

# OUTSOURCED PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES SECTOR CASE STUDY Syneos to be Acquired by a Private Investment Consortium

M&A Advisory | Growth Capital | Recapitalizations | Board Advisory | Strategic Evaluations



May 2023

# SYNEOS TO BE ACQUIRED BY A PRIVATE INVESTMENT CONSORTIUM



#### **Transaction Overview**





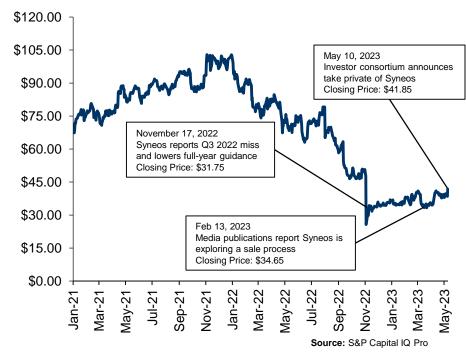




On May 10, 2023, Syneos Health, Inc. ("Syneos" or the "Company") announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to be acquired by a consortium of private investment firms comprised of Elliot Management, Patient Square Capital, and Veritas Capital

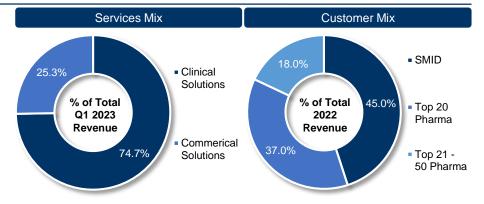
- Enterprise Value: \$7.1 billion at announcement
  - All-cash transaction; shareholders will receive \$43.00 per share
  - 10.1x 2023E Adj. EBITDA of ~\$700.0 million (1)
  - 24.0% premium (2)
- Upon announcement of the transaction on 5/10/2023, Syneos' share price increased 8.8% from \$38.45 to \$41.85
- Syneos' Board of Directors unanimously approved the transaction
- The transaction is expected to close in the second half of 2023 subject to the satisfaction of regulatory approvals

#### (NASDAQ:SYNH) Historical Stock Price Performance



#### **Syneos Snapshot**

- Syneos is a fully-integrated CRO providing clinical, medical affairs communications, and other commercialization services to biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies
- Syneos serves a diverse range of clients, with approximately 45.0% of its customer base comprising small and mid-cap biopharma companies ("SMID"), 37.0% consisting of top 20 pharma companies, and 18.0% representing top 21-50 pharma companies
- The Company operates in six continents and is headquartered in Morrisville, NC with approximately 28,000 employees



<sup>(1)</sup> Midpoint of management's 2023E estimate as provided in Syneos' investor presentation, "Q4 and Full Year 2022 Financial Results", 2/16/2023

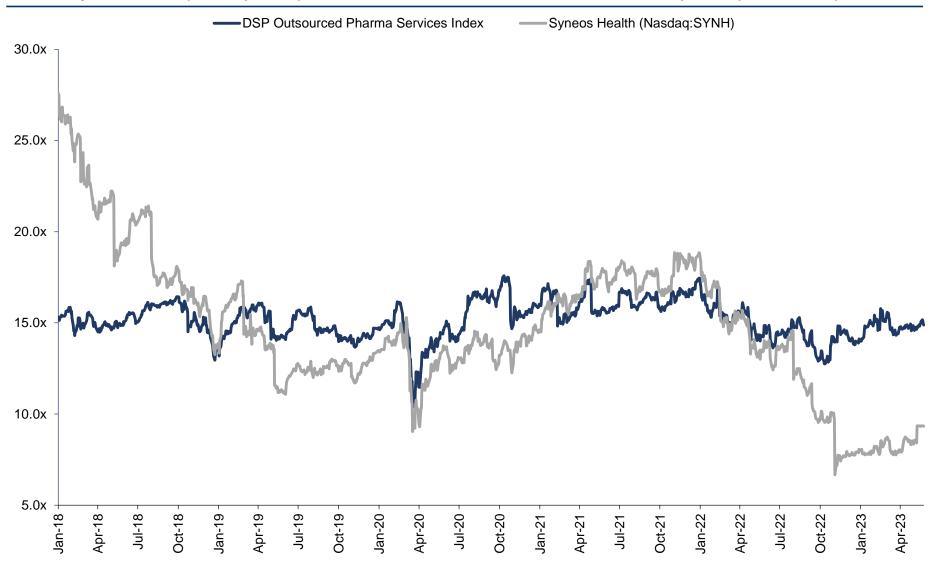
Premium to Syneos Health's unaffected closing stock price on February 13, 2023, the last trading day prior to media speculation regarding the potential transaction

