Office of Health Care Affordability Market Oversight

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Main Objectives and Responsibilities





Increase transparency on spending



Set spending targets for the health care field



Enforce compliance, including through financial penalties



Monitor and review market transactions



Establish new standards, including for quality, equity, workforce

Statutory Intent and Charge



Findings

"Escalating health care costs are being primarily driven by high prices and... market conditions... in areas where there is a lack of consolidation, market power, venture capital activity, and market failures."

Intent

"The office shall monitor... the impact of consolidation, market power, venture capital activity, profit margins, and other market failures on competition, prices, access, quality, and equity."

Charge

Conduct **cost and market impact reviews (CMIRs)** on material transactions involving health care entities that take place on or after **April 1, 2024**

"The role of the office is to collect and report information that is informative to the public"

CMIR Regulatory Development Timeline



July 27, 2023

OHCA proposed initial draft CMIR regulations

Dec 18, 2023

CMIR regulations finalized

Jan 1, 2024

CMIR regulations took effect (for transactions on or after April 1, 2024) June 5, 2024

OHCA proposed revisions to CMIR regulations

Sept 13, 2024

Expected finalization of CMIR revisions

OHCA Market Oversight Supplements Other Agencies'



Existing Merger Oversight in California

Attorney General

- Approval Authority for non-profit health facilities
- Authority to investigate and enforce laws relating to antitrust, unfair competition, and consumer protection

Department of Managed Health Care

- Approval Authority for major transactions of health care service plans
- DMHC evaluates the impact on enrollees and the stability of the health care delivery system.

California Department of Insurance

- Approval Authority for mergers of domestic health insurers.
- CDI reviews impact on the marketplace and consumers.

Key Features of the Regulations



Who must file

What circumstances require filing

What information must be provided

OHCA criteria for determining whether to conduct or waive a full review

Factors considered in OHCA's review

Timeline

Who Must File



Health care entities:

- 1. Annual revenues or California assets of at least \$25 million
- 2. Annual revenues or California assets of at least \$10 million if transacting with a health care entity that qualifies under the first criterion
- 3. Located in a designated primary care health professional shortage area*

^{*}Proposed revision to specify that this applies to entities that provide health care services in a shortage area

Circumstances Requiring Filing



Material change transactions that meet any specified conditions, *not including*:

- Transactions in the usual and regular course of business
- Situations where there is already common control

Material Change Transactions include:

- Mergers
- Acquisitions
- Affiliations

- Other agreements involving a transfer of:
 - Assets
 - Control
 - Responsibility
 - Governance of assets or operations

Circumstances Requiring Filing



Material change transactions meeting <u>any</u> of the following eight conditions:

- 1) Fair market value is \$25 million or more
- 2) Likely to increase annual revenue of a party by \$10 million or more or 20% or more
- 3) Involves the sale, transfer, lease, exchange, option, encumbrance, or other disposition of 25% or more of the total assets of a submitter
- 4) Involves a transfer of control, responsibility, or governance, in whole or in part

Circumstances Requiring Filing

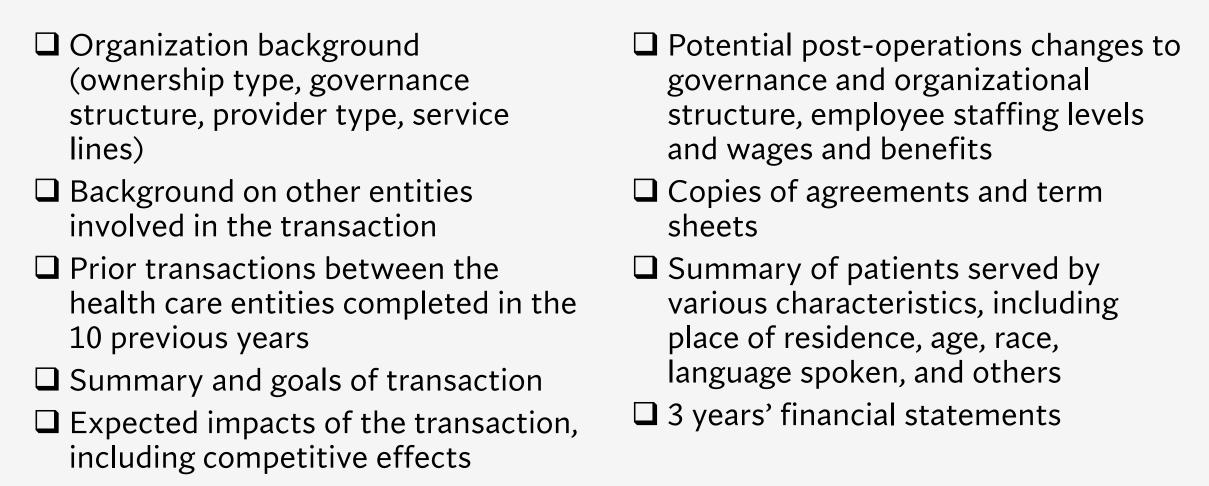


Material change transactions meeting <u>any</u> of the following eight conditions (continued):

- 5) Will result in an entity contracting with payers on behalf of consolidated or combined providers and is likely to increase the annual revenue of any transacting providers by at least \$10 million or 20%
- 6) Involves the formation of a new health care entity, affiliation, partnership, joint venture, or parent corporation for the provision of health care services that is projected to have at least \$25 million in annual revenue or transfer of control of assets valued at \$25 million or more
- 7) Is part of a series of related transactions for the same or related health care services occurring over the past ten years involving the same health care entities or affiliates.
- 8) When an acquiring entity has consummated similar transaction(s) in the last ten years with a health care entity that provides the same or related health care services.

