatory Service Delivery the new stage for Post-CV19
- The Health Heroes: The Mattel Perspective
- Coming to Grips with the Importance of the Supply Chain on Healthcare Delivery and Costs

# Practical Strategies & Considerations

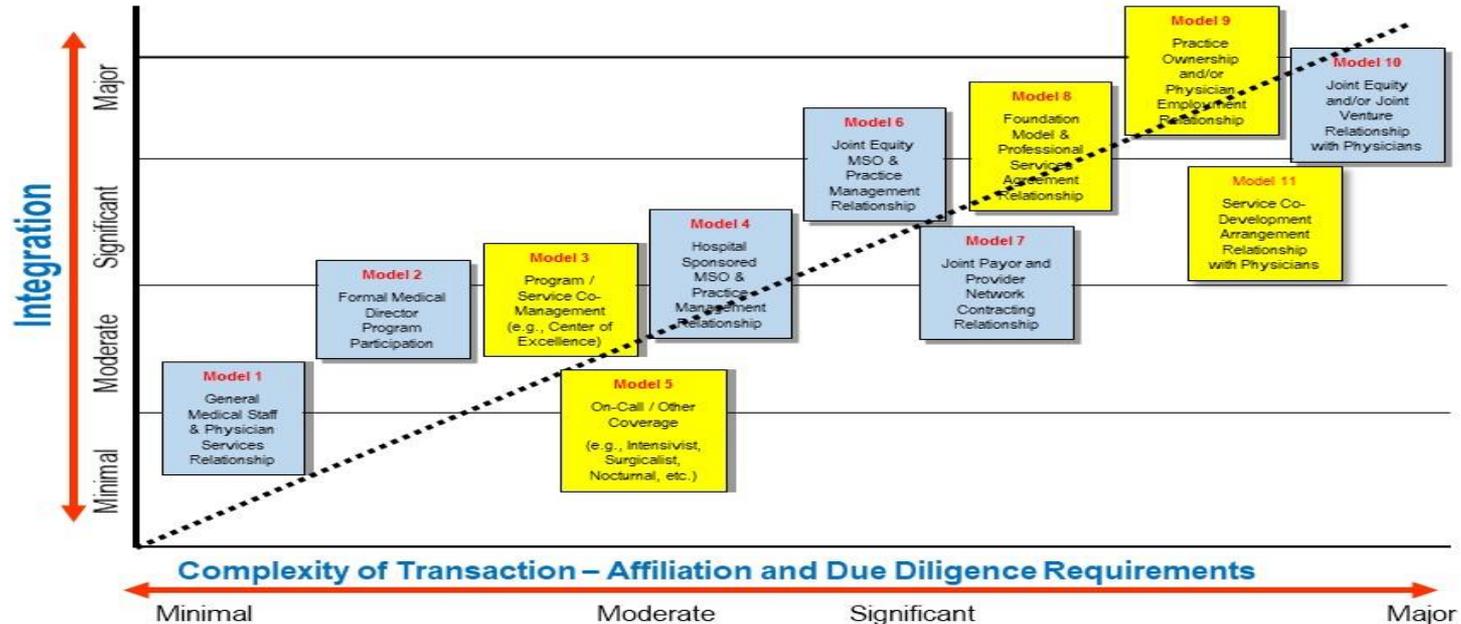
## Now, Near and Far: A Continued Focus of Clinically Integrated Networks



# Practical Strategies & Considerations



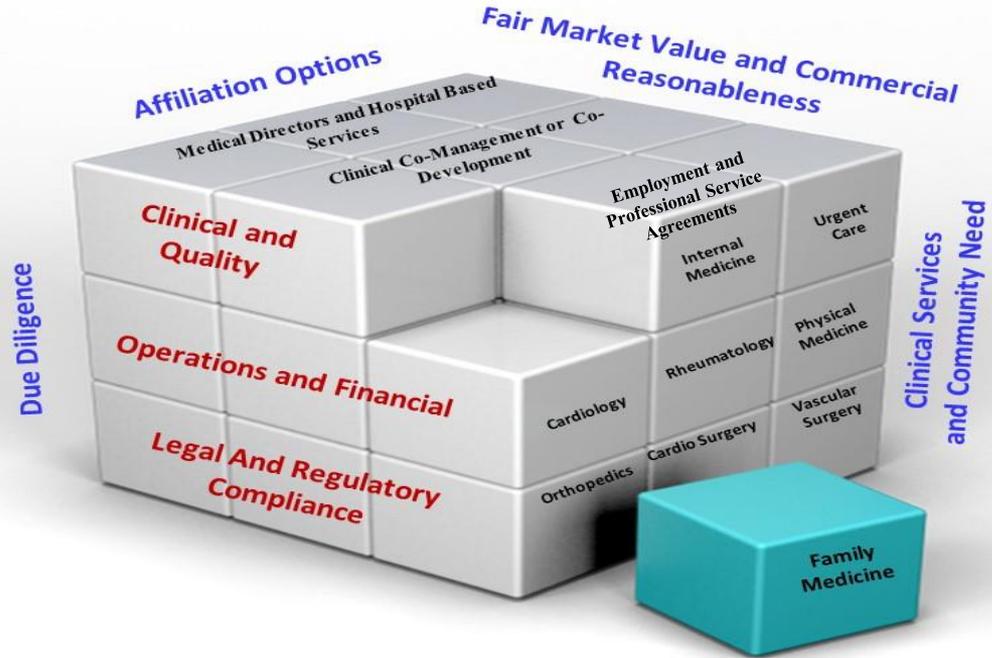
## Now, Near and Far: A Continued Focus on the Right Relationship and Affiliation



