

The Advisory Board Company

The First Place the World's Great Health Care Organizations Turn to Solve Their Most Complex Challenges

> 30th Annual J.P. Morgan Healthcare Conference January 2012

Legal Caveat

This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements may be affected by many factors, including, among others, those described in the Company's most recently issued earnings press release and under the heading "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in the Company's most recent filings on Form 10-K or 10-Q with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Consequently, actual operations and results may differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us. All forward-looking statements are qualified by those risk factors and are further qualified in all respects by the information disclosed in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, and does not intend to do so.

Investment Thesis

- 1. Uniquely Positioned in Today's Environment
- 2. Powerful Economic Model
- 3. Multiple Avenues of Growth
- 4. Strong Financial Performance



Uniquely Positioned in Today's Environment

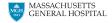
Unparalleled Standing as Industry's Trusted Advisor

Built over 30+ Years









Large, Prestigious Membership Base

- ~3,200 member institutions around the globe
- All 14 of the U.S. News & World Report honor roll hospitals
- 99 of the 100 largest health systems
- Meaningful relationships at all levels of the org chart

World-Class Insight and Intellectual Property

- Powerful research engine focused on most important, common issues
- Intitutional expertise on all aspects of highly complex industry
- Knowledge base of 35K+ best practices
- Growing data asset comprising data on 33% of all U.S. inpatient admissions









Deep Connections Throughout the Industry

- 3,200 CEOs
- 12,000+ Senior Executives
- 13,000+ Product Leaders
- 40,000+ Line Managers

A Singular Moment in Health Care

"Perfect Storm" Creates Tremendous Opportunity

Market Factors

- Health care reform
- · 31 million newly insured
- New payment structures
- Increasing cost pressure
- Aging baby boomers

Disruptive Change



Health System Imperatives

- · Physician alignment
- · Care coordination
- I.T./operational efficiency
- Revenue cycle enhancements
- Transition to value-based approach

Delivery System Reform

Intense need for Advisory Board research, software, and services

Insight-Driven Standardized Offerings

Key Attributes of Our 50+ Discrete Programs

→ Distinct executive constituencies

- → 12-36 month renewable memberships
- → Separate agendas/performance metrics
- → All-inclusive annual fees

Representative Programs

Research Programs

- Health System Strategy
- Financial Strategy
- Clinical Operations
- IT Strategy
- · Oncology Planning

- Marketing & Planning
- Nursing Executive Program
- Clinical Technology Assessment
- Revenue Cycle Performance

Software-Based Programs

- Revenue Integrity Performance (RAC)
- Workforce Performance
- · Quality Performance
- Physician Management Performance

- Supply Chain Performance
- · Surgery Performance
- Payment Integrity Performance

Management and Advisory Services Programs

- Clinical Integration
- Practice Management
- Revenue Cycle
- · Service Line Growth

Research Memberships That Inflect Performance



Multiple Channels for Best Practice Insight

Reports and Briefings

- 40+ reports
- 240,000+ studies distributed
- 250+ briefs

Meeting and Teleconferences

- 180+ member presentations
- 2,600 onsites
- 130+ topics

Access to Experts

- Real-time access to expert research staff
- 3,000+ customized reports
- 2,200 technology assessments

Implementation Toolkits

- 80,000+ online users
- Extensive library of best practices
- 300+ online meetings

Online Tools

- 19,000+ decision support users
- · 200 online tools



20+ National member meetings

15+ Executive-only national meetings

3,500 Attendees at national meetings

Outstanding Member Feedback:

Really framed the strategic questions we face. You've captured a lot of information quickly especially considering the rate of change in health care. This was the most useful program I've attended in my career. Bravo!

Impactful "Right-Answer" Software

Advisory Board Insight on Key Metrics

Heretofore "Siloed" Data from Multiple Member Source Systems

Proven Technology Platform



World-Class Analytics Delivered through Hosted Applications to Executives, Managers, and Front Line Staff

Ensuring Success Via Wrap-Around Support

- · Dedicated Advisor
- User Training/Enfranchisement
- · Annual User Summit

- · ROI Toolkits
- · Cohort Benchmarking
- Case Studies/White Papers

Providing Returns Across All Key Health System Verticals



- · Health System Strategy
- Clinical Operations
- IT Strategy
- Financial Strategy

- Crimson Market Advantage
- Crimson Practice Management
- · Crimson Continuum of Care
- Crimson Care Registry

- · Clinical Integration
- Southwind Practice Management
- Care Transformation Engagement
- Medical Home Engagement

Driving Deep Value



Memorial Hermann Healthcare System is working with us through these programs to drive impact in their work with more than 2,000 physicians in this issue area.

