



Healthcare Weekly News and Deals –May 18th, 2026

1. Boston Scientific Announces \$1.5 billion Strategic Investment in MiRus LLC

Boston Scientific Corporation (NYSE: BSX) announced a \$1.5 billion strategic investment for an approximately 34% equity stake in MiRus LLC, a privately held company developing proprietary biomaterials, implants, and procedural solutions for cardiovascular and orthopedic diseases. Announced May 18, 2026, the agreement includes an exclusive option to acquire MiRus' SIEGEL™ Balloon Expandable TAVR system, with potential additional payments of up to \$3 billion upon clinical and regulatory milestones. The nickel-free, rhenium-alloy valve features a smaller delivery sheath, precise placement, and promising early clinical results in the ongoing STAR pivotal trial. The investment strengthens Boston Scientific's interventional cardiology portfolio in the rapidly growing aortic stenosis market. ([Link](#))

2. J.P. Morgan, KKR, BofA Securities, and Barclays led the \$478.7 million initial public offering of GMR Solutions (NYSE: GMRS) at a revised price of \$15 per share

GMR Solutions (NYSE: GMRS), the largest provider of emergency medical services in the U.S., priced its IPO at \$15 per share, raising \$478.7 million. The offering was led by a major syndicate including J.P. Morgan and KKR, with the latter also providing a \$500 million concurrent private placement to bolster the company's balance sheet. GMR Solutions plans to use the IPO proceeds primarily to pay down its existing debt. Despite the offering price being lowered from initial expectations, the IPO values the company at approximately \$3.4 billion. The deal highlights significant institutional interest in the stabilization and growth potential of essential emergency and transport healthcare services. ([Link](#))

3. Prestige Consumer Healthcare (NYSE:PBH) Announces Acquisition of LaCorium Health

Prestige Consumer Healthcare Inc. has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire LaCorium Health, a leading Australian platform in therapeutic skin care, lip, foot, and skin treatments. Announced May 13–14, 2026 alongside fiscal results, the approximately \$150 million cash deal adds a high-growth, asset-light international OTC portfolio with strong market positions and expected double-digit revenue growth. The acquisition enhances Prestige's dermatological offerings and geographic diversification. ([Link](#))

4. Lumexa Imaging (NASDAQ: LMRI) executed its growth strategy by adding four new centers through joint ventures with University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and Advocate Health

Lumexa Imaging the addition of four new locations in 2026, advancing its strategy to expand in high-growth markets via strategic partnerships. The expansion includes entry into the Pennsylvania market through a joint venture with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and further growth in the Southeast with Advocate Health. These additions, consisting of two acquisitions and two de novo centers, bring Lumexa's total to over 190 outpatient imaging centers. The company leverages these joint ventures for capital efficiency and repeatability, focusing on the sustained shift toward outpatient, lower-cost sites of care driven by an aging population. ([Link](#))

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5. Coastal Medical Transportation Systems Acquires Alert Ambulance to Expand New England Regional Care Network

Coastal Medical Transportation Systems (CMTS), a leading privately owned medical transportation provider in New England, has completed the acquisition of Alert Ambulance Service. Announced May 18, 2026, the deal further strengthens CMTS's position as one of the largest and most comprehensive ambulance and medical transportation providers in the region, following its prior integration of Fallon and Lifeline Ambulance Services. The acquisition expands geographic coverage across Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, increases fleet size to over 325 vehicles, and grows the combined workforce to nearly 1,500 clinicians and support staff. ([Link](#))

6. Wellgistics Health (NASDAQ: WGRX) Accelerates Digital Health Expansion with Planned Acquisition of WellCare Today

Wellgistics Health, Inc. announced a non-binding letter of intent to acquire WellCare Today, a remote monitoring company specializing in RPM, RTM, and CCM programs powered by Samsung Galaxy Watch technology. Announced May 14, 2026, the proposed ~\$15 million transaction (including \$3 million cash and performance-based earnout in preferred stock) will integrate WellCare Today's HealthAssist® platform with Wellgistics' MSO pilot through Kare Clinicals and its network of over 6,500 independent pharmacies. The combination aims to enhance patient engagement, medication adherence, chronic care management, and reimbursement opportunities through wearable-enabled remote monitoring. ([Link](#))

7. Lorient Capital entered a strategic growth partnership with PeterMD to accelerate the national expansion of its proactive Medicine 3.0 healthcare platform

