## Pennsylvania Medical Professional Liability Alternative Risk Funding

(September 11, 2017)

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Panelist: Roger C. Fell

Managing Director, Marsh USA



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## **Key Learning Objectives for Session**

#### We hope to increase your awareness and understanding of . . .

- Professional liability coverage features unique to PA, and their impact on
  - claims management
  - risk retention
  - and loss reserving
- The ever-changing healthcare landscape, and its affect on
  - risk management practices
  - funding programs
  - and loss reserving
- Issues and approaches in the structure of overlying reinsurance



## Ingredients for a Successful Risk Funding Program

- Strongly supported by top management
- Physician buy-in
- A senior experienced "point person" inside the organization
- Willingness to take the long view
- Lots of communication, both internal and with outside advisors
- Relationship-building with excess/reinsurance markets
- Healthy discussions of actuarial results



# Two Pennsylvania Health Systems Meeting the Challenge

Dianne P. Salter, EVP Corporate Insurance Services



#### **Main Line Health**

#### Background:

- Not For Profit Health System
- Community Based System
- Organization Includes:
  - Acute Care Hospitals
  - Rehabilitation Hospital
  - Drug and Alcohol Recovery Center
  - Home Health Services
  - Multi-Physician Network
  - Outpatient Health Centers

Exposure Summary (2016-17):

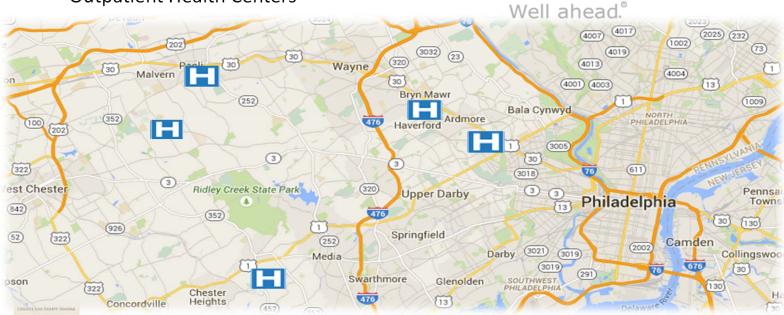
Revenue: \$1.6 Billion

Total Occupied Beds: 958

Outpatient Visits: 2.30 Million

Physicians/Residents: 673 and growing





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### **Thomas Jefferson University**

Background:

Not For Profit Health System

Organization Includes:

Academic Medical Center

University (Medical School and Undergraduate)

Community Based Acute Care Hospitals

Urgent Care Centers

Multi-Physician Network

Multi-State Provider





Revenue: \$5 Billion

Total Occupied Beds: 1,494

Outpatient Visits: 1.8 Million

Physicians and Residents: 1,829





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## **Focus on the Future:**

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Strategic Alliances/Partnerships
- Delivering Convenient Care Close to Home
- Innovation/Technology
- Capital Improvements
- Building Physician Networks



## Why Alternative Risk Funding (Initially):

- Unavailability of medical malpractice insurance for hospitals and physicians in Pennsylvania
- Commitment to risk management and claims/litigation management
- Long term commitment of senior leadership to captive risk financing vehicle
- Need to meet PA statutory requirements for "approved" carrier
- Acknowledgement of need for "appropriate" actuarially driven funding/premium



## **Typical Structure:**

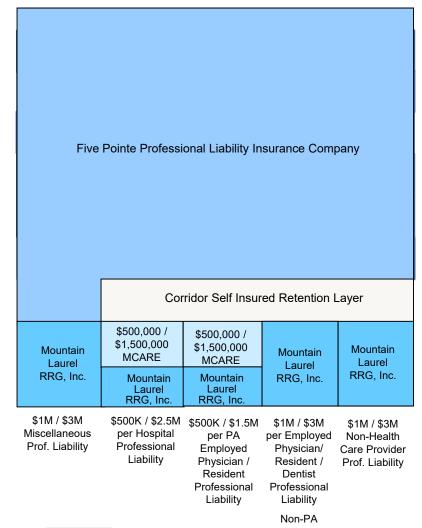
#### **Large Pennsylvania Academic Medical Center**

Limits determined by the perceived (likely) Captive worse case loss scenario Supported by Reinsurance \$5M to 20M Uninsured determined by the efficiency of the Self-Insurance Buffer attachment point of commercial insurance \$500K Required by statute Mcare **Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error Fund** \$500K Required by statute, **Primary Coverage** commercial insurance or fronting of captive



