

AMEDISYS INC
Form 10-Q
April 27, 2010
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2010

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 0-24260

AMEDISYS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

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Delaware **11-3131700**
(State or other jurisdiction of **(I.R.S. Employer**
incorporation or organization) **Identification No.)**
5959 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70816
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)
(225) 292-2031 or (800) 467-2662
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer, and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

The number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date, is as follows: Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 28,559,614 shares outstanding as of April 22, 2010.

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SPECIAL CAUTION CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND AVAILABLE INFORMATION

Special Caution Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

When included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, or in other documents that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or in statements made by or on behalf of our company, words like believes, belief, expects, plans, anticipates, intends, projects, estimates, may, might, would, should and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements involve a variety of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described therein. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to the following: changes in Medicare and other medical payment levels, our ability to open agencies, acquire additional agencies and integrate and operate these agencies effectively, changes in or our failure to comply with existing Federal and State laws or regulations or the inability to comply with new government regulations on a timely basis, competition in the home health industry, changes in the case mix of patients and payment methodologies, changes in estimates and judgments associated with critical accounting policies, our ability to maintain or establish new patient referral sources, our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel, changes in payments and covered services due to the economic downturn and deficit spending by Federal and State governments, future cost containment initiatives undertaken by third-party payors, our access to financing due to the volatility and disruption of the capital and credit markets, our ability to meet debt service requirements and comply with covenants in debt agreements, business disruptions due to natural disasters or acts of terrorism, our ability to integrate and manage our information systems and various other matters, many of which are beyond our control.

Because forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties, some of which cannot be predicted or quantified, you should not rely on any forward-looking statement as a prediction of future events. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking and we do not intend to release publicly any updates or changes in our expectations concerning the forward-looking statements or any changes in events, conditions or circumstances upon which any forward-looking statement may be based, except as required by law. For a discussion of some of the factors discussed above as well as additional factors, see our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, filed with the SEC on February 23, 2010, particularly Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors therein, which are incorporated herein by reference. Additional risk factors may also be described in reports that we file from time to time with the SEC.

Available Information

Our company website address is www.amedisys.com. We use our website as a channel of distribution for important company information. Important information, including press releases, analyst presentations and financial information regarding our company, is routinely posted on and accessible on the Investor Relations subpage of our website, which is accessible by clicking on the tab labeled Investors on our website home page. We also use our website to expedite public access to time-critical information regarding our company in advance of or in lieu of distributing a press release or a filing with the SEC disclosing the same information. Therefore, investors should look to the Investor Relations subpage of our website for important and time-critical information. Visitors to our website can also register to receive automatic e-mail and other notifications alerting them when new information is made available on the Investor Relations subpage of our website. In addition, we make available on the Investor Relations subpage of our website (under the link SEC filings) free of charge our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, ownership reports on Forms 3, 4 and 5 and any amendments to those reports as soon as practicable after we electronically file such reports with the SEC. Further, copies of our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, our Code of Ethical Business Conduct, Corporate Governance Guidelines and the charters for the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees of our Board are also available on the Investor Relations subpage of our website (under the link Corporate Governance).

Additionally, our filings can also be obtained at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (800) SEC-0330. Our electronically filed reports can also be obtained on the SEC's internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Table of Contents**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****AMEDISYS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

(Unaudited)

| | March 31, 2010 | December 31, 2009 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 81,980 | \$ 34,485 |
| Patient accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$25,806 and \$26,371 | 150,572 | 150,269 |
| Prepaid expenses | 12,651 | 10,279 |
| Other current assets | 15,905 | 23,003 |
| Total current assets | 261,108 | 218,036 |
| Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$65,658 and \$59,780 | 95,440 | 91,919 |
| Goodwill | 789,054 | 786,923 |
| Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$13,337 and \$11,824 | 59,093 | 57,608 |
| Other assets, net | 17,750 | 17,865 |
| Total assets | \$ 1,222,445 | \$ 1,172,351 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 21,554 | \$ 16,535 |
| Payroll and employee benefits | 124,832 | 119,619 |
| Accrued expenses | 35,592 | 33,035 |
| Obligations due Medicare | 4,618 | 4,618 |
| Current portion of long-term obligations | 40,581 | 44,254 |
| Current portion of deferred income taxes | 11,446 | 11,245 |
| Total current liabilities | 238,623 | 229,306 |
| Long-term obligations, less current portion | 162,799 | 170,899 |
| Deferred income taxes | 30,821 | 29,399 |
| Other long-term obligations | 5,787 | 6,412 |
| Total liabilities | 438,030 | 436,016 |
| Commitments and Contingencies - Note 6 | | |
| Equity: | | |
| Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value, 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding | - | - |
| Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 60,000,000 shares authorized; 28,548,967 and 28,303,216 shares issued; and 28,435,994 and 28,191,174 shares outstanding | 29 | 28 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 374,981 | 363,670 |
| Treasury stock at cost, 112,973 and 112,042 shares of common stock | (791) | (735) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 108 | 114 |
| Retained earnings | 408,735 | 372,089 |

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| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Total Amedisys, Inc. stockholders' equity | 783,062 | 735,166 |
| Noncontrolling interests | 1,353 | 1,169 |
| Total equity | 784,415 | 736,335 |
| Total liabilities and equity | \$ 1,222,445 | \$ 1,172,351 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

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AMEDISYS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS

(Amounts in thousands, except per share data)

(Unaudited)

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, | |
|--|---|----------------|
| | 2010 | 2009 |
| Net service revenue | \$ 412,967 | \$ 341,838 |
| Cost of service, excluding depreciation and amortization | 204,062 | 165,039 |
| General and administrative expenses: | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 87,499 | 73,025 |
| Non-cash compensation | 2,513 | 2,141 |
| Other | 44,648 | 42,266 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 4,345 | 6,166 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 8,186 | 6,282 |
| Operating expenses | 351,253 | 294,919 |
| Operating income | 61,714 | 46,919 |
| Other (expense) income: | | |
| Interest income | 85 | 81 |
| Interest expense | (2,411) | (3,455) |
| Equity in earnings from unconsolidated joint ventures | 788 | 424 |
| Miscellaneous, net | 201 | 354 |
| Total other expense | (1,337) | (2,596) |
| Income before income taxes | 60,377 | 44,323 |
| Income tax expense | (23,547) | (17,286) |
| Net income | 36,830 | 27,037 |
| Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests | (184) | (15) |
| Net income attributable to Amedisys, Inc. | \$ 36,646 | \$ 27,022 |
| Net income per share attributable to Amedisys, Inc. common stockholders: | | |
| Basic | \$ 1.32 | \$ 1.01 |
| Diluted | \$ 1.29 | \$ 0.99 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding: | | |
| Basic | 27,821 | 26,854 |
| Diluted | 28,359 | 27,293 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**AMEDISYS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Amounts in thousands)