Information That Must Be Provided in Notice





Note: Existing regulations allow filers to request confidentiality for any nonpublic information provided. OHCA has proposed changes to allow filers to withdraw any information OHCA does not grant confidentiality

Factors Considered in OHCA's Review



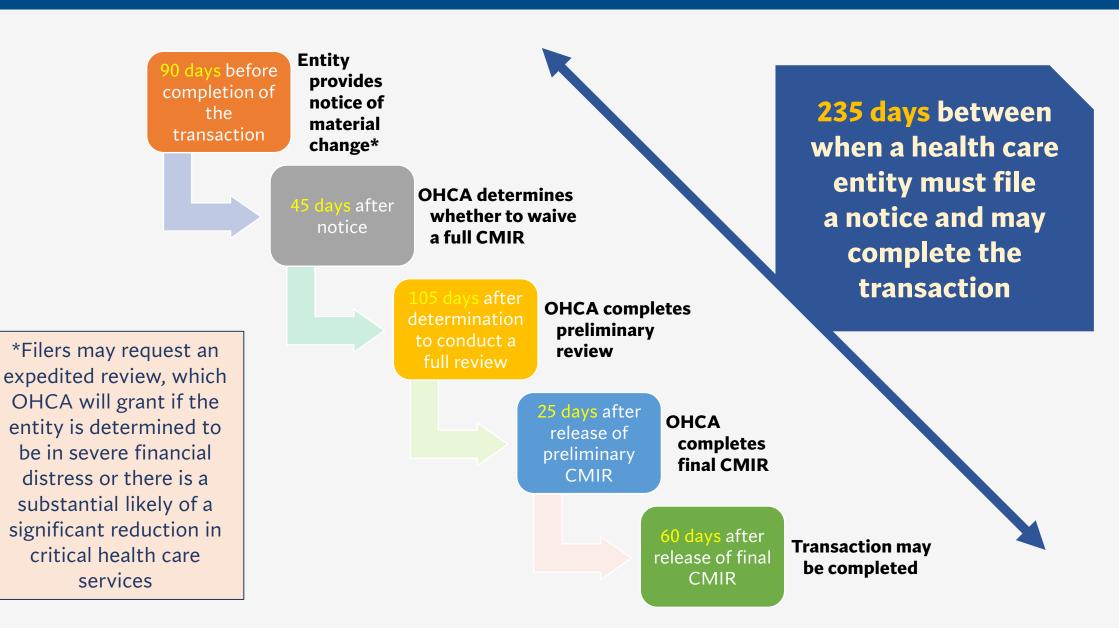
- Impact on the availability or accessibility of health care services
- Impact on costs for payers, purchasers, or consumers
- Potential to lessen competition or create a monopoly
- Effect on competition for workers and impact on the labor market
- Impact on hospital care
- Impact the quality of health care services
- Part of a series of similar transactions by the health care entity that furthers a trend toward consolidation
- Potential to entrench or extend a dominant market position of any health care entity in the transaction
- Involves an out-of-state entity and may impact affordability, quality, or access in California, or undermine the financial stability or competitive effectiveness of a health care entity in California
- Consumer concerns related to the transaction

Bold: Factors considered both in determination of whether to conduct a full review and in the full review Black text, not bold: Factors considered in determination of whether to conduct a full review

Blue text: Factor considered in full review

Cost and Market Impact Review Process





Implementation Update



Transaction: Businesses Involved	Santa Monica Rehabilitation Center	Labcorp Purchase of Invitae	Labcorp Purchase of BioReference
Summary of Transaction	Skilled nursing facility changing operators after lease expiration	Labcorp acquisition of Invitae's genetic testing / clinical laboratory (Invitae in bankruptcy). Expedited Review Requested	Labcorp acquisition of BioReference's laboratory testing businesses focused on clinical diagnostics and reproductive and women's health.
Submission Status	Deemed complete: April 12, 2024	Deemed complete: June 5, 2024	Awaiting additional party information before notice can be deemed complete.
Review Status	Review completed (CMIR Waived): May 16, 2024 (24 working days)	Review completed (CMIR Waived): June 20, 2024 (11 working days)	

More information can be found at: https://hcai.ca.gov/affordability/ohca/assess-market-consolidation/

Contact



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