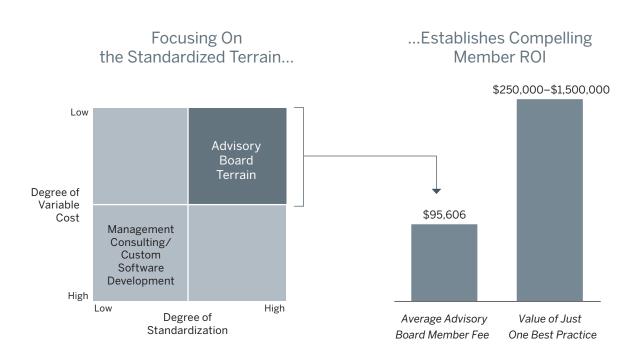
- 15 percent improvement on ALOS
- 2 percent improvement on 30-day readmissions

- 14 percent improvement on mortality rates
- · Savings of more than \$3.5 M



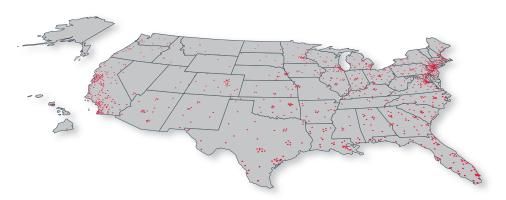
Powerful Economic Model

Offering a Unique Value Proposition



Delivering Measurable Results

Driving Bottom Line Impact



FAIRVIEW SOUTHDALE used the Surgery Performance Program to reduce physician variation in supplies, realizing nearly \$500 K in annualized savings

HENRY FORD MACOMB HOSPITAL used Crimson to help physicians improve LOS and resource utilization, achieving annualized savings of over \$800 K WELLSPAN used the Revenue Cycle Performance Program to identify and re-bill lost accounts yielding \$1.4 M incremental revenue in 100 days

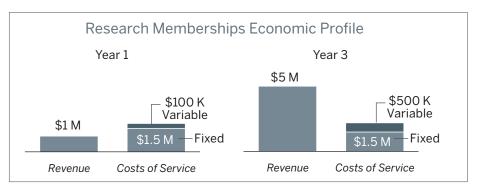
ST. MARY MEDICAL CENTER used Crimson to improve Core Measures compliance, resulting in \$500 K of pay-for performance incentive payments JOHNS HOPKINS BAYVIEW
MEDICAL CENTER used
Nursing Operations
Performance Program
to eliminate \$1 M in
premium labor

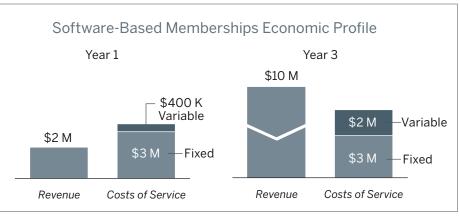
SOUTHEASTERN
REGIONAL used the
Revenue Cycle Performance
Program to reduce
denials yielding \$5.4 M of
incremental revenue

FAIRVIEW HOSPITAL used Crimson to reduce Medicare length of stay for annualized savings of \$2.5 M

ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTER Used our best practice research to mount aggressive contracting negotiations on implants which yielded \$1M in savings

Scalable Program Economics





Beyond Year 3

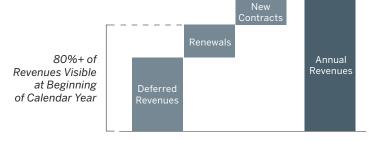
- ✓ Largely fixed-cost programs; low variable costs
- ✓ Considerable margin growth potential as programs continue to scale in out years

