

# AMPLIFY

## Partnering with Health Systems Without Losing Independence

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# Presented by

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**WINDING LANE**  
MANAGEMENT

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MANAGEMENT

# Financial Disclosures

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- None

# Executive Summary

*An independent urgent care operator partners with a regional hospital to expand access and care continuity — without giving up ownership. U.S. urgent care: \$34B → \$55B by 2030 (8.6% CAGR).*

(ResearchAndMarkets.com, 2025)

## Independent Ownership

Full operational control retained. Hospital branding access with no equity transfer.

## Unified Brand Identity

Hospital brand recognition builds patient trust and community presence.

## Care Compact Framework

Bi-directional clinical coordination and seamless continuity of care across settings.

## Strategic Alignment

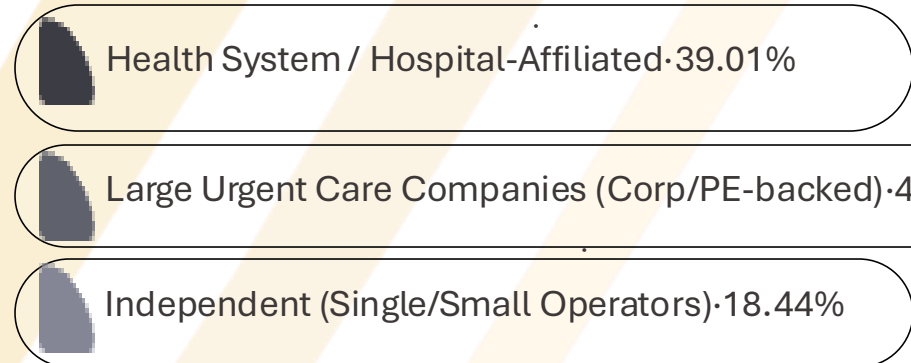
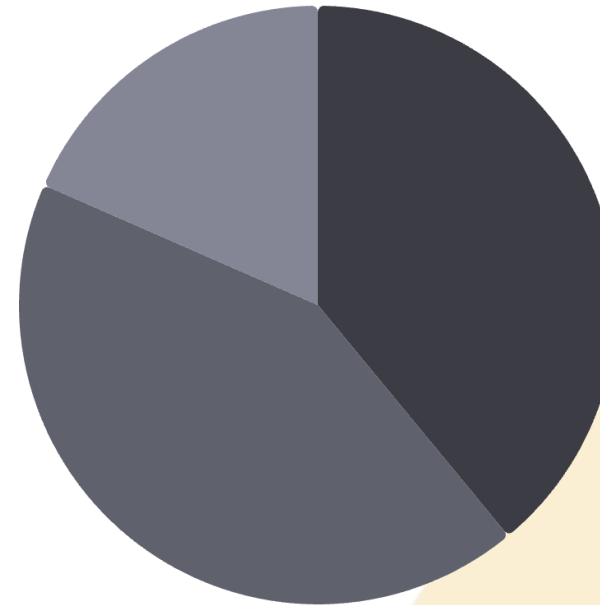
Strengthens care access and referral integrity. **40% of UC centers** now have hospital affiliation (56% among top 100).  
(JUCM, 2025)

# The Evolving Urgent Care Landscape

**14,442 centers** as of April 2025 (JUCM / National Urgent Care Realty, 2025)

**\$34.3B → \$55.1B** by 2030 (8.6% CAGR)  
(ResearchAndMarkets.com, 2025)

*Significant consolidation underway — ownership breakdown is key to strategic positioning.*



The market is increasingly dominated by health system-integrated networks and large corporate/private equity-backed platforms, which together account for approximately **80%** of all centers.

**18%** of all urgent care centers are backed by private equity investment — up from **17%** in 2024 (JUCM, 2025) — and **40%** have some form of hospital affiliation (JUCM, 2025).

Among the top 100 urgent care operators, **56%** participate in a hospital affiliation, compared with **40%** of all centers (JUCM Top 100, 2025).

**Independent urgent care operators now represent a minority share, highlighting the growing pressure on standalone practices to seek strategic alliances for sustainable growth and competitive advantage.**

# The Owner's Strategic Decision

What Does  
the Owner  
Want?