(Unaudited)

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, | |
|---|--|-----------|
| | 2010 | 2009 |
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities: | | |
| Net income | \$ 36,830 | \$ 27,037 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 8,186 | 6,282 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 4,345 | 6,166 |
| Non-cash compensation | 2,513 | 2,141 |
| 401(k) employer match | 5,705 | 4,530 |
| Loss on disposal of property and equipment | 171 | 98 |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,623 | 1,141 |
| Equity in earnings of unconsolidated joint ventures | (788) | (424) |
| Amortization of deferred debt issuance costs | 394 | 394 |
| Return on equity investment | 90 | - |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of impact of acquisitions: | | |
| Patient accounts receivable | (4,648) | 15,112 |
| Other current assets | 4,885 | (2,981) |
| Other assets | 295 | 507 |
| Accounts payable | 4,636 | (99) |
| Accrued expenses | 7,425 | (5,252) |
| Other long-term obligations | (625) | (167) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 71,037 | 54,485 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities: | | |
| Proceeds from sale of deferred compensation plan assets | - | 356 |
| Purchases of deferred compensation plan assets | (54) | (454) |
| Purchases of property and equipment | (9,966) | (7,478) |
| Acquisitions of businesses, net of cash acquired | (1,969) | (7,490) |
| Acquisitions of reacquired franchise rights | (2,377) | - |
| Net cash (used in) investing activities | (14,366) | (15,066) |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities: | | |
| Outstanding checks in excess of bank balance | - | 313 |
| Proceeds from issuance of stock upon exercise of stock options and warrants | 939 | 425 |
| Proceeds from issuance of stock to employee stock purchase plan | 1,445 | 1,222 |
| Tax benefit from stock option exercises | 714 | 672 |
| Proceeds from Revolving Line of Credit | - | 24,200 |
| Repayments of Revolving Line of Credit | - | (31,200) |
| Principal payments of long-term obligations | (12,274) | (12,250) |
| Net cash (used in) financing activities | (9,176) | (16,618) |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | 47,495 | 22,801 |

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| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 34,485 | 2,847 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 81,980 | \$ 25,648 |
| Supplemental Disclosures of Cash Flow Information: | | |
| Cash paid for interest | \$ 3,735 | \$ 5,034 |
| Cash paid for income taxes, net of refunds received | \$ 14,620 | \$ 16,565 |
| Supplemental Disclosures of Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities: | | |
| Notes payable issued for acquisitions | \$ 500 | \$ 1,534 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

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AMEDISYS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS, CONSOLIDATION AND PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Amedisys, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its consolidated subsidiaries (Amedisys, we, us, or our) are a multi-state provider of home health and hospice services with approximately 87% of our net service revenue derived from Medicare for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009. As of March 31, 2010, we had 532 Medicare-certified home health and 68 Medicare-certified hospice agencies in 42 states within the United States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Basis of Presentation

In our opinion, the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments (consisting solely of normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly our financial position, our results of operations and our cash flows in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (U.S. GAAP). Our results of operations for the interim periods presented are not necessarily indicative of results of our operations for the entire year and have not been audited by our independent auditors.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP have been condensed or omitted from the interim financial information presented. This report should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on February 23, 2010 (the Form 10-K), which includes information and disclosures not included herein.

Use of Estimates

Our accounting and reporting policies conform with U.S. GAAP. In preparing the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements, we are required to make estimates and assumptions that impact the amounts reported in the condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could materially differ from those estimates.

Reclassifications and Comparability

Certain reclassifications have been made to prior periods' financial statements in order to conform them to the current period's presentation.

As a result of our rapid growth through acquisition and start-up activities, our operating results may not be comparable for the periods that are presented.

Principles of Consolidation

These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Amedisys, Inc. and our wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in our accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements, and business combinations accounted for as purchases have been included in our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements from their respective dates of acquisition. In addition to our wholly owned subsidiaries, we also have certain equity investments that are accounted for as set forth below.

Equity Investments

We consolidate subsidiaries and/or joint ventures when the entity is a variable interest entity and we are the primary beneficiary or if we have controlling interests in the entity, which is generally ownership in excess of 50%. Third party equity interests in our consolidated joint ventures are reflected as noncontrolling interests in our condensed consolidated financial statements.

For subsidiaries or joint ventures in which we do not have a controlling interest or for which we are not the primary beneficiary, we record such investments under the equity method of accounting.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Revenue Recognition

We earn net service revenue through our home health and hospice agencies by providing a variety of services almost exclusively in the homes of our patients. This net service revenue is earned and billed either on an episode of care basis (on a 60-day episode of care basis for home health services and on a 90-day episode of care basis for the first two hospice episodes of care and on a 60-day episode of care basis for any subsequent hospice episodes), on a per visit basis or on a daily basis depending upon the payment terms and conditions established with each payor for services provided. We refer to home health revenue earned and billed on a 60-day episode of care as episodic-based revenue. For the services we provide, Medicare is our largest payor.

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When we record our service revenue, we record it net of estimated revenue adjustments and contractual adjustments to reflect amounts we estimate to be realizable for services provided, as discussed below. We believe, based on information currently available to us and based on our judgment, that changes to one or more factors that impact the accounting estimates (such as our estimates related to revenue adjustments, contractual adjustments and episodes in progress) we make in determining net service revenue, which changes are likely to occur from period to period, will not materially impact our reported consolidated financial condition, results of operations, cash flows or our future financial results.