Predictable Renewals Yield Strong Visibility

Member Renewal Rate

89% 90% 88% 89% 91% FY07 FY08 FY09 FY10 FY11

Composition of Annual Revenues





Multiple Avenues of Growth

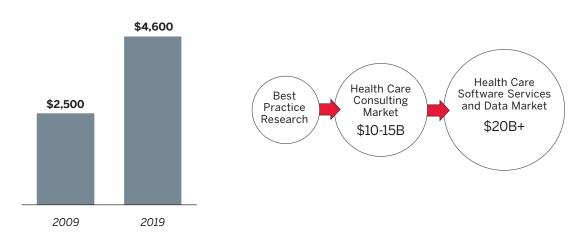
Serving Large and Growing Markets

A Growing \$2.5 Trillion Industry

National Health Expenditure Projections

(Billions)

New Services Expand Addressable Market



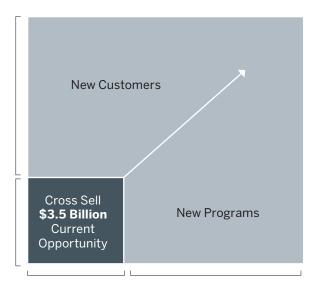
Source: Health Affairs, doi: 10.1377/hlthaff.2010.0788 (Published online September 9, 2010).

A Compelling Opportunity

~15,000 Immediate Prospects

- · U.S. Hospitals
- · Other U.S. Health Care
- International Hospitals
- · U.S. Education
- International Education

~3,200 Current Members



50+ Current Programs

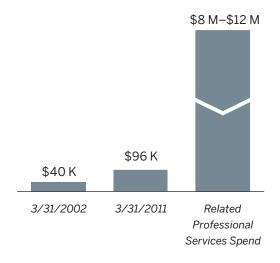
New Program Launches

- · New Research Programs
- New Software-Based Programs
- New Management/Advisory Services Programs
- New Data Programs

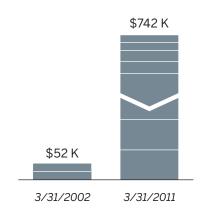
Cross-Selling to Grow Relationships

Average Advisory Board Spend

Per Member



Cross-Sell Opportunity Case Study
300-Bed Community Hospital



Proven New Program Development Engine

Standardized Evaluation Process



New programs under evaluation

\$250,000 Average pre-launch development cost

15–20 Industry leaders as

Recent Launches

- · Crimson Market Advantage
- · Crimson Practice Management Program
- Front-End Denials Management Program
- Crimson Care Registry
- Employee Health Performance Program

Representative Charter Members

- · Alta Bates Summit Medical Center
- Baylor Healthcare System
- · Brown University
- · Fairview Hospital-Cleveland Clinic
- Georgetown University

- · Massachusetts General Hospital
- Medical Center of Central Georgia
- · Memorial Hermann Healthcare
- · Seton Family of Hospitals
- · Spectrum Health Hospitals

Strategic Acquisitions Expand Capabilities

Leveraging Our Research Engine

Regular course of research surfaces key areas of member need, as well as innovative and distinctive best practice solutions

- 3,200 members
- 550+ researchers
- · 2,000+ conversations daily
- 100+ member meetings per year

Applying Rigorous Acquisition Criteria

- ✓ Fit with long-term growth strategy
- ✓ Important member terrain, with clear decision maker for purchase
- ✓ Complementary technology platform
- ✓ Hardwires research-proven best practices
- ✓ Attractive economics



Recent Acquisitions











Entering New Markets





Education

- Fragmented sector with common set of complex issues
- Research ethic, willingness to collaborate
- Existing relationships with academic institutions
- 2,000+ potential partners in North America

Current members include:

- Brown University
- University of California at Berkeley
- · Duke University
- Wake Forest University



International

- Growing health care spending and common operational issues
- Large appetite for lessons from U.S. health care
- Nascent data and analytics need in global health care systems
- 1,500+ potential partners in key international markets

Current members include:

- Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- · Aga Khan Health Service
- University Hospital Zurich
- Royal Prince Alfred Hospital



Non Provider Health Care

- High interest in provider issue set by non-provider health care companies
- Growing data asset a platform for potential new products
- Need for sales training and product development advice
- 2,000+ potential partners in key segments

Current members include:

