Health Care Market Oversight

St. Charles and The Neuromusculoskeletal Center of the Cascades

The <u>Health Care Market Oversight</u> (HCMO) program reviews heath care business deals to make sure they do not harm people and communities in Oregon. On September 24, 2024, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) accepted a complete notice of material change describing plans for St. Charles Health System ("St. Charles") to buy The Neuromusculoskeletal Center of the Cascades ("The Center").

Who's involved?

St. Charles is a private, nonprofit health system that owns and operates hospitals in Bend, Madras, Prineville, and Redmond. They also own and operate multiple medical clinics throughout Central Oregon.

The Center is an independent physician-owned practice that provides orthopedic, neurology, occupational medicine, neurosurgery, and physiatry services in Central Oregon and serves patients in Bend, Redmond, Sisters, Prineville, Powell Butte, Culver, Madras, Warm Springs, La Pine, John Day, Burns, and Lakeview.

About the deal

St. Charles is proposing to buy The Center. St. Charles states that it does not plan on changing any services offered by The Center. St. Charles states this deal is needed to keep orthopedic and neurosurgical providers and services in Central Oregon.

What's next?

OHA is reviewing this deal to understand how it could affect access to care for communities in Oregon. During the review, OHA will use health care data, news and media reports, information from the entities, and public input 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 helps us understand how this deal could help or harm people in your community. To share your thoughts about this deal, please email <u>hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov</u>, leave a voicemail at 503-945-6161, or <u>fill out the public comment form</u>. In your comment, mention "The Center", what you think, and whether you support or oppose the deal.

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille, or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact us by email at <u>hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov</u> or by phone at 503-945-6161. We accept all relay calls.