Lorient Capital, a private equity firm exclusively focused on healthcare, has made a strategic investment in PeterMD to scale its personalized "Medicine 3.0" platform. PeterMD specializes in precision medicine, offering customized hormone health, longevity, and sexual wellness treatments through advanced diagnostics and proactive care. Lorient Capital is deploying capital from its \$500 million Healthcare Fund III to fuel PeterMD's national growth, aiming to transform the traditional reactive healthcare model. The partnership focuses on enhancing clinical outcomes and operational efficiency as PeterMD seeks to expand its footprint and bring precision-based integrated medicine to a broader national patient base. ([Link](#))

8. Blackstone and KKR & Co. Inc. reached a restructuring deal to take over the dental firm Affordable Care after slashing its total debt by 70%

Direct lenders Blackstone and KKR are set to take control of Affordable Care, one of the largest U.S. dental services providers, following a major debt restructuring. The deal involves the lenders in a \$1.4 billion private credit structure swapping their debt for equity, effectively slashing the dental firm's debt load by approximately 70%. This restructuring provides Affordable Care with a significantly improved balance sheet to manage its extensive network of dental practices. The move underscores the increasing trend of major private credit lenders like Blackstone and KKR transitioning from creditors to equity owners to stabilize and preserve value in distressed healthcare portfolios. ([Link](#))

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9. Quince Therapeutics (NASDAQ: QNCX) Acquires Orphai Therapeutics and Raises up to \$187 Million in Private Placement to Advance Pulmonary Pipeline

Quince Therapeutics, Inc. announced the acquisition of Orphai Therapeutics, bringing in LAM-001, an inhaled formulation of rapamycin (sirolimus) for rare pulmonary diseases including pulmonary hypertension associated with interstitial lung disease (PH-ILD) and bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome (BOS). Concurrently, Quince entered a private placement to raise up to \$187 million (\$115 million upfront + up to \$72 million from warrants), led by Balyasny Asset Management with participation from a strong syndicate of healthcare investors. The combined proceeds are expected to fund operations through the end of 2028 and support multiple clinical milestones, including Phase 2 data readouts in 2027 and 2028.

10. Orthopaedic Specialty Group and OrthoConnecticut Merge to Create Statewide Physician-Led Platform Powered by HOPCo Technology Partnership

Orthopaedic Specialty Group (OSG) and OrthoConnecticut have officially merged, creating a dominant, physician-led musculoskeletal (MSK) care platform across Connecticut. The merger is bolstered by a strategic partnership with Healthcare Outcomes Performance Company (HOPCo), the global leader in MSK value-based care. While the organizations merge their clinical networks to improve patient access, HOPCo provides the digital infrastructure, including advanced analytics and care management tools, to optimize outcomes and reduce total care costs. This collaboration allows the unified practice to scale thoughtfully while preserving clinical autonomy and delivering high-quality orthopedic services closer to home for patients throughout the Connecticut. ([Link](#))

11. Sweetser merged with Common Ties Mental Health Services to create Maine's largest provider of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic services

Common Ties Mental Health Services, based in Lewiston, has officially merged with Sweetser to create a robust behavioral health network in Maine. This merger establishes Sweetser as the state's largest provider of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) services, integrating Common Ties' regional expertise into Sweetser's broad statewide platform. The investment focuses on streamlining mental health delivery, expanding free community training, and increasing access to specialized behavioral health services. By consolidating resources, the combined entity aims to build a more sustainable and accessible care model to address the rising mental health needs across Maine's diverse and often underserved communities. ([Link](#))

12. Gryphon Investors-backed LEARN Behavioral acquired Little Leaves Behavioral Services from FullBloom, a portfolio company of American Securities

LEARN Behavioral, a leading autism therapy provider backed by Gryphon Investors, has acquired Little Leaves Behavioral Services from FullBloom. FullBloom is a portfolio company of American Securities and sold the division to refocus on its core educational services. Little Leaves operates 18 early-intervention centers across Maryland, Virginia, and Florida, which will now join LEARN's extensive national network. This acquisition allows LEARN Behavioral to expand its density in the Mid-Atlantic and establish a larger presence in the Florida market. The deal represents a significant consolidation within the ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) sector, focusing on scaling early-intervention services for children with autism. ([Link](#))