Home Health Revenue Recognition

Medicare Revenue

Net service revenue is recorded under the Medicare payment program (PPS) based on a 60-day episode payment rate that is subject to adjustment based on certain variables including, but not limited to: (a) an outlier payment if our patient's care was unusually costly; (b) a low utilization adjustment (LUPA) if the number of visits was fewer than five; (c) a partial payment if our patient transferred to another provider or we received a patient from another provider before completing the episode; (d) a payment adjustment based upon the level of therapy services required (thresholds set at 6, 14 and 20 visits); (e) the number of episodes of care provided to a patient, regardless of whether the same home health provider provided care for the entire series of episodes; (f) changes in the base episode payments established by the Medicare Program; (g) adjustments to the base episode payments for case mix and geographic wages; and (h) recoveries of overpayments.

We make adjustments to Medicare revenue on completed episodes to reflect differences between estimated and actual payment amounts, an inability to obtain appropriate billing documentation or authorizations acceptable to the payor and other reasons unrelated to credit risk. We estimate the impact of such payment adjustments based on our historical experience, which primarily includes a historical collection rate of over 99% on Medicare claims, and record this estimate during the period in which services are rendered as an estimated revenue adjustment and a corresponding reduction to patient accounts receivable. Therefore, we believe that our reported net service revenue and patient accounts receivable will be the net amounts to be realized from Medicare for services rendered. During the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, we recorded \$0.2 million and \$2.1 million, respectively, in estimated revenue adjustments to Medicare revenue.

In addition to revenue recognized on completed episodes, we also recognize a portion of revenue associated with episodes in progress. Episodes in progress are 60-day episodes of care that begin during the reporting period, but were not completed as of the end of the period. We estimate this revenue on a monthly basis based upon historical trends. The primary factors underlying this estimate are the number of episodes in progress at the end of the reporting period, expected Medicare revenue per episode and our estimate of the average percentage complete based on visits performed. As of March 31, 2010 and 2009, the difference between the cash received from Medicare for a request for anticipated payment (RAP) on episodes in progress and the associated estimated revenue was included as a reduction to our outstanding patient accounts receivable in our condensed consolidated balance sheets for such periods, since only a nominal amount represents cash collected in advance of providing services.

Non-Medicare Revenue

Episodic-based Revenue. We recognize revenue in a similar manner as we recognize Medicare revenue for episodic-based rates that are paid by other insurance carriers, including Medicare Advantage programs; however, these rates can vary based upon the negotiated terms.

Non-episodic Based Revenue. Gross revenue is recorded on an accrual basis based upon the date of service at amounts equal to our established or estimated per-visit rates, as applicable. Contractual adjustments are recorded for the difference between our standard rates and the contracted rates to be realized from patients, third parties and others for services provided and are deducted from gross revenue to determine net service revenue and are also recorded as a reduction to our outstanding patient accounts receivable. In addition, we receive a minimal amount of our net service revenue from patients who are either self-insured or are obligated for an insurance co-payment.

Hospice Revenue Recognition

Hospice Medicare Revenue

Gross revenue is recorded on an accrual basis based upon the date of service at amounts equal to the estimated payment rates. The estimated payment rates are daily or hourly rates for each of the four levels of care we deliver. The four main levels of care we provide are routine care, general inpatient care, continuous home care and respite care. We make adjustments to Medicare revenue for an inability to obtain appropriate billing documentation or authorizations acceptable to the payor and other reasons unrelated to credit

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risk. We estimate the impact of these adjustments based on our historical experience, which primarily includes our historical collection rate on Medicare claims, and record it during the period services are rendered as an estimated revenue adjustment and as a reduction to our outstanding patient accounts receivable.

Additionally, as Medicare hospice revenue is subject to an inpatient cap limit and an overall payment cap, we monitor our provider numbers and estimate amounts due back to Medicare if a cap has been exceeded. We record these adjustments as a reduction to revenue and increase other accrued liabilities. As of March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we had \$0.3 million and \$0.1 million, respectively, recorded for estimated amounts due back to Medicare in other accrued liabilities in our accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. As a result of our adjustments, we believe our revenue and patients accounts receivable are recorded at amounts that will be ultimately realized.

Hospice Non-Medicare Revenue

We record gross revenue on an accrual basis based upon the date of service at amounts equal to our established rates or estimated per visit rates, as applicable. Contractual adjustments are recorded for the difference between our established rates and the amounts estimated to be realizable from patients, third parties and others for services provided and are deducted from gross revenue to determine our net service revenue and patient accounts receivable.

Patient Accounts Receivable

Our patient accounts receivable are uncollateralized and consist of amounts due from Medicare, Medicaid, other third-party payors and patients. We believe there is a certain level of credit risk associated with non-Medicare payors. To provide for our non-Medicare patient accounts receivable that could become uncollectible in the future, we establish an allowance for doubtful accounts to reduce the carrying amount to its estimated net realizable value. We believe the credit risk associated with our Medicare accounts, which represent 74% and 77% of our net patient accounts receivable at March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, is limited due to (i) our historical collection rate of over 99% from Medicare and (ii) the fact that Medicare is a U.S. government payor. Accordingly, we do not record an allowance for doubtful accounts for our Medicare patient accounts receivable, which are recorded at their net realizable value after recording estimated revenue adjustments as discussed above. There is no other single payor, other than Medicare, that accounts for more than 10% of our total outstanding patient receivables, and thus we believe there are no other significant concentrations of receivables that would subject us to any significant credit risk in the collection of our patient accounts receivable.

We fully reserve for accounts which are aged at 360 days or greater. We write off accounts on a monthly basis once we have exhausted our collection efforts and deem an account to be uncollectible.

Medicare Home Health

Our Medicare billing begins with a process to ensure that our billings are accurate through the utilization of an electronic Medicare claim review. We submit a RAP for 60% of our estimated payment for the initial episode at the start of care or 50% of the estimated payment for any subsequent episodes of care contiguous with the first episode for a particular patient. The full amount of the episode is billed after the episode has been completed (final billed). The RAP received for that particular episode is then deducted from our final payment. If a final bill is not submitted within the greater of 120 days from the start of the episode, or 60 days from the date the RAP was paid, any RAPs received for that episode will be recouped by Medicare from any other claims in process for that particular provider number. The RAP and final claim must then be re-submitted.