## Sell Outright

- Immediate liquidity
- Clean exit from operations
- Full transfer of risk
- Best for retirement or capital event

*Goal: Exit the business*

## Health System Partnership

- Retain full ownership
- Build long-term enterprise value
- Access health system resources
- Grow with strategic support

*Goal: Grow with strategic support*

### Structured via a Care Compact

Clinical Affiliation Agreement defining governance, obligations & care coordination

# Partnership Objectives – Become the FRONT DOOR to the Health System

Transforming healthcare delivery through an integrated, patient-centered system.



## Expand Access & Build Loyalty

New service lines to widen access and build patient loyalty.



## Enhance Patient Accessibility

Convenient, seamless care continuity across settings.



## Strengthen Specialty Alignment

Robust referral pathways for connected specialty care.



## Elevate Patient Experience

Coordinated care delivery elevating satisfaction at every touchpoint.



## Optimize ED Utilization

Route appropriate cases to ED, reducing inappropriate utilization.

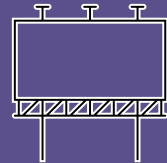
# Partnership Structure

Independence + alignment in one sustainable model



## Ownership

Operator retains full authority, control, and day-to-day autonomy



## Branding

Urgent care brand aligned to hospital identity for community trust



## Governance

Care Compact + joint oversight committee for compliance and alignment

# Strategic Value to Both Partners

Both organizations leverage unique strengths to deliver enhanced patient value.

## Regional Hospital Benefits

- Extend service and reach without significant capital investment
- Boost market credibility and community presence
- Increase volume of insured patients
- Support providers with extended hours and patient overflow management
- Strengthen and expand referral networks

## Urgent Care Operator Benefits

- Access enhanced marketing support, brand recognition, and operational resources
- Provide essential overflow and extended after-hours access
- Drive higher patient volumes through coordinated care initiatives
- Deliver improved, comprehensive care through defined care continuum pathways
- Route complex cases to the hospital ED

# Service Line Framework

## Building Deliberate, Bidirectional Network Integrity

Clear protocols, systematic follow-up, and shared objectives for consistent care across all touchpoints.



### Protocol Development

Standardized pathways ensuring evidence-based patient transitions.



### Systematic Follow-Up

Proactive tracking that closes gaps between visits and downstream needs.



### Shared Objectives

Aligned metrics and quality standards for unified accountability.



### Quality Compliance

Joint oversight maintaining the highest standards of care integrity.

# Reciprocal Commitments from the Hospital Partner

What the hospital brings to the table — resources that strengthen the operator's capacity and market position.

## Extended Access Support

Overflow capacity and after-hours access for timely care regardless of volume or time.

## Occupational Health Partnership

Operator designated as primary occupational health partner — dedicated revenue stream with employer wellness resources.

## Joint Marketing Initiatives

Coordinated campaigns amplifying brand visibility and patient engagement.

# Operational Integration Framework

Coordinating clinical operations, technology, and communication with built-in performance metrics.

## Clinical Integration

Shared care models and standardized referral procedures across all settings.

## Technology Systems

Secure EHR integration enabling real-time data sharing and clinical decisions.

## Communication Protocols

Streamlined scheduling, consistent scripting, and defined care transitions.

## Key Performance Metrics

### Network Integrity

Referral completion rates and care coordination effectiveness.

### Patient Engagement

NPS tracking patient loyalty and satisfaction across the system.

# Marketing & Financial Overview

Brand visibility, partnership value tracking, and transparent performance accountability.



## Brand Visibility

Hospital-branded signage, digital campaigns, and coordinated social media presence.



## Resource Collaboration

Shared creative, media buying, and community engagement — amplified reach at lower cost.



## Value Tracking

Referral value, patient attribution, and ROI analysis for both partners.