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13. Arcadea Group expanded its mission-critical software presence in Brazil through the acquisition of hemotherapy and hospital software provider Sofis

Arcadea Group, a long-term investor in high-quality software firms, has acquired Sofis, a Rio de Janeiro-based provider of healthcare software. Sofis specializes in mission-critical solutions for blood bank management (hemotherapy) and hospital ERP systems, serving over 300 institutions across Brazil. This acquisition marks Arcadea's fourth investment in the Brazilian healthcare technology market. Arcadea plans to leverage its permanent capital base to support Sofis' long-term product development and international expansion. By transitioning from a founder-owned model to one backed by Arcadea's global resources, Sofis aims to modernize its platform and deepen its penetration into the complex Latin American healthcare technology landscape. ([Link](#))

14. Iterative Health Acquires Cardiology Research Sites from NextStage Clinical Research

Iterative Health, a healthcare technology and services company focused on accelerating clinical research, has acquired three cardiology research sites from NextStage Clinical Research in Texas (Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Waco). Announced on May 14, 2026, with Bourne Partners serving as financial advisor, the deal expands Iterative Health's elite site network and strengthens its capabilities in cardiovascular research — a therapeutic area affecting nearly half of U.S. adults. The sites bring experienced teams, strong community provider connections, and an active trial portfolio, enhancing patient access to innovative therapies while providing sponsors with high-performing, real-world research centers. ([Link](#))

15. HealthScape Advisors Acquires PayerAlly to Strengthen Pharmacy Benefit Management Capabilities

HealthScape Advisors, a leading payer advisory firm and a Chartis company, has acquired PayerAlly, an independent pharmacy consulting firm specializing in pharmacy benefit management (PBM) strategy, procurement, and optimization. Announced May 12, 2026 (with coverage extending through mid-May), the deal enhances HealthScape's ability to help health plans and employers address rapidly rising prescription drug costs through integrated, clinically informed total cost-of-care solutions. PayerAlly's expertise in PBM strategy complements HealthScape's broader payer advisory platform, supporting more effective management of one of healthcare's fastest-growing expense categories. ([Link](#))

16. NeuroVision Acquires Durin Life Sciences to Advance Neurodegenerative Diagnostics

NeuroVision, a diagnostics company developing early detection tools for Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases, has acquired Durin Life Sciences, a fellow diagnostics developer. Announced May 15, 2026, the deal adds Durin's blood-based Duritect™ tests for early detection and monitoring of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and ALS. The combination accelerates NeuroVision's platform for earlier, more accessible diagnosis and disease management, addressing critical gaps in neurodegenerative care. ([Link](#))

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17. IKS Health Acquires ARAI Solutions to Accelerate Agentic AI Capabilities

IKS Health, a global leader in care enablement and AI-driven clinical solutions, has acquired ARAI Solutions, a specialized AI management and technology company focused on biomedical knowledge graphs and clinical reasoning infrastructure. Announced May 13–14, 2026, the deal enhances IKS Health’s ability to build proprietary small language models and agentic AI systems for clinical, operational, and revenue cycle workflows. ARAI’s ontology layer and applied research expertise will improve the reliability, auditability, and efficiency of IKS’s AI platforms serving health systems nationwide. ([Link](#))

18. Signant Health Acquires Ametris to Create End-to-End eCOA and Digital Outcome Measures Platform

Signant Health, a leading evidence generation company for clinical trials, has acquired Ametris (formerly ActiGraph), a global digital health solutions provider specializing in wearable-derived clinical outcome measures. The deal integrates Signant’s eCOA (electronic Clinical Outcome Assessment) solutions with Ametris’ validated sensor-based technologies for objective measurement of physical activity and function. The combined platform will deliver multimodal evidence—patient-reported outcomes alongside continuous real-world data—simplifying complex trials, accelerating insights, and strengthening regulatory submissions, particularly in CNS and other therapeutic areas. ([Link](#))

19. iSpecimen Inc. (NASDAQ: ISPC) Secures \$2.5 Million Private Placement to Support Operations Amid 89% Annual Stock Decline

iSpecimen Inc. finalized a \$2.5 million private placement on May 11, 2026, to bolster working capital. The biospecimen marketplace provider, currently valued at \$3.39 million, has seen its share price plummet 89% over the past year to \$4.57. This funding follows a \$5.5 million raise in late 2025, aimed at mitigating rapid cash burn. iSpecimen, which connects medical researchers with specimen providers, will use the proceeds for general corporate purposes as it navigates significant financial challenges and seeks to stabilize its market position. ([Link](#))

