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Investment Banking | Healthcare Finance | Consulting

Healthcare Weekly News and Deals – September 12th, 2025

1. GE HealthCare (NASDAQ: GEHC) acquires Belgium-based icometrix to Expand Brain MRI AI Portfolio

The deal focuses on icometrix's icobrain aria platform, an FDA-cleared imaging solution that detects and quantifies side effects of anti-amyloid Alzheimer's therapies, including brain swelling and bleeds. With recent approvals of new treatments requiring more frequent MRI monitoring, the acquisition addresses growing patient needs. Founded in 2011, icometrix also develops AI programs for Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, dementia, strokes, traumatic brain injuries, and tumors. This follows last year's FDA clearance for MIM Software's amyloid plaque quantification technology. Financial terms weren't disclosed, though funding will use cash on hand. The company projects nearly 13 million Americans will have Alzheimer's by 2050. ([Link](#))

2. Nayya acquires Northstar to Launch Agentic AI Health and Wealth Benefits Solution

The combined platform unifies health and wealth experiences using proprietary data processing over 20 million employee data points. The agentic AI goes beyond answering questions to taking actions like auto-enrolling employees in wellness programs and auto-appealing denied claims. Founded in 2016 with \$40+ million in funding from Notable Capital, M13, Canvas Ventures, and Foundation Capital, Northstar brings Certified Financial Planners and works with companies like Zoom, ServiceTitan, and NerdWallet. The solution addresses employer concerns about benefits ROI while serving nearly four million employees through partnerships with top HR tech platforms including Workday, ADP, MetLife, and others. Recent users received average \$7,500 reimbursements through Claims services. ([Link](#))

3. Cohere Health Acquires ZignaAI to Launch Clinical Payment Integrity Suite

The move represents a "shift right" from pre-care authorization into post-service payments, connecting two separated ecosystems into one workflow. The integration aims to bridge prior authorizations with post-service claims and coding validation, enabling real-time approvals and swift reimbursements. CEO Siva Namasivayam and CGO Krishna Kottapalli emphasize addressing administrative burdens affecting physicians who complete 43 prior authorizations weekly, spending over 16 hours on forms and appeals. The solution targets replacing legacy audit vendor models with automated in-house processes. This follows similar initiatives by Epic, Oracle, and Cerner as the industry faces mounting pressure, with only 24% of Americans satisfied with healthcare costs. ([Link](#))

4. Ascend Learning acquires Laudio, via its financial sponsors Blackstone and CPP Investments to Expand Tech-Enabled Healthcare Workforce Management Solutions

Founded in 2017, Laudio serves thousands of leaders managing over 300,000 frontline staff through its unified operations platform that integrates employee rounding, recognition, professional development, and attendance management with AI-driven engagement recommendations. The platform addresses challenges facing frontline leaders who often manage teams of 50+ while struggling with administrative burdens. CEO Lissy Hu emphasizes combining

Laudio's leadership amplification expertise with Ascend's healthcare education capabilities. CEO and co-founder Russ Richmond notes the partnership enables leaders to focus on meaningful human interactions. This marks Ascend's third acquisition this year, following myTIPreport and Clover Learning purchases. ([Link](#))

5. Arete Health acquires Brunswick Physical Therapy and ProFlex Physical Therapy via its financial sponsor MBF Healthcare Partners

The acquisitions establish a multi-state outpatient physical therapy platform operating 11 clinics across North Carolina, Maryland, and Virginia, serving thousands of patients annually. The company focuses on delivering exceptional clinical care and improving rehabilitation access across mid-Atlantic and southeastern United States. CEO Eric DeYoung emphasizes leveraging technology for innovation while maintaining clinical integrity, employee engagement, and patient satisfaction. Chairman Miguel Fernandez highlights their commitment to investing in high-quality care organizations. The platform creates a scalable foundation for continued growth through both de novo development and strategic partnerships, with plans for further expansion while preserving community trust and operational excellence. ([Link](#))

6. Stella Mental Health acquires Bespoke Treatment in Los Angeles Expansion

Founded in 2019, the Joint Commission accredited facility offers comprehensive services including general psychiatry, psychotherapy, personalized TMS, Spravato®, IV ketamine, and intensive outpatient programming. The acquisition adds Dual Sympathetic Reset Stellate Ganglion Block (DSR-SGB) trauma treatment to Los Angeles and Santa Monica operations. CEO Michael Gershenzon emphasizes expanding access to advanced treatment protocols. Chief Medical Officer Dr. Nima Fahimian, triple board-certified and experienced at Cedars-Sinai and VA medical centers, will continue leading clinical innovation. Operating across 20+ locations nationwide plus international clinics in Israel and Australia, the combined entity has helped over 30,000 patients with evidence-based treatments. ([Link](#))

7. Lumelight acquires ClearFile to Expand Healthcare Compliance Solutions

The platform specializes in regulatory compliance for health plans, third-party administrators, and pharmacy benefit managers, integrating real-time federal and state-specific requirements, filing deadlines, and documentation into a single system. This technology cuts organizations' filing times by up to 50% while reducing costs and improving accuracy. CEO Jason Hall emphasizes strengthening nationwide compliance capabilities to help clients reduce regulatory risk and administrative costs. Boyle will continue as president within the expanded organization, which serves over 40,000 employers, brokers, third-party administrators, and health plans. The combined entity was formed through merging Healthcare Reporting, MZQ Consulting, CXC Solutions, Benefits Comply, Consova, and now ClearFile. ([Link](#))