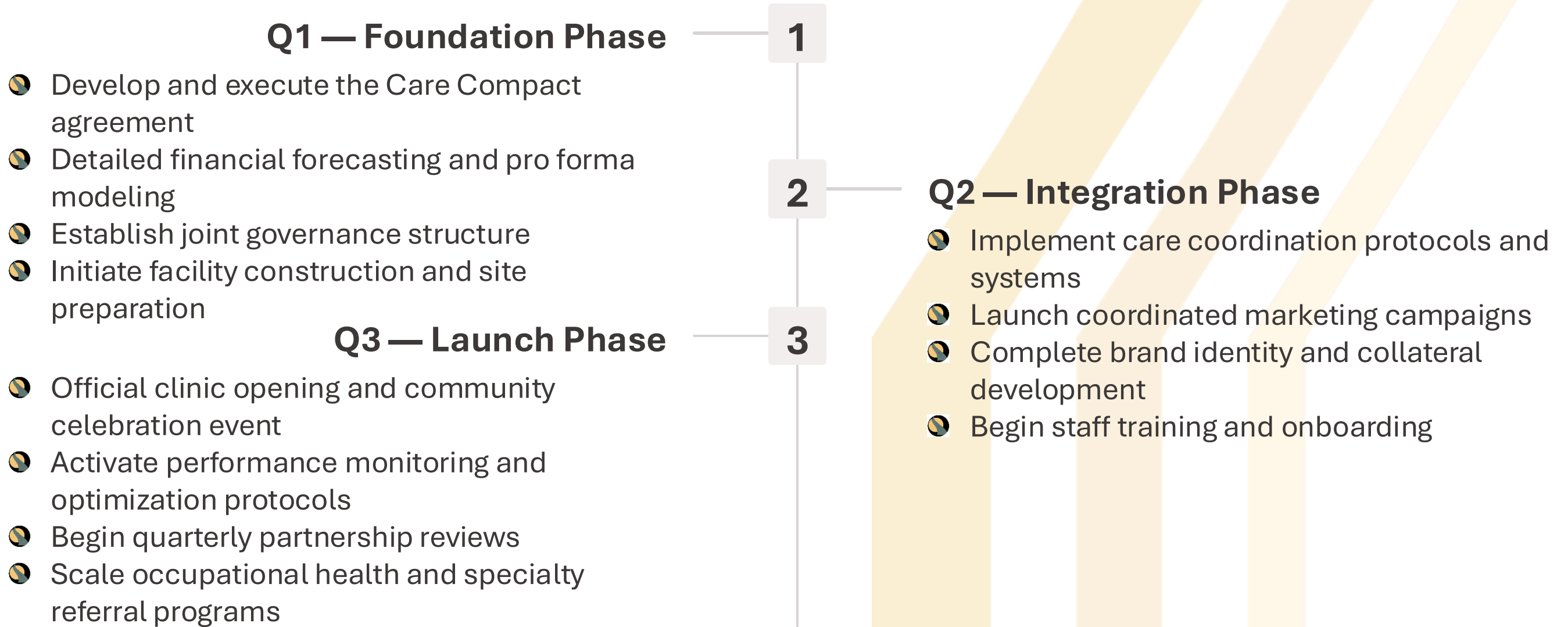


## Performance Reviews

Quarterly reviews with key metrics, trends, and strategic adjustments.

# Implementation Timeline

Phased execution minimizing risk with built-in course correction.



# Expected Outcomes

Benefits across the care continuum for patients, providers, employers, and the community.



## Expanded Access

Extended hours, convenient locations, reduced wait times. UC access decreases low-acuity ED visits (Llovera et al., AJEM, 2019).



## Enhanced Alignment

Seamless care for more covered lives. Hospital-integrated clinics show sustained ED visit decline (Fuhrmann et al., AJEM, 2021).



## Employer Partnerships

Occupational health, workers' comp, and workplace wellness driving employer relationships.



## Unified Branding

Consolidated branding building recognition, trust, and long-term patient loyalty.



## ED Care Routing

Collocated UC absorbs 21.4% of low-acuity ED encounters (Li et al., Northwestern/SSRN, 2023). Improves safety and efficiency.

# Risks – Anticipated and Designed Out

The three questions every health system asks — confidently answered



## Are we exposed legally?

- No per-referral or volume-based economics
- Fair Market Value benchmarking with legal review
- Care Compact structured for Stark & AKS compliance



## Will either brand be diluted?

- Dual-brand strategy with defined brand guardrails
- Clear usage, messaging, and identity standards



## Who controls operations?

- Operator retains full day-to-day decision-making
- Joint committee limited to quality, compliance, and alignment

# Next Steps

Four critical workstreams: legal, clinical, operational, and marketing.

1

## Execute Care Compact

Execute Care Compact agreement defining responsibilities, expectations, and governance.

2

## Establish Governance

Form joint oversight committee for branding, quality, and care coordination.

3

## Draft Service Protocols

Build referral pathways, care transition protocols, and quality metrics.

4

## Build Marketing Strategy

Create brand guidelines and coordinated marketing plan for maximum launch impact.

# We Need Your Feedback

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