Medicare Hospice

For our hospice patients, our pre-billing process includes verifying that we are eligible for payment from Medicare for the services that we provide to our patients. Once each patient has been confirmed for eligibility, we will bill Medicare on a monthly basis for the services provided to the patient.

Non-Medicare Home Health and Hospice

For our non-Medicare patients, our pre-billing process primarily begins with verifying a patient's eligibility for services with the applicable payor. Once the patient has been confirmed for eligibility, we will provide services to the patient and bill the applicable payor based on either the contracted rates or expected payment rates, which are based on our historical experience. We estimate an allowance for doubtful accounts to reduce the carrying amount of the receivables to the amounts we estimate will be ultimately collected. Our review and evaluation of non-Medicare accounts includes a detailed review of outstanding balances and special consideration to concentrations of receivables from

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particular payors or groups of payors with similar characteristics that would subject us to any significant credit risk. Where such groups have been identified, we have given special consideration to both the billing methodology and evaluation of the ultimate collectibility of the accounts. In addition, the amount of the allowance for doubtful accounts is based upon our assessment of historical and expected net collections, business and economic conditions, trends in payment and an evaluation of collectibility based upon the date that the service was provided. Based upon our best judgment, we believe the allowance for doubtful accounts adequately provides for accounts that will not be collected due to credit risk.

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The following details our financial instruments where the carrying value and fair value differ (amounts in millions):

| Financial Instrument | As of March 31, 2010 | Fair Value at Reporting Date Using | | |
|---|----------------------|--|---|---|
| | | Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Items (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
| Long-term obligations, excluding capital leases | \$ 203.3 | \$ - | \$ 195.8 | \$ - |

The estimates of the fair value of our long-term debt are based upon a discounted present value analysis of future cash flows. Due to the existing uncertainty in the capital and credit markets, the actual rates that would be obtained to borrow under similar conditions could materially differ from the estimates we have used.

The fair value hierarchy is based on three levels of inputs, of which the first two are considered observable and the last unobservable, that may be used to measure fair value. The three levels of inputs are as follows:

Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.

Level 2 Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.

Level 3 Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

For our other financial instruments, including our cash and cash equivalents, patient accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses, we estimate the carrying amounts approximate fair value due to their short term maturity. Our deferred compensation plan assets are recorded at fair value.

Weighted-Average Shares Outstanding

Net income per share attributable to Amedisys, Inc. common stockholders, calculated on the treasury stock method, is based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, shares used in our computation of the weighted-average shares outstanding, which are used to calculate our basic and diluted net income per share attributable to Amedisys, Inc. common stockholders (amounts in thousands):

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, | |
|---|--|--------|
| | 2010 | 2009 |
| Weighted average number of shares outstanding - basic | 27,821 | 26,854 |
| Effect of dilutive securities: | | |
| Stock options | 175 | 250 |
| Non-vested stock and stock units | 363 | 189 |
| Weighted average number of shares outstanding - diluted | 28,359 | 27,293 |

For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, there were 4,222 and 41,501 shares, respectively, of additional securities that were anti-dilutive.

3. ACQUISITIONS

We complete acquisitions from time to time in order to pursue our strategy of increasing our market presence by expanding our service base and enhancing our position in certain geographic areas as a leading provider of home health and hospice services. The purchase price paid for acquisitions is negotiated through arm's length transactions, with consideration based on our analysis of, among other things, comparable acquisitions and expected cash flows for each transaction. Acquisitions are accounted for as purchases and are included in our condensed consolidated financial statements from their respective acquisition dates. Goodwill generated from acquisitions is recognized for the excess of the purchase price over tangible and identifiable intangible assets because of the expected contributions of the acquisitions to our overall corporate strategy.

Table of Contents**2010 Acquisitions**

On February 1, 2010, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of a home health agency in DeQueen, Arkansas for a total purchase price of \$2.5 million (\$2.0 million in cash and a \$0.5 million promissory note). In connection with the acquisition, we recorded substantially the entire purchase price as goodwill (\$2.1 million) and other intangibles (\$0.4 million).

4. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS, NET

The following table summarizes the activity related to our goodwill and our other intangible assets, net, as of and for the three-month period ended March 31, 2010 (amounts in millions):

| | Goodwill | | Total |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|----------|
| | Home Health | Hospice | |
| Balances at December 31, 2009 | \$ 719.9 | \$ 67.0 | \$ 786.9 |
| Additions | 2.1 | - | 2.1 |
| Balances at March 31, 2010 | \$ 722.0 | \$ 67.0 | \$ 789.0 |

| | Certificates Of Need and Licenses | Acquired Name of Business (1) | Other Intangible Assets, Net Non-Compete Agreements & Reacquired Franchise Rights (2) | Total |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|---------|
| Balances at December 31, 2009 | 43.4 | 4.7 | 9.5 | 57.6 |
| Additions | 0.2 | 0.1 | 2.7 | 3.0 |
| Amortization | - | - | (1.5) | (1.5) |
| Balances at March 31, 2010 | \$ 43.6 | \$ 4.8 | \$ 10.7 | \$ 59.1 |

- (1) Acquired Names of Business includes \$4.4 million of unamortized acquired names and \$0.4 million of amortized acquired names which have a weighted-average amortization period of 3.1 years.
- (2) The weighted-average amortization period of our non-compete agreements and reacquired franchise rights is 3.2 and 2.6 years, respectively.

5. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

Long-term debt, including capital lease obligations, consisted of the following for the periods indicated (amounts in millions):

| | March 31, 2010 | December 31, 2009 |
|---|----------------|-------------------|
| Senior Notes: | | |
| \$35.0 million Series A Notes; semi-annual interest only payments; interest rate at 6.07% per annum; due March 25, 2013 | \$ 35.0 | \$ 35.0 |
| \$30.0 million Series B Notes; semi-annual interest only payments; interest rate at 6.28% per annum; due March 25, 2014 | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| \$35.0 million Series C Notes; semi-annual interest only payments; interest rate at 6.49% per annum; due March 25, 2015 | 35.0 | 35.0 |
| | 90.0 | 97.5 |

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| | | | |
|---|----------|----|--------|
| \$150.0 million Term Loan; \$7.5 million principal payments plus accrued interest payable quarterly; interest rate at ABR Rate plus applicable percentage or Eurodollar Rate plus the applicable percentage (1.01% at March 31, 2010); due March 26, 2013 | | | |
| | 13.3 | | 17.6 |
| Promissory notes | | | |
| Capital leases | - | | 0.1 |
| | | | |
| | 203.3 | | 215.2 |
| Current portion of long-term obligations | (40.5) | | (44.3) |
| | | | |
| Total | \$ 162.8 | \$ | 170.9 |

Our weighted-average interest rate for our five year Term Loan for the quarters ended March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 1.0% and 2.6%, respectively.

