## KEYS IN HOSPITAL EMPLOYMENT NEGOTIATION

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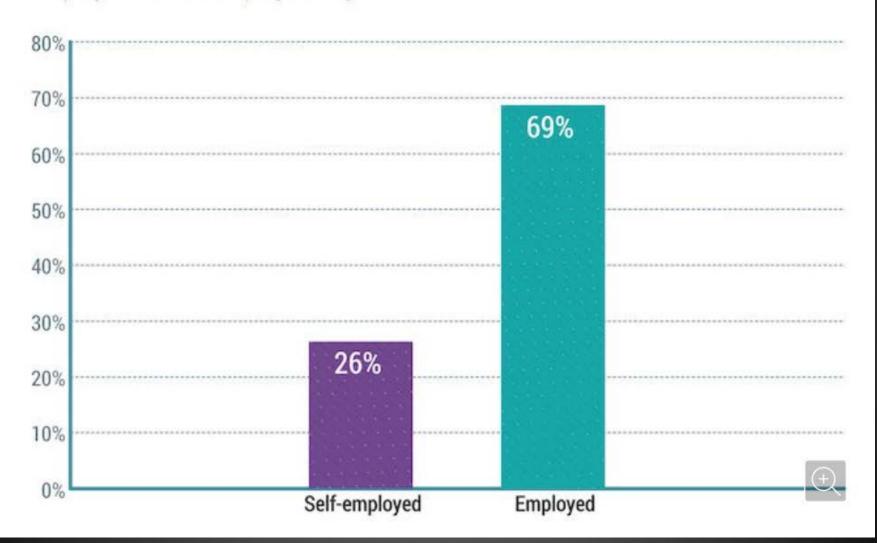
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### DISCLOSURE

- Consultant: Depuy / Corin
- Royalties:
  - Depuy / Wolters Kluwer
- Laboratory Research Support
  - Depuy
  - Porter Adventist Hospital
- Ownership Interest: Joint Vue

### 2018 MEDSCAPE DATA

Employed vs Self-employed Physicians



## EMPLOYMENT: REPORTED ADVANTAGES

- Less Hassles With Running A Practice
  - Insurance Contracts / Collections
- More Predictable Income Security
- More Predictable Working Hours
- Less Exposure To Increasing Governmental Regulations
- Gain Efficiencies Of A Large System
  - Better IT, Billing Systems, Etc

### **EMPLOYMENT: SUMMARY**

MANY POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES

\*DEPENDS WHO YOU GET IN BED WITH!!

\*NEGOTIATE EVERYTHING
UP FRONT!!

### **EMPLOYMENT MODELS**

- Various Employment Models
  - RVU Based
    - -Flat Rate
    - -Floating With Incentives Based On RVU Production
  - Salary Based
  - Combination Of Salary + RVU Productivity

### MEDSCAPE 2016

- 73%: > 50% Of Compensation Based On Productivity + Some Type Of Incentive Formula
- 16.42%: All Compensation Based On Physician Productivity
- **▼8.18%: Predetermined Salary**

- Multiple Additional Vehicles To Enhance Bottom Line Income:
  - Hospital Assumes Overhead Obligations
    - Billing & Collection
    - Human Resource Management
    - Facility Maintenance & Expense
      - If The Xray Tube Blows . . .
  - Hospital Can Provide Marketing Funds To Promote Individual <u>EMPLOYED</u> Physicians
    - Marketing → ↑ Patient Volume → ↑ Physician \$\$\$

- Private Practice Income Is Typically Based On <u>Collections</u> Whereas Employment Model Income Is Usually Based On <u>Productivity</u>
  - Collections: Poor Payor Mix → ↓ \$\$\$
  - Productivity: Unaffected By Payor Mix
    - "ALL INSURANCES ARE CREATED EQUAL"
- Some Predict Physician Owned Ancillaries Are Legislative Targets

- Other <u>Potential</u> Income Producers
  - Outpatient Surgical Center Ownership
    - -Joint Venture With Hospital
  - Management Services Agreement
    - Co-Management Agreement
  - Signing Bonus
  - Retention Bonus If Contact Extended

- Other <u>Potential</u> Income Producers
  - Stipends For:
    - Continuing Medical Education
    - -Travel Expenses For CME / Lectures
    - -Scholarly Journal Articles Produced
    - -Research Support
    - **-Journal Subscriptions**
    - -Moving Expenses / License Fees
    - -Association Dues

- Other <u>Potential</u> Income Producers
  - Noncompete Clause Bonus
  - New Partner Income Protection
    - New Partner Can Result In ↓ Income
       For Existing Physicians
      - Smaller Piece Of New Patient Volume
      - ✓ Income Guarantee Until New Partner Economically Productive
  - Income For Supervision Of Mid-Levels

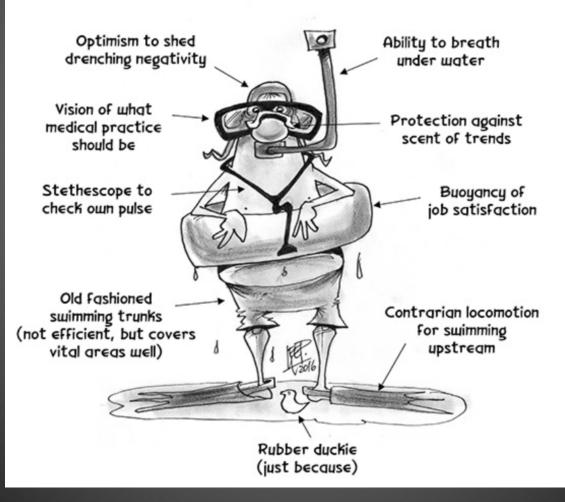
- Most Predict ↓ Reimbursements To Private Practice MDs Will Continue
- Being Employed May Provide Some Protection From Lowered Income
  - Hospital Can Weather Reductions Better Due To Ancillary Income Produced By Employed Physicians

