



Governance Lessons from the Field

Strategic Affiliations & Joint Ventures



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Agenda

- Strategy & Governance
- Regulatory Considerations & Leadership Engagement
- Hypothetical Examples
- Risk Mitigation Strategies
- Exit Planning
- Hypothetical Examples

Strategy & Governance

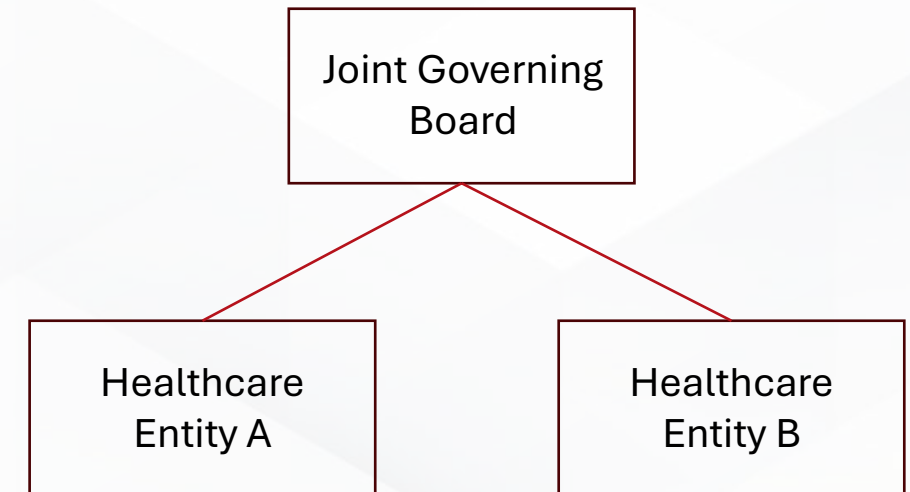
- Strategy Examples
 - Market Expansion
 - Access to Clinical Expertise or Capabilities
 - Physician Alignment
 - Risk Sharing/Value-Based Care
 - Service Line Development
- Governance Frameworks
 - Promote collaboration and shared ownership
 - Emphasize speed, efficiency, and delegated authority

Regulatory & Leadership Considerations

- Regulatory Considerations
 - Antitrust
 - 36 Month Rule & Moratorium on Home Health Licenses
 - Stark Law
 - Anti-kickback Statute & Safe Harbors
 - Tax and tax-exemption
 - Licenses/permits
- Leadership Engagement
 - Leadership alignment before formation
 - Regular touchpoints among leaders from both sides
 - Clear authority delegated to team members

Hypothetical #1 – Joint Governance Model

- **Fact Pattern:**
 - Entity A has strong physician relationships and engagement
 - Entity B has leveraged technology to optimize delivery of care
- **Strategic Rationale**
 - Desire to share and exchange certain strengths
- **Governance**
 - Role of joint governing board is most crucial element
 - How much authority will individual entities have?
- **Regulatory Considerations**
 - State antitrust notices, tax implications, etc.
- **Leadership Engagement**
 - More engagement needed here because certain authority will be taken away from current leadership



Hypothetical #2 – Joint Operating Model

- **Fact Pattern:**

- Entity A and B use similar administrative and back-office services, but costs are high

- **Strategic Rationale**

- Create efficiencies by pooling those services into one subsidiary entity which provides services to both

- **Governance**

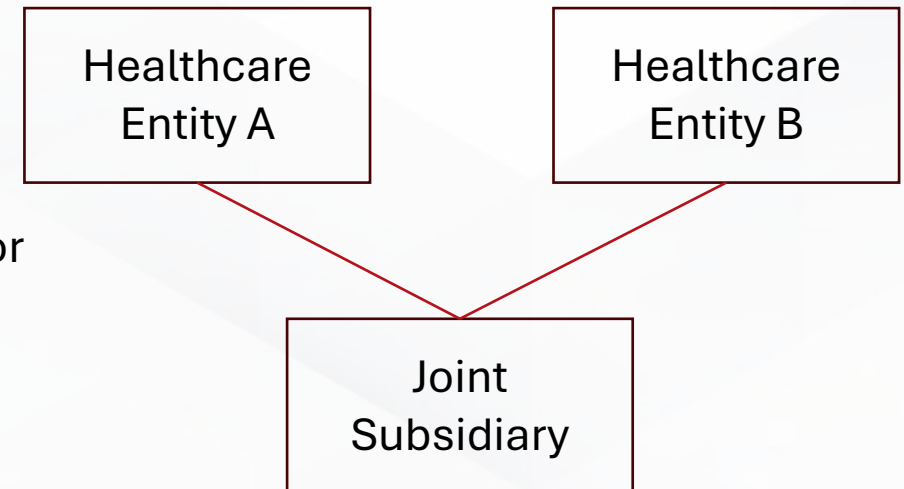
- Outlining ownership rights, decision-making authority, possibility for adding new owners, and exit strategies are critical

- **Regulatory Considerations**

- Tax exemption may or may not be feasible
- Be mindful of Stark and AKS

- **Leadership Engagement**

- Less engagement needed than previous model once the goals are set



Risk Mitigation Strategies

- **Brand Protection & Reputational Risks**

- Require approval rights over marketing materials, public announcements and community-facing communications and Identify circumstances under which a party may require removal of its branding from JV operations.