# **SITUATION OVERVIEW**



- Syneos was formed in 2017 when INC Research acquired inVentive Health for an enterprise value of \$4.6 billion. With a combined enterprise value of approximately \$7.4 billion, the Company was positioned as a Top 3 CRO offering a comprehensive suite of clinical and commercial services to the biopharma industry
  - From 2018 to 2019, Syneos faced challenges within its commercial solutions business, including cancellations and lower bookings that led to reduced growth and visibility. These headwinds contributed to the Company's stock underperformance relative to peers
  - During this time, the Company maintained its leading position in the SMID segment
- During 2020 and 2021, Syneos largely benefited from the push to develop COVID-19 vaccines and medicines as biotech companies enjoyed a favorable funding environment which led to an increase in project funding and Request-for-proposal ("RFP") flow
- The subsequent market downturn in 2022 led to a drop in the valuations of many SMIDs which limited their ability to raise capital. The tightening financial conditions forced SMIDs to reduce spending on projects and delay timelines with CROs such as Syneos
- As a result, Syneos repeatedly missed Wall Street estimates in 2022 amid a shrinking backlog, adding pressure on the Company's stock price. Analysts also noted the Company's lack of therapeutic depth outside of oncology and greater exposure to SMIDs relative to competitors as contributors to the Company's underperformance
- On January 9, 2023, Syneos announced that its CFO would step down on March 31, 2023, and they would begin searching for a replacement. The change in management created further uncertainty around the Company's operations. On May 2, 2023, the Company announced Michael Bonello will become the new CFO on July 1, 2023
- Historically, Syneos has traded at a discount to its peers (see page 3). As of January 10, 2023, the Company traded at 7.9x EV / LTM EBITDA, which represented a 44.1% discount relative to the median 14.1x EV / LTM EBITDA for the pharma services index
- In January of 2023, several industry analysts acknowledged the discount in valuation made Syneos an attractive acquisition target for private equity
- On February 13, 2023, initial reports surfaced among several media publications rumoring Syneos was potentially running a sale process. It was thought that the auction included a broad group of buyers including strategic and private equity sponsors

### Syneos Health (Nasdaq:SYNH) vs. DSP Outsourced Pharma Services Index Companies (EV / EBITDA) (1) (2)

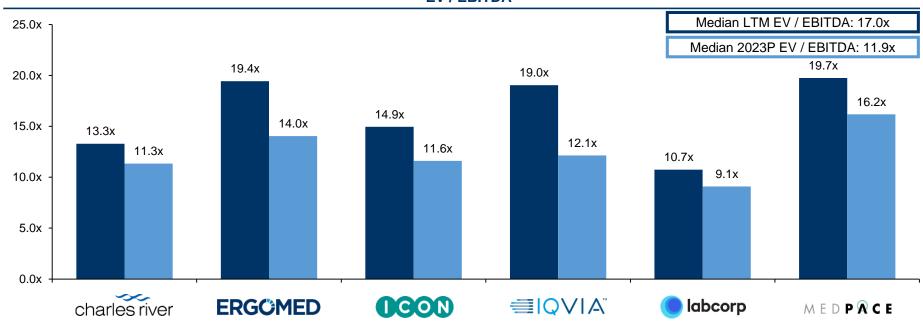


<sup>(1)</sup> Source: S&P Capital IO

<sup>(2)</sup> DSP Outsourced Pharma Services Index includes: Charles River Laboratories, Ergomed, ICON, IQVIA, LabCorp, and Medpace. The multiples also include public outsourced pharma companies that have been acquired / taken private (Parexel, PPD, UDG Healthcare) or merged into the entities above (PRA Health Sciences, Qunitles, IMS Health, INC Research)

