

Health Care Market Oversight

Specialty Dental Brands Restructure

The [Health Care Market Oversight](#) (HCMO) program reviews health care business deals, like mergers and acquisitions, to make sure they do not harm people and communities in Oregon. On February 1, 2024, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) accepted a [notice](#) related to an ownership change for Specialty Dental Brands (SDB).

Who's involved?

Specialty Dental Brands (“SDB”) operates dental support organizations (DSOs), which provide business and non-clinical support services to dental practices. Two SDB companies – SDB MTN West Partners, LLC and SDB Partner Aggregator, LLC – provide support to OR Specialty Dental, a dental practice operating in Oregon. OR Specialty Dental providers offer orthodontic and oral surgery services.

About the deal

In September 2022, OHA [approved](#) a [previous transaction](#) involving a change in SDB's private equity ownership. The latest transaction notice involves another ownership change for SDB. After SDB defaulted on loans, SDB's private equity owners plan to transfer ownership to dozens of lenders. As a result, the lenders will have a 55% ownership stake, with management and dentist owners retaining a 45% ownership stake. SDB states that they do not anticipate any changes to operations or access to services because of this transaction.

What's next?

OHA is reviewing this deal to understand how it could affect the cost and quality of health care, access to services, and health equity. During the review, OHA will use health care data, news and media reports, information from the companies, and input from the public to decide whether the deal should be approved. After completing a review, OHA will issue a decision about whether the deal may proceed as planned.

We want to hear from you!

Public input is crucial to OHA's review! Your feedback can help us understand how this deal could help or harm people in your community. To share your thoughts and feedback about this deal, please email hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov. In your email, include the word “SDB”, what you think, and whether you support or oppose the deal.. OHA will include all comments received by February 15, 2024, in the preliminary review. You can also [subscribe](#) to receive updates about this review.

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