As of March 31, 2010, our total leverage ratio (used to compute the margin and commitment fees, described in more detail in Note 6 of the financial statements included in our Form 10-K) was 0.7 and our fixed charge coverage ratio was 2.6.

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As of March 31, 2010, our availability under our \$250.0 million Revolving Credit Facility was \$234.6 million as we had \$15.4 million outstanding in letters of credit.

See Note 6 of the financial statements included in our Form 10-K for additional details on our outstanding long-term obligations.

6. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES*Legal Proceedings*

We are involved in legal actions in the normal course of business, some of which seek monetary damages, including claims for punitive damages. We do not believe that these actions, when finally concluded and determined, will have a material impact on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Insurance

We are obligated for certain costs associated with our insurance programs, including employee health, workers' compensation and professional liability. While we maintain various insurance programs to cover these risks, we are self-insured for a substantial portion of our potential claims. We recognize our obligations associated with these costs in the period in which a claim is incurred, including with respect to both reported claims and claims incurred but not reported, up to specified deductible limits. These costs have generally been estimated based on historical data of our claims experience. Such estimates, and the resulting reserves, are reviewed and updated by us on a quarterly basis.

Our health insurance has a retention limit of \$0.5 million, our workers' compensation insurance has a retention limit of \$0.4 million and our professional liability insurance has a retention limit of \$0.3 million.

7. SEGMENT INFORMATION

Our operations involve servicing patients through our two reportable business segments: home health and hospice. Our home health segment delivers a wide range of services in the home of individuals who may be recovering from surgery, have a chronic disability or terminal illness or need assistance with the essential activities of daily living. Our hospice segment provides palliative care and comfort to terminally ill patients and their families. The "other" column in the following tables consists of costs relating to corporate support functions that are not directly attributable to a specific segment.

Management evaluates performance and allocates resources based on the operating income of the reportable segments, which exclude corporate expenses, but includes revenues and all other costs directly attributable to the specific segment. Segment assets are not reviewed by the company's chief operating decision maker and therefore are not disclosed below. The following table summarizes our segment information for the periods indicated (amounts in millions):

| | For the Three-Month Period Ended March 31, 2010 | | | |
|--|---|---------|-----------|----------|
| | Home Health | Hospice | Other | Total |
| Net service revenue | \$ 380.5 | \$ 32.5 | \$ - | \$ 413.0 |
| Cost of service, excluding depreciation and amortization | 187.0 | 17.1 | - | 204.1 |
| General and administrative expenses | 86.3 | 7.8 | 40.6 | 134.7 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 3.8 | 0.5 | - | 4.3 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 3.6 | 0.1 | 4.5 | 8.2 |
| Operating expenses | 280.7 | 25.5 | 45.1 | 351.3 |
| Operating income | \$ 99.8 | \$ 7.0 | \$ (45.1) | \$ 61.7 |

| For the Three-Month Period Ended March 31, 2009 | | | |
|---|---------|-------|-------|
| | Hospice | Other | Total |

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| | Home Health | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Net service revenue | \$ 321.5 | \$ 20.3 | \$ - | \$ 341.8 |
| Cost of service, excluding depreciation and amortization | 153.5 | 11.5 | - | 165.0 |
| General and administrative expenses | 71.5 | 5.2 | 40.7 | 117.4 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 5.9 | 0.3 | - | 6.2 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 3.2 | 0.2 | 2.9 | 6.3 |
| Operating expenses | 234.1 | 17.2 | 43.6 | 294.9 |
| Operating income | \$ 87.4 | \$ 3.1 | \$ (43.6) | \$ 46.9 |

Table of Contents**ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following discussion and analysis provides information we believe is relevant to an assessment and understanding of our results of operations and financial condition for the three-month period ended March 31, 2010. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included herein, the consolidated financial statements and notes and the related Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on February 23, 2010 (the Form 10-K), which are incorporated herein by this reference.

Unless otherwise provided, Amedisys, we, us, our and the Company refer to Amedisys, Inc. and our consolidated subsidiaries.

Overview

We are a leading provider of high-quality, low-cost home health services to the chronic, co-morbid, aging American population. Our services include home health and hospice services, and approximately 87% of our revenue was derived from Medicare for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009. During the three-month period ended March 31, 2010, we had \$413.0 million in net service revenue, recorded earnings per diluted share of \$1.29 and had cash flow from operations of \$71.1 million. The following details our owned Medicare-certified agencies, which are located in 42 states within the United States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The agencies closed were consolidated with agencies servicing the same areas.

| | Owned and Operated Agencies | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| | Home health | Hospice |
| At December 31, 2009 | 521 | 65 |
| Acquisitions | 1 | - |
| Start-ups | 14 | 3 |
| Closed | (4) | - |
| At March 31, 2010 | 532 | 68 |

Recent Developments

In March 2010, President Obama signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (HCERA), which amends the PPACA (collectively, the Health Care Reform Bills). The Health Care Reform Bills make a number of changes to Medicare payment rates including the reinstatement of the 3% home health rural add-on which began on April 1, 2010 (expiring January 1, 2016). Beginning in 2011, we are expecting the changes made by the Health Care Reform Bills, excluding the rural add-on and including the adjustment to the base rate made by CMS each year, to reduce our Medicare payment rates by approximately 3-4% based on the following:

market basket adjustment for 2011 to be determined by CMS, offset by a 1% reduction (a similar 1% reduction to market basket updates is set for 2012 and 2013);

revised outlier payment policy beginning in 2011 that we anticipate will result in a 2.5% reduction to the base rate; and

a negative 2.71% case mix adjustment.