20. Blue Sea Capital supported One Physics in its strategic acquisition and partnership with Petrone Associates to expand its Northeast clinical services footprint

One Physics, the largest outsourced medical physics services company in North America, has announced its 22nd acquisition with the addition of New York-based Petrone Associates. This strategic move, backed by growth-oriented private equity firm Blue Sea Capital, significantly strengthens One Physics' presence in the New York City metropolitan market and Northern New Jersey. The partnership leverages One Physics' national scale and Petrone's established clinical reputation to provide comprehensive diagnostic and therapy medical physics, radiation safety, and dosimetry services. Blue Sea Capital, managing over \$1.5 billion in assets, remains committed to accelerating One Physics' industry leadership through continued regional consolidation. ([Link](#))

Venture Deals and Other

1. [Sound Ventures, Alumni Ventures, Link Ventures, Redesign Health, and RRE Ventures invested \\$17 million in Anomaly Insights to address healthcare payer-provider information asymmetry.](#)

Anomaly Insights, an AI-powered payer intelligence firm, secured \$17 million in funding led by Sound Ventures to combat the informational gap between healthcare payers and providers. The investment includes participation from RRE Ventures and Redesign Health, focusing on Anomaly's real-time AI platform that identifies and corrects billing errors and payment inaccuracies. The company aims to reduce the massive administrative waste in the U.S. healthcare system by providing transparency in the claims process. This new capital will be used to enhance Anomaly's machine learning models and scale its solutions across larger health systems and insurance networks to streamline payment cycles. ([Link](#))

2. [McKesson Ventures, FCA Venture Partners, Sanofi Ventures, and AIX Ventures led a \\$26 million Series A for Branchlab to scale its AI-driven biopharma commercialization platform](#)

Branchlab raised \$26 million in a Series A round led by McKesson Ventures to accelerate the growth of its Pathwai™ platform. The round, which included corporate venture backing from Sanofi Ventures, brings Branchlab's total funding to \$35 million. The company uses privacy-first AI to optimize the patient journey and enhance pharmaceutical commercialization, reporting a 70% increase in patient activation efficiency. Branchlab intends to use the capital to expand its engineering and data science teams in New York and Colorado. By providing real-time insights to biopharma brands, Branchlab aims to make pharmaceutical marketing more effective and patient-centric through advanced data analytics. ([Link](#))

3. [AIX Ventures led a \\$2 million pre-Seed funding round for Chromie Health to develop its autonomous AI-powered hospital workforce management platform](#)

Chromie Health, a New York-based startup, secured \$2 million in pre-Seed funding led by AIX Ventures to tackle the hospital staffing crisis. The company develops autonomous AI agents that automate complex administrative tasks and workforce scheduling without requiring deep IT integration. Chromie Health's platform is designed to alleviate the burnout of clinical staff by handling the logistics of hospital operations through intelligent automation. The investment will support the development of additional "digital agents" capable of reasoning through clinical context and staffing needs. This seed capital positions Chromie Health to pilot its solutions across more health systems seeking to modernize their operational efficiency. ([Link](#))