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## **Our Professional Liability Insurance Structure**

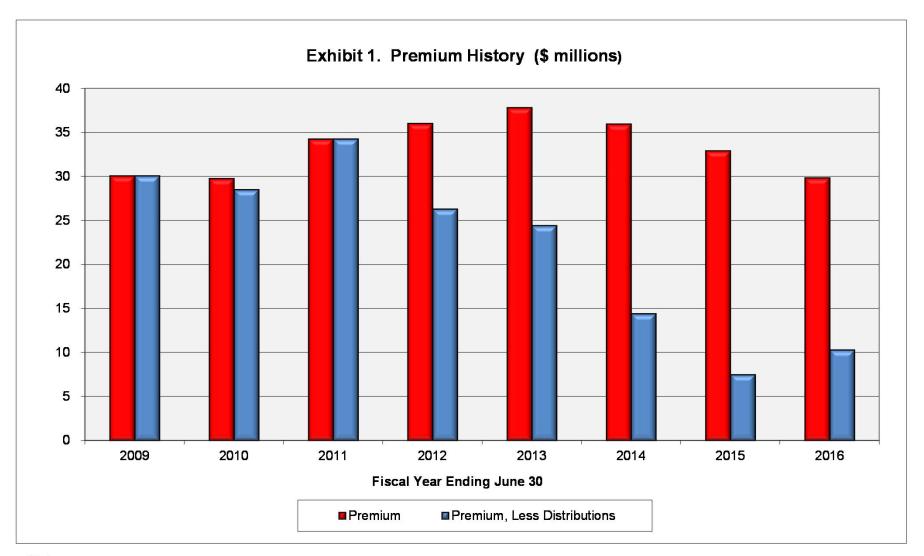


#### **Program Structure**

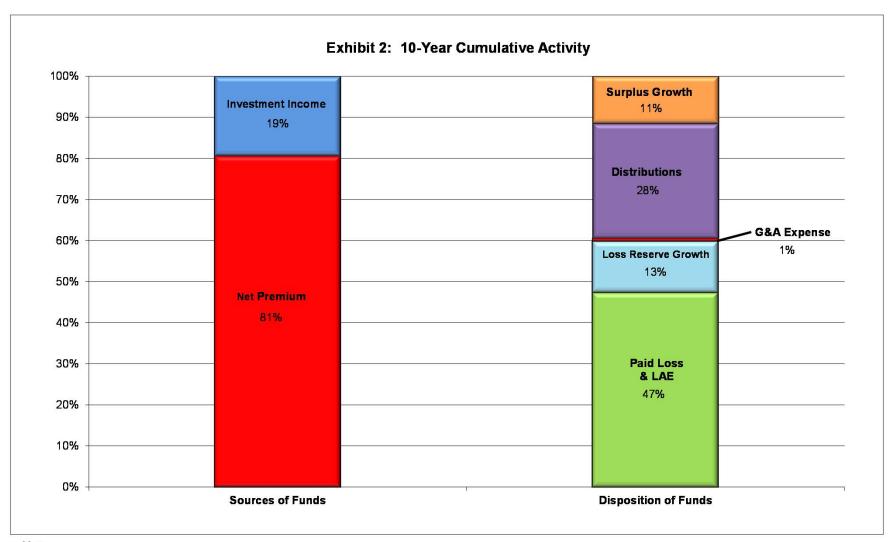
- \$95M total limits for Professional Liability (PL) (A separate \$95M applies for other liability lines.)
- Primary PL coverage written by VT-based MLRRG, the 5<sup>th</sup> largest malpractice insurer in PA and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest RRG, based on premium.
- Five Pointe, a DE-based segregated cell captive, reinsures primary PL and directly writes Excess PL and Umbrella (excess and umbrella fully reinsured commercially).
- MCare layer is statutorily required coverage for health care providers in PA.
- PL coverage is claims made and features
   NO risk sharing between members.
- PL Corridor layer above Primary and MCare and below Excess PL attachment is self-insured.