The Health Care Reform Bills also include a systemic rebasing phased in over four years, beginning in 2014. We anticipate that many of the provisions of the Health Care Reform Bills may be subject to further clarification and modification through the rule-making process. It is uncertain at this time the effect the rebasing will have on our future results of operations or cash flows.

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Additionally, the Health Care Reform Bills expand health care coverage to many uninsured individuals and expands coverage to those already insured. The changes required by this legislation will largely be funded through tax increases to both insurers and the insured. We do not expect any short term impact on our financial results as a result of the legislation. One provision that will impact certain companies significantly is the elimination of the tax deductibility of the Medicare Part D subsidy. This provision does not affect us as we do not provide retiree health benefits.

Results of Operations

Our operating results may not be comparable for the periods presented, primarily as a result of our acquisition and start-up agencies.

When we refer to base business, we mean home health and hospice agencies that we have operated for at least the last twelve months; when we refer to acquisitions, we mean home health and hospice agencies that we acquired within the last twelve months; and when we refer to start-ups, we mean any home health or hospice agency opened by us in the last twelve months. Once an agency has been in operation for a twelve month period, the results for that particular agency are included as part of our base business

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from that date forward. When we refer to episodic-based revenue, admissions, recertifications or completed episodes, we mean home health revenue, admissions, recertifications or completed episodes of care for those payors that pay on an episodic-basis, which includes Medicare and other insurance carriers, including Medicare Advantage programs.

Three-Month Period Ended March 31, 2010 Compared to the Three-Month Period Ended March 31, 2009**Net Service Revenue**

The following table summarizes our net service revenue growth (amounts in millions):

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, | | | | |
|--|---|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 2010 | | 2009 | | Variance |
| | Base/Start-ups (2) | Acquisitions | Total | Total | |
| Home health revenue: | | | | | |
| Medicare revenue | \$ 322.1 | \$ 6.6 | \$ 328.7 | \$ 279.8 | \$ 48.9 |
| Non-Medicare, episodic-based revenue | 32.9 | 0.1 | 33.0 | 24.8 | 8.2 |
| Total episodic-based revenue | 355.0 | 6.7 | 361.7 | 304.6 | 57.1 |
| Non-Medicare revenue | 17.7 | 1.1 | 18.8 | 16.9 | 1.9 |
| | 372.7 | 7.8 | 380.5 | 321.5 | 59.0 |
| Hospice revenue: | | | | | |
| Medicare revenue | 26.4 | 4.4 | 30.8 | 19.1 | 11.7 |
| Non-Medicare revenue | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 0.5 |
| | 27.8 | 4.7 | 32.5 | 20.3 | 12.2 |
| Total revenue: | | | | | |
| Medicare revenue | 348.5 | 11.0 | 359.5 | 298.9 | 60.6 |
| Non-Medicare revenue | 52.0 | 1.5 | 53.5 | 42.9 | 10.6 |
| | \$ 400.5 | \$ 12.5 | \$ 413.0 | \$ 341.8 | \$ 71.2 |
| Internal episodic-based revenue growth (1) | 17% | | 23% | | |

(1) Internal episodic-based revenue growth is the percent increase in our base/start-up episodic-based revenue for the period as a percent of the total episodic-based revenue of the prior period.

(2) Our net service revenue for our base/start-up agencies of \$400.5 million included \$11.3 million from our start-up agencies.

Our net service revenue increased \$71.2 million from 2009 to 2010 and consisted of an increase of \$59.0 million in home health revenue and \$12.2 million in hospice revenue.

Our home health revenue growth consisted of \$40.9 million from our base agencies, \$10.3 million from our start-up agencies and \$7.8 million from our acquisitions. The increase in our base/start-up agencies was primarily related to our internal episodic-based revenue, which increased by \$50.4 million or 17% from 2009 to 2010, with 8% of the increase related to admission and recertification growth and 9% of the increase attributable to an increase in revenue per episode.

Our average episodic-based revenue per completed episode increased from \$3,033 to \$3,282 from 2009 to 2010 and was due primarily to the continued deployment of our therapy intensive specialty programs to more of our home health agencies, a 1.8% increase in our base rate effective January 1, 2010, and a 3% increase in the base rate on rural episodes in progress effective April 1, 2010. The rural add-on impacts approximately 25% of our episodes.

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Our hospice revenue growth consisted of \$6.5 million from our base agencies, \$1.0 million from our start-up agencies and \$4.7 million from our acquisitions. Hospice revenue is primarily impacted by average daily census, levels of care and payment rates. Overall, our average daily census increased from 1,710 in 2009 to 2,628 in 2010 with 2,261 of our census attributable to our base/start-up agencies during the first quarter of 2010. Our patients' average length of stay was 74 days for 2009 and 87 days for 2010. Our 2010 revenue was impacted by approximately 1.4% due to the annual hospice rate increase effective October 1, 2009.

Table of Contents**Home Health Statistics**

The following table summarizes our total home health patient admissions, recertifications and completed episodes:

| | For the three-month periods ended Marh 31, | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|---------|--------|----------|
| | 2010 | | 2009 | | Variance |
| | Base/Start-ups | Acquisitions | Total | Total | |
| Admissions: | | | | | |
| Medicare | 54,902 | 1,845 | 56,747 | 50,443 | 6,304 |
| Non-Medicare, episodic-based | 8,503 | 28 | 8,531 | 5,669 | 2,862 |
| Total episodic-based | 63,405 | 1,873 | 65,278 | 56,112 | 9,166 |
| Non-Medicare | 9,225 | 767 | 9,992 | 9,491 | 501 |
| | 72,630 | 2,640 | 75,270 | 65,603 | 9,667 |
| Internal episodic-based admission growth (1) | 13% | | | 8% | |
| Recertifications: | | | | | |
| Medicare | 44,843 | 612 | 45,455 | 45,025 | 430 |
| Non-Medicare, episodic-based | 4,246 | 14 | 4,260 | 3,739 | 521 |
| Total episodic-based | 49,089 | 626 | 49,715 | 48,764 | 951 |
| Non-Medicare | 4,769 | 127 | 4,896 | 5,769 | (873) |
| | 53,858 | 753 | 54,611 | 54,533 | 78 |
| Internal episodic-based recertification growth (2) | 1% | | | 15% | |
| Completed Episodes: | | | | | |
| Medicare | 93,422 | 2,159 | 95,581 | 88,090 | 7,491 |
| Non-Medicare, episodic-based | 9,478 | 37 | 9,515 | 8,209 | 1,306 |
| | 102,900 | 2,196 | 105,096 | 96,299 | 8,797 |

(1) Internal episodic-based admission growth is the percent increase in our base/start-up episodic-based admissions for the period as a percent of the total episodic-based admissions of the prior period.

