

Health Care Market Oversight

UnitedHealth Purchase of Amedisys

The [Health Care Market Oversight](#) (HCMO) program reviews health care business deals to make sure they do not harm people and communities in Oregon. On December 4, 2023 OHA accepted a complete [notice](#) from UnitedHealth Group Incorporated describing plans to purchase Amedisys, Inc. On March 14, 2024, OHA completed a [preliminary review](#) and determined that the transaction required a comprehensive review.

Who's involved?

UnitedHealth Group Incorporated (“UHG”) is a for-profit company based in Minnesota that offers health insurance plans and provides health care services nationwide. UHG is the largest employer of physicians in the country. In Oregon, UHG’s Optum subsidiary provided primary care, behavioral and mental health care, surgeries, specialty care, and other services to more than 140,000 patients in 2022. The company also served about 4,000 hospice and home health patients in the state. Over 200,000 Oregon residents are members of UHG’s commercial and Medicare Advantage health insurance plans. Last year, UHG bought LHC, a nationwide provider of home health and hospice services with multiple locations in Oregon.

Amedisys, Inc. (“Amedisys”) is a for-profit company based in Louisiana. Amedisys provides in-home hospice, palliative care, and home health services across 38 states. In Oregon, Amedisys operates three home health agencies in Salem, Portland, and Roseburg, and one hospice agency in Roseburg. Amedisys serves about 5,000 home health patients and 500 hospice patients in Oregon per year.

About the deal

Through this deal, UHG will wholly own Amedisys. UHG and Amedisys say that they intend to maintain Amedisys’ existing home health and hospice services in Oregon. Amedisys locations will continue to accept the same forms of insurance, including Medicare, Oregon Health Plan and Medicare Advantage. UHG says the deal will allow Optum to expand the range and geographic coverage of home health services available to Oregon residents.

What's next?

OHA is conducting a comprehensive review of the 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 allowed to proceed.

We want to hear from you!

Public input is crucial to OHA’s review! Your feedback can help us understand how this business deal could help or harm people in your community. To share your thoughts and feedback, please email hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov. In your email, include the word “Amedisys”, what you think, and whether you support or oppose the deal.

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