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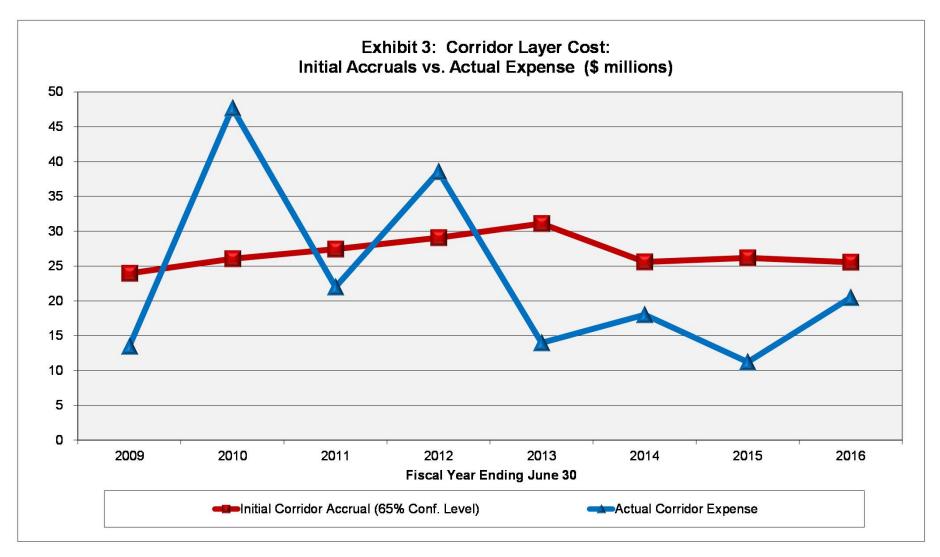


- 1. All captive and general overhead expenses are included in these premium figures. Excludes corridor layer accruals.
- 2. Rise in premiums from FY 2010 to 2013 primarily reflects growth in physician group.
- 3. Reduction in premiums in recent years reflects positive impact of full claims integration between hospital and physician group.

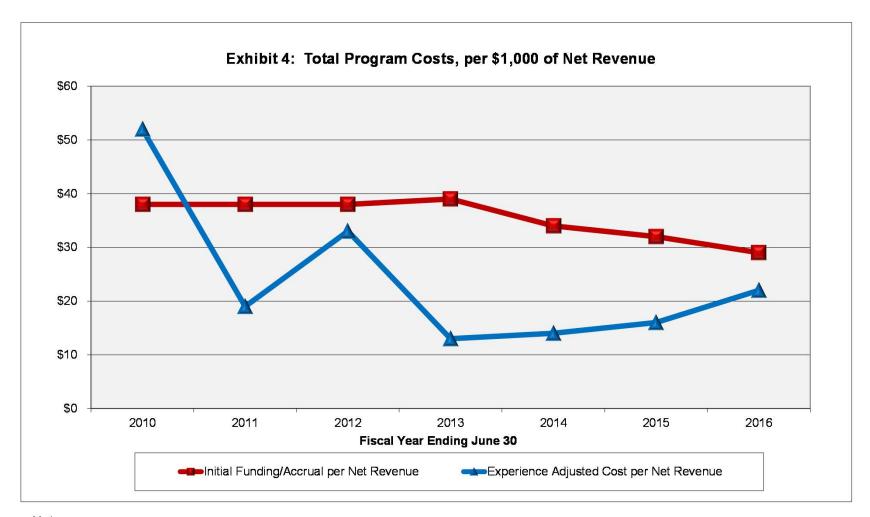


- 1. Investment returns, measured at 6/30/16, averaged 6.3% over 10 years and 5.7% over 5 years.
- 2. Total program expense (incl. overhead) is about 4% of total program costs.
- 3. Distributions plus undistributed surplus represent nearly 50% of initially funded premiums.

  Investment Income gains (earnings greater than the assumed 3.0% rate) contributed about 12%. Release of the 65% confidence level margin as claims were resolved contributed 3% and better-than-expected claims experience contributed 35%.



- 1. Accrual/expense figures reflect only PL loss above primary + Mcare limits and below excess insurance attachment.
- 2. Rise in accruals from FY 2009 to 2013 reflects both growth in physician group and unfavorable loss development.
- 3. Recent years' reductions reflect positive impact of full claims integration between hospital and physician group.



- 1. Accrual/expense values reflect all PL and GL program costs except Mcare Fund assessments and IBNR accruals, divided by Net Inpatient and Outpatient Revenue figures (\$000s).
- 2. Experience-adjusted costs reflect initial costs adjusted to reflect distributions, growth in undistributed surplus, and year-end adjustments to Corridor liabilities.
- 3. Cost rise in FY15 and FY16 reflects lower investment earnings and (in FY16) unfavorable Corridor layer loss development.
- 4. Total program administrative expenses (incl. premium taxes) have averaged about 4% of total program costs.
- 5. Excess reinsurance costs have averaged 3.6% of total costs and did not increase materially with the addition of physician group.