(2) Internal episodic-based recertification growth is the percent increase in our base/start-up episodic-based recertifications for the period as a percent of the total episodic-based recertifications of the prior period.

Internal episodic-based admission growth rate of 13% exceeded 10% for the first time since the fourth quarter of 2008. During the three-month period ended March 31, 2010, we saw improvement in our TLC acquired agencies, experienced growth in admissions under our new contract with Humana, which was effective January 1, 2010 and benefited from the strategic realignment of our sales territory during the second half of 2009.

Internal episodic-based recertification growth has decreased from 15% for the first quarter of 2009 to 1% for the first quarter of 2010. The primary factor impacting the rate of recertifications is the clinical needs of our patient, in addition, recertifications are derived from, and lag behind, admissions. As such, our declining admission growth during 2009, including the impact of TLC agencies, negatively impacted recertification growth during the quarter.

Cost of Service, Excluding Depreciation and Amortization

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Our cost of service consists of the following expenses incurred by our clinical and clerical personnel in our agencies:

salaries and related benefits (including health care insurance and workers compensation insurance);

transportation expenses (primarily reimbursed mileage at a standard rate); and

supplies and services expenses (including payments to contract therapists).

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The following summarizes our cost of service, visit and cost per visit information:

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, | | | 2009 Total | Variance |
|---|---|----------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| | 2010 Base/Start-ups | 2010 Acquisitions | 2010 Total | | |
| Cost of service (amounts in millions): | | | | | |
| Home health | \$ 182.0 | \$ 5.0 | \$ 187.0 | \$ 153.5 | \$ 33.5 |
| Hospice | 14.3 | 2.8 | 17.1 | 11.5 | 5.6 |
| | \$ 196.3 | \$ 7.8 | \$ 204.1 | \$ 165.0 | \$ 39.1 |
| Home health: | | | | | |
| Visits during the period: | | | | | |
| Medicare | 1,849,327 | 35,181 | 1,884,508 | 1,672,677 | 211,831 |
| Non-Medicare, episodic-based | 206,053 | 692 | 206,745 | 149,888 | 56,857 |
| Total episodic-based | 2,055,380 | 35,873 | 2,091,253 | 1,822,565 | 268,688 |
| Non-Medicare | 198,729 | 9,343 | 208,072 | 196,355 | 11,717 |
| | 2,254,109 | 45,216 | 2,299,325 | 2,018,920 | 280,405 |
| Home health cost per visit (1) | \$ 80.73 | \$ 110.45 | \$ 81.32 | \$ 76.05 | \$ 5.27 |

(1) We calculate home health cost per visit as home health cost of service divided by total home health visits during the period. Of the \$39.1 million increase in cost of service, \$31.3 million is related to increased costs from our base/start-up agencies and \$7.8 million is related to acquisitions. The \$31.3 million increase in base/start-up expenses consisted primarily of \$29.9 million related to salaries, taxes and benefits, with \$17.9 million of the increase related to the increase in the number of visits performed with the remainder related to the \$5.27 increase in cost per visit.

We carefully monitor our cost per visit in order to deliver high-quality low cost care to our patients. Factors contributing to the increase in our cost per visit include the mix of clinicians performing visits (i.e. registered nurses, therapists, home health aides, etc.), wage inflation and use of contract therapists. While the majority of our clinicians are paid on a per visit basis, we do hire some clinicians (primarily therapists) on a salaried basis for an initial period before converting to our pay per visit model. Also, newly acquired agencies generally have a higher cost per visit and take up to 18 to 24 months to reach the labor efficiencies of our existing agencies. The \$5.27 increase in cost per visit is primarily due to an increase in salaries and wages related to an increase in therapists retained in connection with our Balance for Life program and increases in our employee benefit costs related to health insurance and payroll taxes.

General and Administrative Expenses, Provision for Doubtful Accounts, Depreciation and Amortization and Other Expense, net

The following table summarizes our general and administrative expenses, provision for doubtful accounts, depreciation and amortization expense and other expense, net (amounts in millions):

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, | | Variance |
|---|---|---------|----------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | |
| General and administrative expenses: | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | \$ 87.5 | \$ 73.0 | \$ 14.5 |
| Non-cash compensation | 2.5 | 2.1 | 0.4 |

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| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Rent and utilities | 15.1 | 13.6 | 1.5 |
| Other | 29.5 | 28.7 | 0.8 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 4.3 | 6.2 | (1.9) |
| Depreciation and amortization | 8.2 | 6.3 | 1.9 |
| Other expense, net | (1.3) | (2.6) | 1.3 |

Salaries and benefits increased \$14.5 million, which consisted of an increase of \$12.1 million in base/start-up agency and corporate office expenses and \$2.4 million in acquisition agency expenses. The base/start-up agency and corporate office expenses increased by \$12.1 million primarily due to increased personnel costs for our field administrative staff and corporate staff necessitated by our internal growth and acquisitions.

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Rent and utilities increased \$1.5 million, which consisted of an increase of \$1.2 million in base/start-up agency and corporate office expenses and the inclusion of \$0.3 million in acquisition agency expenses.

Our provision for doubtful accounts decreased \$1.9 million due to improved cash collections and billing processes resulting in an increase of \$55.3 million in cash collections compared to the first quarter of 2009. For additional information on our provision for doubtful accounts see Liquidity and Capital Resources Outstanding Patient Accounts Receivable.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$1.9 million primarily due to the purchase of equipment and furniture and the development of computer software, which are depreciated over three to seven years.