### WHAT <u>MAY</u> BE POSSIBLE

- Highly Dependent On Negotiating Leverage Of The Physicians
  - High Surgical Volume
    - -Particularly If Group Dominates Hospital's Surgical Volume
  - Bringing Practice To A New Hospital
  - Demonstrated High Skill Levels With ↓
     Complication Rates & Subsequent Cost
- ◆They Like Us. We Still Admit Patients!!

# SURVIVING HOSPITAL EMPLOYMENT





### **EMPLOYMENT: THE BAD & UGLY**

- Loss Of Control Of Personnel
  - Potential Inability To Hire & Fire
- Loss Of Autonomy In Patient Care
  - Economic Pressures
- "Lots" Of Rules
  - 2016 Medscape Survey:
    - 42% Of Employed MDs Disagreed With Hospital Regarding Patient Care Issues
    - -57% Disagreed About Workplace Policies
- REMEMBER: It's Who You Get In Bed With

### **EMPLOYMENT: THE BAD & UGLY**

- Dealing With A Large Bureaucracy
  - Multiple Levels Of Management To Deal With
  - Difficult To Affect Policy Change
  - Some Hospital Systems Have Multiple Groups Employed & A Single Set Of Rules For All Practices
    - Needs Of Individual Practices Often Differ
- REMEMBER: It's Who You Get In Bed With

#### **EMPLOYMENT: THE BAD & UGLY**

- Earning Less Than In Private Practice
- 2017 Medscape MD Compensation Survey
  - Employed PCPs Earn 9% Less
  - Employed Specialist Earn 22% Less
- Work Requirements That Restrict Freedom
  - Hours Per Week / Weeks Per Year
- Potential Loss Of Leverage After You Sign

- Fair Market Analyses
  - Is It Really Fair ??
  - Typically Paid For By The Hospital
  - Numerous Companies Available
  - Considering Hiring Your Own If Values
     Provided Are In Question
- Freedom Of Pension Plan Management

- Unrealistic Incentive Bonus Levels
  - Medscape 2016
    - 44% Unsatisfied With Productivity Targets
  - Targets Can Be Based In Measures Other Than Just Physician Economic Productivity
    - Patient Satisfaction Levels
    - Complication & Readmission Rates
- Are Bonuses Based On Individual, Group Or System-Wide Performance ??

- Clearly Determine Amount Of Administrative / Committee Meeting Time Requirements
  - If Excessive, It Can Lead To Reduced Direct Patient Care Time
     → ↓ RVU Production → Less Physician Income

- Consider Penalty Clauses If Hospital Is Not Providing Negotiated Services
  - Office Personnel Management
  - Lack Of Adequate #s Of Personnel
  - Safe Functional Facility
    - Sterilization Issues → Shutdown
  - Delays In Building Promised Facilities

- Need To Take Care Of Any Employees You Are Bringing From Private Practice To The New Employment Model
  - Salaries
  - Benefit Package
    - Health Insurance
    - Life Insurance
    - Vacation Days

- Carefully Analyze / Negotiate The Exit Clauses If Things Go Poorly
- Non-Compete Clause If You Leave
  - How Long ??
  - How Far ??
    - -10 Miles
    - **-19 Counties**

- Beware Of Non-Solicitation Clauses
  - Can Prevent Access To Your Patient Medical Records If You Leave
- Research Database Goes With You
  - Group Name Goes With You
    - -Colorado Joint Replacement

- New Partner Income Guarantees
  - Need A Good Economic Package
     To Attract Future Partners
- Really Get To Know The CEO
  - Poor Leader Limits Practice Success
- Must Create A Contract That Is Win –
   Win For Hospital & Physicians

- Ability To Add Ancillary Health Personnel
  - Nurses
  - Nurse Practitioners
  - Physician Assistants
- Can Increase Patient Volume & Subsequent Physician Income

- Ability To Keep Your Current Staff & Facility ??
  - Very Painful To See Long Term, Loyal Employees Let Go
  - New Facility In New Location
    - Will Your Patients Follow You To New Practice?
- Will Retained Employee Benefits Be As Good ??
- Do You Get To Retain Income Generated From Your Intellectual Property
  - Pre-Existing / Future

- Must Carefully Evaluate The Benefits Package
  - Health / Disability / Life Insurance
  - Malpractice Insurance
    - -Tail Coverage If You Leave
  - Retirement Plan Benefits
  - Consumer Discounts (Phone, Etc)
  - Vacation Limits

- Reports Of Hospitals Losing Money On Employed Physicians
  - Partly True If One Only Compares Physician Collections Vs Paid Physician Income
  - Doesn't Consider Physician Generated Ancillary Revenue For The Hospital
    - Lab Tests / Radiology
    - Referrals To Other Physicians In The Hospital System

### SUMMARY

- Percentage Of Employed Physicians In The US Is Increasing
- Satisfaction With Employment Is Variable
- Many Factors To Consider
- High Patient Volume & Subsequent Income Generation Enhances Physician Negotiating Leverage
- DEPENDS WHO YOU GET IN BED WITH !!

## THANK YOU