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- 4. [Blueprint Equity, Villain Capital, Z21 Ventures, and Bienville Capital led a \\$14 million growth funding round for pediatric-focused AI operating system Develo](#)**
Develo, an AI-native operating system for pediatric practices, raised \$14 million in a funding round led by Blueprint Equity. The platform integrates clinical workflows, billing, and parent engagement into a single AI-driven ecosystem, currently serving hundreds of providers across 25 states. The capital will be used to accelerate the development of specialized AI tools, including automated charge capture and AI-assisted scribing for pediatricians. Develo aims to reduce the administrative burden that leads to physician burnout while improving the financial performance of independent pediatric practices. The investment highlights a growing trend toward specialty-specific AI platforms that address unique clinical and operational workflows. ([Link](#))
- 5. [Thrive Capital, General Catalyst, Accel, Bain Capital Ventures, Redpoint, BoxGroup, and Pear VC backed Forus with \\$160 million to build its AI-powered pharmaceutical delivery network](#)**
Forus, formerly known as Tandem, raised \$160 million in a major funding round backed by top-tier venture firms including Thrive Capital and General Catalyst. The company is building an AI-powered infrastructure that connects doctors, pharmacies, and biopharma companies to streamline the drug fulfillment process. Forus automates the "last-mile" clinical steps, such as insurance authorizations, to ensure patients receive treatments faster. With five of the top ten global biopharma companies already utilizing the network, Forus plans to use the investment to expand its nationwide reach and further integrate its AI layer into existing physician and pharmacy workflows to eliminate treatment delays. ([Link](#))
- 6. [Uncork Capital, Frist Cressey Ventures, Moxxie Ventures, and Coalition Operators provided \\$11.6 million in Seed funding for the launch of Knit Health's clinical behavior AI](#)**
Knit Health, a spin-out from UC Berkeley, launched with \$11.6 million in Seed funding co-led by Uncork Capital and Frist Cressey Ventures. The company is developing a Large Clinical Behavior Model (LCBM) trained on real-world clinician decisions across 30 U.S. health systems. Knit Health's AI agents are designed to handle triage, patient flow, and care coordination by learning from collective clinical experience rather than just static text. The funding will be used to scale its foundational intelligence layer and deploy AI agents that assist in high-stakes hospital environments. This investment reflects a shift toward "Action AI" that can reason and perform complex tasks in clinical settings. ([Link](#))
- 7. [Salesforce Ventures, Echo Health Ventures, Susa Ventures, Matrix Partners, and HC9 Ventures raised \\$17.5 million in Series A funding for Optura's AI governance platform](#)**
Optura, a Nashville-based healthcare AI governance platform, secured \$17.5 million in Series A funding led by Salesforce Ventures. The investment, which brings Optura's total funding to \$25 million, will support the expansion of its "Return on AI Investment" (ROAI) platform. Optura helps enterprise healthcare organizations, such as Independence Blue Cross, map fragmented data and measure the efficacy of their AI agents. The capital will be used to scale partnerships with LLM providers and grow its engineering teams. By providing a unified knowledge layer, Optura enables healthcare leaders to prioritize AI use cases based on actual operational readiness and projected business value. ([Link](#))

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8. [Norwest, Primary, Next Ventures, Constellation, and Scrub Capital led a \\$25 million financing round for Tokaido Health to launch its AI medication steerage platform.](#)

Tokaido Health emerged from stealth with \$25 million in funding led by Norwest and Primary to address skyrocketing pharmacy costs for employers. The platform utilizes AI and behavioral economics to identify same-or-better medications that cost less, steering members toward high-value options like biosimilars. Tokaido layers on top of existing PBM stacks, allowing for a seamless integration without plan redesigns. The investment will be used to scale its concierge-style member outreach and expand its clinical reasoning engine. By focusing on site-of-care steerage and polypharmacy reconciliation, Tokaido aims to eliminate billions in wasted drug spending while improving the patient experience. ([Link](#))

9. [Andera Partners, American Century Investments, Clarevia Ventures, Time BioVentures, View Ventures, Cadence Healthcare Ventures, and Anduril Investors led a \\$20 million Series D for Rivermark Medical](#)

Rivermark Medical, a urology-focused medical device company, raised \$20 million in Series D funding led by Andera Partners. The financing will support the ongoing RAPID III pivotal clinical trial for the FloStent™ System, a non-surgical treatment for men with benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH). The investment syndicate includes American Century Investments and Time BioVentures, focusing on bringing this reversible, office-based therapy to market. The FloStent is designed to be easily adjustable and tissue-preserving, offering a first-line alternative to more invasive surgical procedures. The capital will also be used to prepare for a U.S. commercial launch following expected regulatory approval. ([Link](#))

10. [Aulis Capital led a \\$13.4 million Seed funding round for Shyld AI to accelerate the deployment of its autonomous AI-driven infection control solutions](#)

Shyld AI, a healthcare technology company, secured \$13.4 million in Seed funding led by Aulis Capital to expand its active intelligence solutions for hospital facilities. Shyld AI develops autonomous physical agents that use AI and UV disinfection to reduce environmental contamination in high-risk areas like operating rooms. The funding will accelerate deployments across U.S. health systems and support the company's expansion into regulated pharmaceutical manufacturing environments. By streamlining infection control and compliance without adding to the workload of hospital staff, Shyld AI aims to improve patient safety and operational efficiency. The investment marks a significant milestone in the adoption of autonomous hygiene agents in healthcare. ([Link](#))

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