Other expense, net decreased \$1.3 million primarily as a result of a decrease in interest expense of \$1.0 million as we have reduced our outstanding debt by \$107.6 million from March 31, 2009 to March 31, 2010.

Income Tax Expense

The following table summarizes our income tax expense and estimated income tax rate (amounts in millions, except for estimated income tax rate):

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, | | |
|----------------------------|---|---------|----------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | Variance |
| Income before income taxes | \$ 60.4 | \$ 44.3 | \$ 16.1 |
| Income tax (expense) | (23.5) | (17.3) | (6.2) |
| Estimated income tax rate | 39.0% | 39.0% | - |

The increase in income tax expense of \$6.2 million is attributable to an increase in income before income taxes as our estimated income tax rate remained unchanged from 2009 to 2010.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**Cash Flows for the Three-Month Period Ended March 31, 2010 Compared to the Three-Month Period Ended March 31, 2009**

The following table summarizes our cash flows for the periods indicated (amounts in millions):

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, | | |
|--|---|---------|----------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | Variance |
| Cash provided by operating activities | \$ 71.1 | \$ 54.5 | \$ 16.6 |
| Cash (used in) investing activities | (14.4) | (15.1) | 0.7 |
| Cash (used in) financing activities | (9.2) | (16.6) | 7.4 |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | 47.5 | 22.8 | 24.7 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 34.5 | 2.8 | 31.7 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 82.0 | \$ 25.6 | \$ 56.4 |

Cash provided by operating activities increased \$16.6 million during 2010 compared to 2009, primarily as a result of \$11.7 million improvement in net income after adjusting for non-cash items, a decrease in other receivables and an increase in our accounts payable and payroll and employee benefits.

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Cash used in investing activities decreased \$0.7 million during 2010 compared to 2009 primarily due to a decrease in acquisition activity offset by an increase in our capital expenditures.

Cash used in financing activities decreased \$7.4 million during 2010 compared to 2009 primarily due to a decrease in draws and/or repayments on our revolving credit facility. We have decreased our outstanding long-term obligations net of borrowings by \$107.6 million from March 31, 2009.

Liquidity

Typically, our principal source of liquidity is the collection of our patient accounts receivable, primarily through the Medicare program; however, from time to time, we can and do obtain additional sources of liquidity through sales of our equity or by incurrence of additional indebtedness. As of March 31, 2010, we had \$82.0 million in cash and cash equivalents and \$234.6 million in availability under our \$250.0 million Revolving Credit Facility.

During the three-month period ended March 31, 2010, we made \$10.0 million in routine capital expenditures, which primarily included equipment and furniture and computer software. We are currently in the process of implementing an enterprise resource planning (ERP) system, which is expected to be fully implemented for 2011. Routine capital expenditures as a percent of net service revenue was 2.4% for 2009 and we are forecasting routine capital expenditures to be approximately 3% of net service revenue for 2010. Based on our operating forecasts and our debt service requirements, we believe we will have sufficient liquidity to fund our operations, capital requirements and debt service requirements over the next twelve months and into the foreseeable future.

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As we manage our liquidity needs to meet our operating forecasts, debt service requirements and our acquisition and start-up activities, we are monitoring the creditworthiness and solvency of our syndicate of banks that provide the availability of credit under our Revolving Credit Facility as well as the status of the overall equity and credit markets. As of the date of this filing, we do not believe the availability of funds under our Revolving Credit Facility is at risk. If the availability under our current Revolving Credit Facility decreases, we may need to consider adjusting our strategy to meet our operating forecasts, debt service requirements and acquisition and start-up activity needs.

Outstanding Patient Accounts Receivable

Our patient accounts receivable, net increased \$0.3 million from December 31, 2009 to March 31, 2010 primarily due to improved billing processes and increases in our cash collection efforts during 2010. Our cash collection as a percentage of revenue was 100.9% and 96.0% for the three-months ended March 31, 2010 and for the three-months ended December 31, 2009, respectively.

Our patient accounts receivable includes unbilled receivables, which are aged based upon our initial service date. At March 31, 2010, the unbilled patient accounts receivable, as a percentage of gross patient accounts receivable, was 25.8%, or \$47.3 million compared to 19.8% or \$36.7 million at December 31, 2009. We monitor unbilled receivables on an agency by agency basis to ensure that all efforts are made to bill claims within timely filing deadlines. The timely filing deadlines vary by state for Medicaid and among insurance companies. As of March 31, 2010, agencies acquired during the past twelve months represented \$3.4 million or 7.2% of our unbilled accounts receivable compared to \$2.0 million or 5.5% as of December 31, 2009.

Our provision for estimated revenue adjustments (which is deducted from our service revenue to determine net service revenue) and provision for doubtful accounts were as follows for the periods indicated (in millions). We fully reserve for both our Medicare and other patient accounts receivable that are aged over 360 days.

| | For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 2009 | |
|---|---|---------------|
| Provision for estimated revenue adjustments | \$ 0.2 | \$ 2.1 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 4.3 | 6.1 |
| Total | \$ 4.5 | \$ 8.2 |
| As a percent of revenue | 1.1% | 2.4% |

Our provision for estimated revenue adjustments and doubtful accounts as a percent of revenue decreased for 2010 as compared to the same period in 2009 due to significant improvement in cash collections since the first quarter of 2009 as evidenced by our reduction in our days revenue outstanding, net since the first quarter of 2009. Accounts receivable aged greater than 90 days decreased \$21.1 million and \$8.6 million since the first and fourth quarters of 2009, respectively. The first quarter of 2010 benefited from strong collections on Medicare aged balances which were significantly reserved for at December 31, 2009.

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The following schedule details our patient accounts receivable, net of estimated revenue adjustments, by payor class, aged based upon initial date of service (amounts in millions, except days revenue outstanding, net):

| | 0-90 | 91-180 | 181-365 | Over 365 | Total |
|---|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| At March 31, 2010: | | | | | |
| Medicare patient accounts receivable, net (1) | \$ 91.1 | \$ 18.8 | \$ 1.8 | \$ - | \$ 111.7 |
| Other patient accounts receivable: | | | | | |
| Medicaid | 6.2 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 2.0 | 14.7 |
| Private | 27.9 | 9.0 | 8.2 | 4.9 | 50.0 |