8. NRx Pharmaceuticals' (NYASD: NRXP) subsidiary HOPE Therapeutics acquires Dura Medical in Florida Expansion

Founded in 2018 with locations in Naples and Ft. Myers, Florida, the provider offers ketamine infusion therapy, transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), Spravato, traditional psychiatry and therapy services. This acquisition is part of HOPE's larger M&A strategy including pending deals with Neurospa TMS and Cohen and Associates, creating eight West Coast Florida locations. The combined entity treats depression, suicidal ideation, PTSD, anxiety, OCD, substance use disorder and eating disorders. HOPE secured \$30 million debt financing in 2024 targeting five ketamine

clinic acquisitions. Parent company NRx Pharmaceuticals develops NMDA-therapies and recently received FDA Fast Track designation for preservative-free ketamine NRX-100. ([Link](#))

9. Truven by Merative acquires Springbuk to Expand Employer Healthcare Analytics

The transaction adds over 7,500 small- and mid-market employers to Truven's existing customer base of 40% of Fortune 100 companies and 7 of the top 10 U.S. health plans. The combined solutions address rising employer healthcare costs, with family coverage premiums increasing 24% over five years. Executive VP Marcy Tatsch emphasizes scaling capabilities from small businesses to large enterprises. The integration combines Truven Health Insights analytics, MarketScan Databases covering 300+ million patient lives used by 17 of the world's top 20 pharmaceutical companies, with Springbuk's Health Intelligence Platform and Activate Marketplace for benefits program optimization and partner matching services. ([Link](#))

10. B. Braun SE Fully acquires True Digital Surgery to Dominate Digital Microsurgery with AEOS® Platform

Previously holding a minority stake, the German medical technology company completed full acquisition to enhance its Aesculap division's digital microsurgery capabilities. The deal secures expertise for Aesculap AEOS® systems used in neurosurgery, spinal surgery, and ENT procedures. Executive board member Dr. Jens von Lackum emphasizes integrating cutting-edge robotic-assisted 3D microscopy technology. The acquisition addresses market transformation from traditional analog microscopes to digital exoscopes, enabling surgeons to operate upright while viewing 3D monitors, reducing physical strain. The Goleta facility will remain a technology hub focusing on innovation and advanced technology integration for global healthcare markets. ([Link](#))

11. Protera Health Expands Partnership with Emplify Health to Include Gundersen Region Following Bellin Health Merger Success

The virtual MSK care program launched in April 2024 has demonstrated significant clinical improvements including reduced pain and functional impairment, enhanced mental health measures, and high employee engagement. These strong outcomes prompted the extension of services to the broader employee population following Bellin Health and Gundersen Health System's merger and rebranding. The physician-led, multidisciplinary digital care model provides end-to-end treatment with connections to in-person services when needed. Director of Benefits Lynne Nelson emphasized the partnership aligns with their "leading with love" vision, investing in health and productivity while delivering engaging care experiences. CEO Dr. Eric Makhni highlighted their shared commitment to accessible, integrated digital healthcare delivery. ([Link](#))

Venture and Other News

1. Sophont raises \$9.22M Seed Round Led by Kindred Ventures, with participation from AICONIC VENTURES, Upfront Ventures, Delphi Ventures and Mei Ventures to Develop Multimodal AI for Holistic Patient Diagnosis

The startup builds foundation models that reason across pathology slides, brain scans, clinical notes, and lab results to create multimodal AI systems viewing whole patients rather than isolated data. Founded by 22-year-old CEO Tanishq Abraham (PhD at 19) and co-founder/CTO Paul Scotti (former Head of NeuroAI at Stability AI), the company collaborates with academic medical centers globally. Additional investors include Upfront Ventures, Delphi Ventures, Lukas Biewald, and

Clément Delangue. The oversized seed funding will expand research teams, accelerate model development, and launch pilot programs with hospitals, health-tech companies, and pharmaceutical partners for applications like symptom triage and biomarker discovery. ([Link](#))

2. Unmind secures \$26M from Trinity Capital's Craig Fox, Total Funding Exceeds \$100M

The workplace mental health platform offers employee assessments to track mental wellbeing over time, providing self-guided tools for sleep, stress reduction, relationship nurturing, and anxiety management. The AI-enabled platform features mental health training and employee assistance programs. The company's mental health agent Nova guides individuals to appropriate care with clinical oversight. This funding round follows a \$35 million investment announced one month prior. The new capital will scale operations, further develop Nova, and invest in technology advancement. Managing director Craig Fox emphasizes the vital importance of prioritizing mental health for individuals and collaborative work environments. ([Link](#))

3. Goodpath raises \$18M Series A Led by MassMutual Ventures, with participation from Healthy Ventures to Tackle Chronic Care Fragmentation with AI

The AI-driven platform addresses chronic condition management fragmentation by integrating weight management, musculoskeletal pain relief, sleep support, digestive health, mental health care, diabetes management, and cancer survivorship into one virtual experience. Built on 4.5 million real-world data points, the learning engine provides personalized care recommendations with support from coaches and multidisciplinary medical teams covering 20+ specialties. Enrolment rates reach 15-20% of eligible groups—five times industry average—with measurable medical claims cost reductions. Healthy Ventures and existing backers also participated. The funding will expand AI-led personalization tools, introduce prescription management features, and target the broader payer market beyond employer-sponsored benefits. ([Link](#))

4. Conceivable Life Sciences raises USD 50m in Series A- Funding supports U.S. market launch of AURA, World's first AI-powered automated IVF lab

This funding supports the development and commercialization of the world's first AI-powered automated IVF laboratory. The Series A round was led by Advance Venture Partners (AVP) with participation from existing investors including ARTIS Ventures, Stride, and ACME. This round brings Conceivable's total funding to \$70 million, including the company's \$20 million seed round, which closed in December 2022. ([Link](#))