**VALUATION DATA** 

#### **EV / EBITDA**



STOCK PERFORMANCE AND COMPANY DATA

CROs													
				Market	Enterprise	Gross	LTM	EV /		EV /			
	Price	30 Day YTD		Value	Value	Profit	EBITDA	Rev		EBITDA		P/E	
Company	5/25/2023	% Change	% Change	(\$mm)	(\$mm)	% Margin	<u>% Margin</u>	LTM	2023P	LTM	2023P	2022	2023P
Charles River Laboratories (NYSE:CRL)	\$194.89	3.9%	(10.6%)	\$9,975.0	\$12,990.5	37.2%	24.6%	3.2x	2.9x	13.3x	11.3x	18.8x	16.1x
Ergomed (AIM:ERGO)	12.70	0.5%	(17.2%)	644.7	624.7	41.3%	20.0%	3.5x	2.8x	19.4x	14.0x	22.5x	20.0x
ICON (LSE:ICON)	202.99	(0.1%)	4.5%	16,630.7	21,014.2	28.6%	20.5%	2.7x	2.4x	14.9x	11.6x	16.1x	13.9x
IQVIA (NYSE:IQV)	197.47	3.0%	(3.6%)	36,640.4	48,630.4	34.9%	23.8%	3.4x	2.9x	19.0x	12.1x	18.9x	16.6x
LabCorp (NYSE:LH)	213.37	(3.6%)	(9.4%)	18,904.6	24,888.6	29.9%	16.7%	1.7x	1.6x	10.7x	9.1x	12.6x	11.3x
Medpace (NASDAQ:MEDP)	202.16	(2.9%)	(4.8%)	6,165.7	6,395.7	29.6%	19.6%	4.1x	3.2x	19.7x	16.2x	24.5x	20.8x
Overall Group Mean		0.1%	(6.8%)	14,826.8	19,090.7	33.6%	20.9%	3.1x	2.6x	16.2x	12.4x	18.9x	16.4x
Overall Group Median		0.2%	(7.1%)	13,302.8	17,002.4	32.4%	20.3%	3.3x	2.9x	17.0x	11.9x	18.9x	16.3x
Overall Group Max		3.9%	4.5%	36,640.4	48,630.4	41.3%	24.6%	4.1x	3.2x	19.7x	16.2x	24.5x	20.8x
Overall Group Min		(3.6%)	(17.2%)	644.7	624.7	28.6%	16.7%	1.7x	1.6x	10.7x	9.1x	12.6x	11.3x

**MARGINS** 

**COMPANY** 

May 2017 Founded:



INC Research and inVentive Health Merger June 2020

Divested:

Contingent Staffing Business

Syneos sold its contingent staffing business to Joulé, a life sciences workforce solutions

provider

November 2020

Divested:



Syneos sold its medication adherence company to MedAdvisor, a global medication management

platform

September 2021

Acquired:

**STUDYKIK** 

Clinical trial recruitment and retention agency, connecting patients, sites, and communities May 2023

Acquired by:





Syneos was acquired by investor consortium

Syneos. Health

August 2018
Acquired:

# kinapse<sup>o</sup>

Advisory and operational solutions provider to the life sciences industry

October 2020

Acquired



Full-service CRO specializing in emerging biopharma research including oncology, rare diseases, neuroscience, dermatology, and pediatrics December 2020 Acquired:

**ILLINGW** ORTH

Provider of clinical research in-home health services

October 2021

Acquired:



Data analytics and artificial intelligence company August 2022

Acquired:



Technologyenabled learning service provider



"This all-cash transaction maximizes value for our shareholders and is in the best interest of the Company and all its stakeholders. The company has a strong operating foundation, differentiated, integrated solutions and a focus on being committed to customers. We believe this transaction will enable Syneos to continue to accelerate its growth strategy, enhance customer delivery and evolve the organization toward a tech-enabled future"

- John Dineen, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Syneos Health (5/10/2023)

Acquired by



"We have long appreciated Syneos' leadership position in servicing large pharma and biotech customers globally, across both clinical development and commercialization. We look forward to partnering with the talented team at Syneos Health to further reinforce the Company's core capabilities and help drive its next phase of growth"

- Marc Steinberg, Senior Portfolio Manager, Elliot Management (5/10/2023)



"We are huge believers in the value that contract research and commercial organizations provide to their clients by accelerating and maximizing the likelihood of clinical success and optimizing a product's potential to impact patients. We have followed the journey of Syneos Health for years and believe the Company and its world-class employees provide a strong foundation to build upon, always providing unparalleled service to clients"

- Jim Momtazee, Managing Partner, Patient Square (5/10/2023)



"Consistent with our successful history of transforming businesses in the healthcare ecosystem, and partnership with the Syneos Health team and the consortium, Veritas looks forward to driving investment in the Company to underscore Syneos Health's position as a market leader and to enhance its ability to deliver medical innovations to patients across the globe"

- Ramzi Musallam, CEO and Managing Partner, Veritas Capital (5/10/2023)

# RECENT DSP HEALTHCARE TRANSACTION EXPERIENCE



#### **Outsourced Pharmaceutical Services**



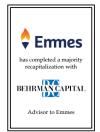
















#### **Healthcare Services**











#### **Life Science Tools**





M&A Advisory

**Growth Capital** 

Recapitalizations

**Board Advisory** 

**Strategic Evaluations** 

**B. Andrew Schmucker** 

Managing Partner 484.533.6313

aschmucker@delanceyllc.com

Patrick E. Dolan

Managing Director 484.533.6311

pdolan@delanceyllc.com

William J. Filip

Managing Director 484.533.6312

wfilip@delanceyllc.com

Steven D. Higgins

Managing Director 484,533,6308

shiggins@delanceyllc.com

James R. McNaughton

Managing Director 484.533.6307

jmcnaughton@delanceyllc.com

**Shane Carroll** 

Vice President 484.533.6316

scarroll@delanceyllc.com

Sean T. Cincotta

Vice President 484.533.6314

scincotta@delanceyllc.com