- **Financial & Operational Risk Management**

- Establish measurable operating and financial performance benchmarks.
- Clarify responsibility for losses, liabilities and indemnification obligations.

- **Compliance & Regulatory Safeguards**

- Defined responsibility for regulatory investigations and corrective actions.
- Quality and patient safety oversight mechanisms.

- **Unexpected or Underestimated Risks**

- Management resource commitments.
- Technology and data integration
- Physician alignment expectations.
- Capital expenditure requirements.

Exit Planning

- Define buy-sell rights, put/call rights and valuation methodologies.
- Establish procedures for transition of patients, employees, contracts and licenses.
- Determine ownership and disposition of records and data.
- Removal of trademarks, branding and public affiliation references upon separation.
- Determine resolution waterfall:
 - Escalate to key executives
 - Escalate to the owners' CEOs
 - Mediation
 - Arbitration
 - Buy / Sell
 - Budget Deadlock – Prior year's budget plus % increase
- Exit may be permitted contractually in certain limited scenarios:
 - Right of first refusal (ROFR)
 - Right of first offer (ROFO)
 - Put / Call (also referred to as a buy/sell)
 - Tag-along / Drag-along rights

Hypothetical #3- Service Line-specific JOA

- **Fact Pattern:**
 - Entity A – Nonprofit single-specialty hospital
 - Entity B – Nonprofit statewide, full-service health system
 - Parties enter into joint operating agreement for the development of a single service line in a specified region
- **Strategic Rationale:**
 - Entity A – Expand footprint in new geography
 - Entity B – Develop improved service line in cooperation with highly rated specialists
- **Governance Considerations:**
 - Joint operating committee serves as “board,” with functions delegated to advisory boards and appointed officers
- **Takeaways:**
 - JOA defines scope of service line development with high degree of specificity
 - Entity B required to “wall off” the JOA service line from its other services
 - Subsequent acquisitions subject to a reconciliation process to determine whether the same may be added to the JOA

Hypothetical #4 – Nonprofit-PE ASC Joint Venture

- **Fact Pattern**

- Nonprofit hospital owns majority interest in ASC entity
- PE-backed management company acquires minority interest in ASC and enters into MSA with ASC
- Declining financial performance leads ASC to seek alternative arrangement, but management entity has strong minority protections

- **Key Governance Considerations**

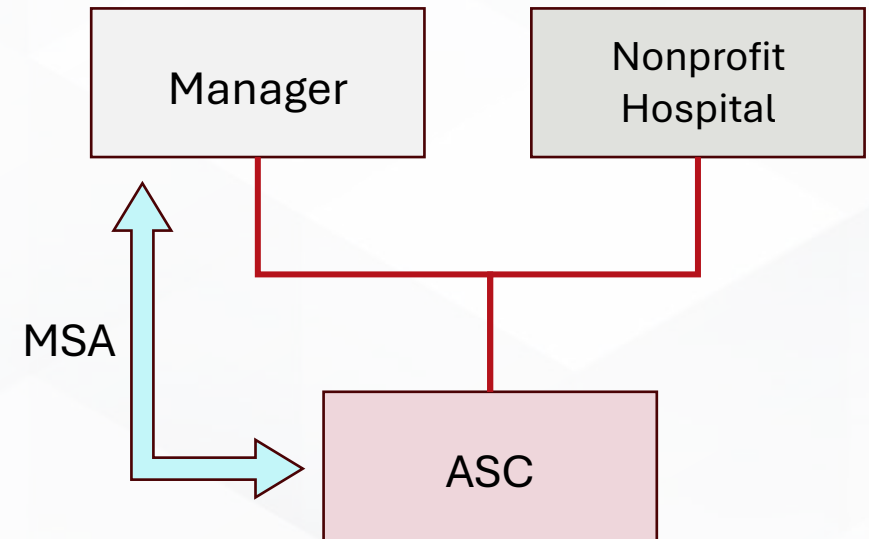
- Strong reserved powers in favor of manager with respect to management arrangement

- **Regulatory Considerations**

- CON
- Stark (in scenarios where physician ownership is also implicated)

- **Takeaways**

- “Culture fit” becomes serious consideration
- More clearly defined performance metrics would provide hospital with an unwind pathway





Questions?

**For more information on these topics visit
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