## Strategic Advantages of a Risk Funding Vehicle

- Creating value/evaluating performance
- Adherence to risk management/claims management standards/policies and procedures
- Continued emphasis on quality improvement/ patient safety/risk management
- Strategic direction/insight and coordination with claims management and risk management
- Key leadership providing ongoing input and oversight
- Long term view of the program
- Coverage extensions/flexibility

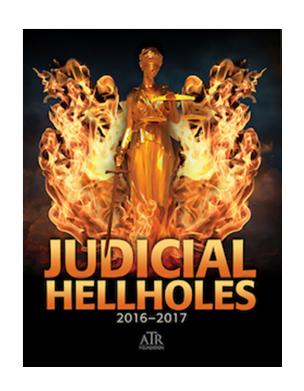


## **Environmental Challenges:**



## The City of Unbrotherly Torts

"It's a nice place, but you wouldn't want to be sued there." WALL STREET JOURNAL





## ...to be a plaintiff attorney in Philadelphia County



## **Risk Management Challenges:**

- Consolidation (Mergers and Acquisitions)
  - Need to address how best to address the increased risks associated with growth
  - Diversity of current programs in terms of reserving, funding, claims management, retentions, limits
  - Reputational risks
- Outpatient Facilities:
  - How to maintain consistent patient safety and quality care in the outpatient or office practice setting
- Technology
  - Learning new processes and applying them consistently
  - Electronic medical records
  - Telehealth consultations
  - Social Media
  - Privacy and data breaches
- Physician/Non-Physician Providers:
  - Growth in employment of physicians
  - Ostensible Agency
  - NPs, PAs, Midwives, OTs delivery of care



# A Broker's Perspective

Roger Fell, Managing Director Marsh USA, Philadelphia



- Traditional Role:
  - Transact insurance placement on behalf of the client
- Today's Evolving Role Three Fundamentals:
  - 1. Know the industry...
    - Where is it now
    - Where is it going
    - Leverage information across other healthcare organizations and other industries
  - 2. Know your client...
    - Strategic plan
    - Risk tolerance
    - Risk Management
    - Claims Management



- Today's Evolving Role Three Fundamentals (continued):
  - 3. Know the insurance market...
    - Where is it now
    - Where is it going
    - Leverage information across the world



- Today's Evolving Role (continued):
  - RIMS Systems
  - Risk ID (ERM) Risk Measurement
  - Data analytics
  - Policy form development
  - Claims analysis
  - Claims advocacy
  - ID Evolving loss trends



- Today's Evolving Role (continued):
  - Captive Management
    - Single Parent
    - Segregated Cell
    - Risk Retention Group (RRG)
  - Monitor global marketplace
  - Monitor carrier strength
  - Insurance placement
    - Traditional
    - Reinsurance placement
    - Alternative Capital



- Today's Evolving Role (continued):
  - Program Design
    - Excess Attach
    - Inner Aggregates
    - Batch Clause



## **Actuarial Challenges**

- Consolidation
  - Data recording differences (e.g. what is a claim?)
  - Exposure valuation (physicians, residents, visits, etc)
  - Differences in case reserving philosophy/approach
  - Differences in funding and reserving policies
- Measuring exposure in the ever-changing healthcare world
  - Telehealth, genetics engineering, clinical trials, and other activities
     with no track record
  - Whether, when and how to move to patient-based exposure measures (e.g. age, gender, other characteristics)
- Communication and presentation
  - Striking right balance between brevity and substance
  - Striking right balance between reinforcement of concepts and keeping material fresh
  - How did we end up here? (reconciliation is essential)
  - Clarity and completeness for auditors and other outside users



## Some Opportunities to Add Value

- Liability and Cash-flow Forecasting, to support
  - Investment policy review
  - Development of distribution strategies or policies
  - ERM analysis
- Retention Limit Evaluation
  - Ongoing, as part of overall ERM analysis, or in mergers/consolidations
  - System-wide attachment limits, plus "internal" limits for individual entities
  - Large loss risk pooling within system to protect smaller entities
- Chargeback of Professional Liability Costs, within a healthcare system
  - Stability vs. responsiveness to claims experience
  - Ensuring competitiveness of physician rates
  - Allows for "quick and dirty" assessment of new venture costs



## Questions?