# Practical Strategies & Considerations



## 3-D Perspective of Provider Alignment, Compliance and Service Needs



# Practical Strategies & Considerations



## Mercy Health Physicians - Overview

### Primary Care Physicians:

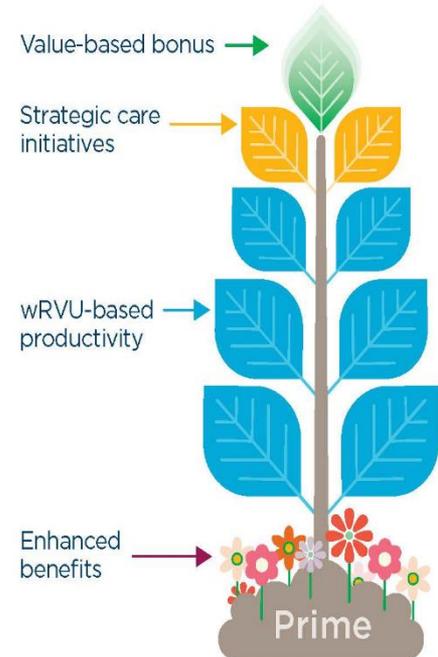
- Productivity among primary care providers with 3+ years in practice averages 64<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- Average productivity is the same as 2020, but down from 72<sup>nd</sup> percentile in 2019 – a change directly attributable to COVID-19 as we continue to observe patients choosing to delay non-urgent care.

### Specialty Physicians:

- Productivity among specialty providers with 3+ years in practice averages 78<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- Average productivity is up from 73<sup>rd</sup> percentile in 2019 and 2020, likely attributable to patients choosing to proceed with care they delayed in 2020 which, in turn, may have exacerbated their healthcare needs.

### Average Compensation Per Physicians:

- The Medical Group monitors average payout rate per wRVU (total annual clinical compensation\* divided by wRVUs generated) compared to national benchmarks.



# Practical Strategies & Considerations



## A 3-D Look Ahead at CY 2022 – 2023 (The 2020/2021 Hangover)



# Practical Strategies & Considerations



## A Look-Back and Ahead Factors that have and will Impact Pay Practices

A Look-Back	A Look Ahead
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Froze wRVU and Compensation Thresholds through CY 2021</li><li>• Income Floors and Alternative Substitute Service Options (with Exposure Incentives)</li><li>• Specialty Specific Income Guarantees and Protection</li><li>• Suspension or Reduction of Quality and Care Initiative Payment</li><li>• Minimal Reduction in Force or Furloughs (unless requested)</li><li>• Early Retirements</li><li>• Supplemental Services by APCs and APPs</li><li>• Virtual and Telehealth Redefining Service Delivery</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Short-term Guarantees into CY 2022 and Return to Normal in CY 2023/24</li><li>• Continuation of 2020 wRVU weights into 2022</li><li>• Recalibration of wRVUs Thresholds, Compensation Conversion Factors (\$/CF), Productivity Targets and Quality Components</li><li>• Recalibrating Budgets and Compensation Expectations (Business Means Testing) for Budget Neutrality</li><li>• Targeting Provider Compensation Durability and Stability to maintain needed Clinical Service Workforce</li><li>• Market Competitive Compensation is being Reset</li></ul>

# Practical Strategies & Considerations



## Key Summary and Takeaways

Provider Compensation Data and Benchmarks	Hospital, Medical Group and Health System Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Volatility in survey data will continue for the next 24-36 months</li><li>• Expanded Importance of the Use and Utility of CPT Level Data in Health System data verification</li><li>• Impact of Telehealth and Virtual Health Services on Clinical Productivity and Reported CPT Codes</li><li>• Impact on the CY 2021 CMS wRVU weight changes on Income Recalibrations</li><li>• Impact on charges and collections and crosswalk to Compensation, Production and \$/CF reported results</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continued mandated “stand-still” approach for CY 2022 and possibly CY 2023 for majority of hospitals and health systems</li><li>• Need for “normalization adjustments” in the near term Need to consider prior contractual obligations and amendment to avoid legal challenges by Physicians and Providers</li><li>• Use and utility of multi-year trending and multi-organizational survey data versus one year/one survey static data</li><li>• Use and utility of technical consultants and advisors will be important for “fresh-eyes” assistance and market dynamics</li></ul>

# Practical Strategies & Considerations



## FMV and CR Updates and Considerations

Prior FMV and CR Compliance	New FMV and CR Compliance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use of survey percentiles as FMV markers and boundaries</li><li>• Reliance of on any valuation method as “government approved”</li><li>• Reliance on market data involving business-related parties</li><li>• Valuing a hypothetical doctor in a hypothetical service arrangement</li><li>• Basing FMV on factors that only relate to hospitals and health systems</li><li>• Ignoring local market factors</li><li>• Ignoring the issue of practice losses</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on local market dynamics for physician and provider compensation</li><li>• Buyer-neutral analysis</li><li>• Focus on the economics of the subject arrangement and services being performed</li><li>• Using survey benchmarking for analysis and not as the sole basis for FMV and CR</li><li>• Evaluate and address practice losses (“Business Means Testing”)</li><li>• Using other valuation methods besides survey data (time and effort; beneficial return, etc.)</li><li>• Earnings-based compensation (wRVU method)</li></ul>

# Panel Discussion



# Questions?





# Educating and Connecting the Health Law Community

[americanhealthlaw.org](http://americanhealthlaw.org)



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