- GE Healthcare
- · Medtronic, Inc.
- · Eli Lilly
- Pfizer



Strong Financial Performance

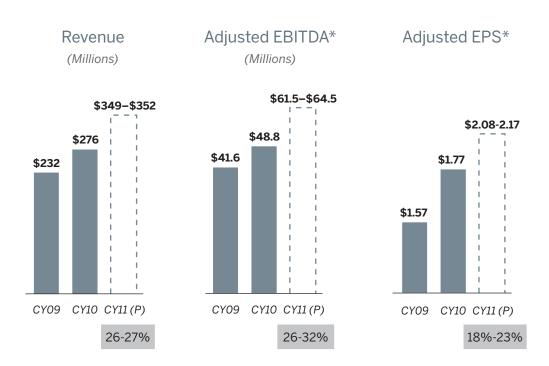
Consistent Contract Value Growth



Contract Value per Member
(Thousands)

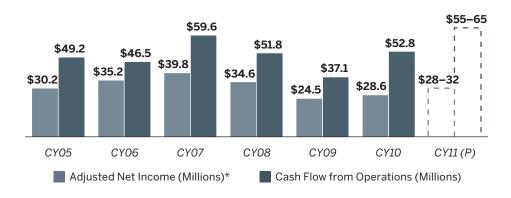


Financial Performance



^{*} Adjusted EBITDA excludes share-based compensation expense and certain one-time charges. Adjusted EPS excludes share-based compensation expense, amortization from acquisitions, and certain one-time charges. Please refer to the Appendix for a reconciliation to GAAP results.

Robust Cash Flow



- · Cash flow substantially exceeds adjusted net income
- 100% self-funded growth; no debt
- Repurchased >\$315 million worth of shares since 2004
- Utilized >\$90 million for acquisitions since 2008
- Currently ~\$7 per share of cash on Balance Sheet

^{*} Net income has been adjusted to exclude share-based compensation expense, acquisition-related amortization, and certain one-time charges. Please refer to the Appendix for a reconciliation to GAAP results.

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Appendix

	CY2009	CY2010
Net Income	10,286	18,465
One-Time QHTC Charge	-	-
Share-based Compensation Expense, Net of Tax	7,348	5,851
Acquisition-Related Depreciation and Amortization, Net of Tax	774	2,612
Costs Related to the Acquisition of Concuity, Net of Tax	-	738
Adjustment to Fair Value of Acquisition-Related Earn Out Liability, Net of Tax	-	962
One-time Write-off of Capitalized Software, Net of Tax	4,860	-
One-time Option Cancellation Charge, Net of Tax	1,273	-
Adjusted Net Income	24,541	28,628
	CY2009	CY2010
Net Income	10,286	18,465
Other Income, Net	(1,860)	(1,469)
Depreciation and Amortization	6,807	5,672
Depreciation and Amortization Acquisition-Related and Other Depreciation and Amortization from Cost of Services	6,807 1,156	5,672 4,328
Acquisition-Related and Other Depreciation and Amortization		-,-
Acquisition-Related and Other Depreciation and Amortization from Cost of Services	1,156	4,328
Acquisition-Related and Other Depreciation and Amortization from Cost of Services Provision for Income Taxes Share-Based Compensation Expense Costs Related to the Acquisition	1,156 5,005	4,328 10,149
Acquisition-Related and Other Depreciation and Amortization from Cost of Services Provision for Income Taxes Share-Based Compensation Expense	1,156 5,005	4,328 10,149 9,071
Acquisition-Related and Other Depreciation and Amortization from Cost of Services Provision for Income Taxes Share-Based Compensation Expense Costs Related to the Acquisition of Concuity Adjustment to Fair Value of Acquisition-Related Earn Out	1,156 5,005	4,328 10,149 9,071 1,123
Acquisition-Related and Other Depreciation and Amortization from Cost of Services Provision for Income Taxes Share-Based Compensation Expense Costs Related to the Acquisition of Concuity Adjustment to Fair Value of Acquisition-Related Earn Out Liability	1,156 5,005 10,919	4,328 10,149 9,071 1,123

	CY2009	CY2010
GAAP earnings per diluted share	0.66	1.14
	-	-
Share-based Compensation Expense , Net of tax	0.47	0.36
Acquisition-Related Depreciation and Amortization, Net of tax	0.05	0.16
Costs related to the Acquisition of Concuity, Net of tax	-	0.05
Adjustment to Fair Value of Acquisition-Related Earn-out Liability, net of tax	-	0.06
One-time Write-off of Capitalized Software, Net of tax	0.31	-
One-time Option Cancellation Charge, Net of Tax	0.08	-
Adjusted earnings per diluted share	1.57	1.77



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