

# EBMG Update

## AHS Board of Trustees Retreat

Oct 2021

"You cannot succeed if at some point you haven't failed. "

– Maria Ressa, journalist, Nobel Peace Prize winner

# Agenda

## **Context and Successes**

AHS Physician Structure

EBMG Shape and Size

Accomplishments to Date

## **Challenges in Progress**

Physician Attrition

Compensation Plan and PSA Revisions

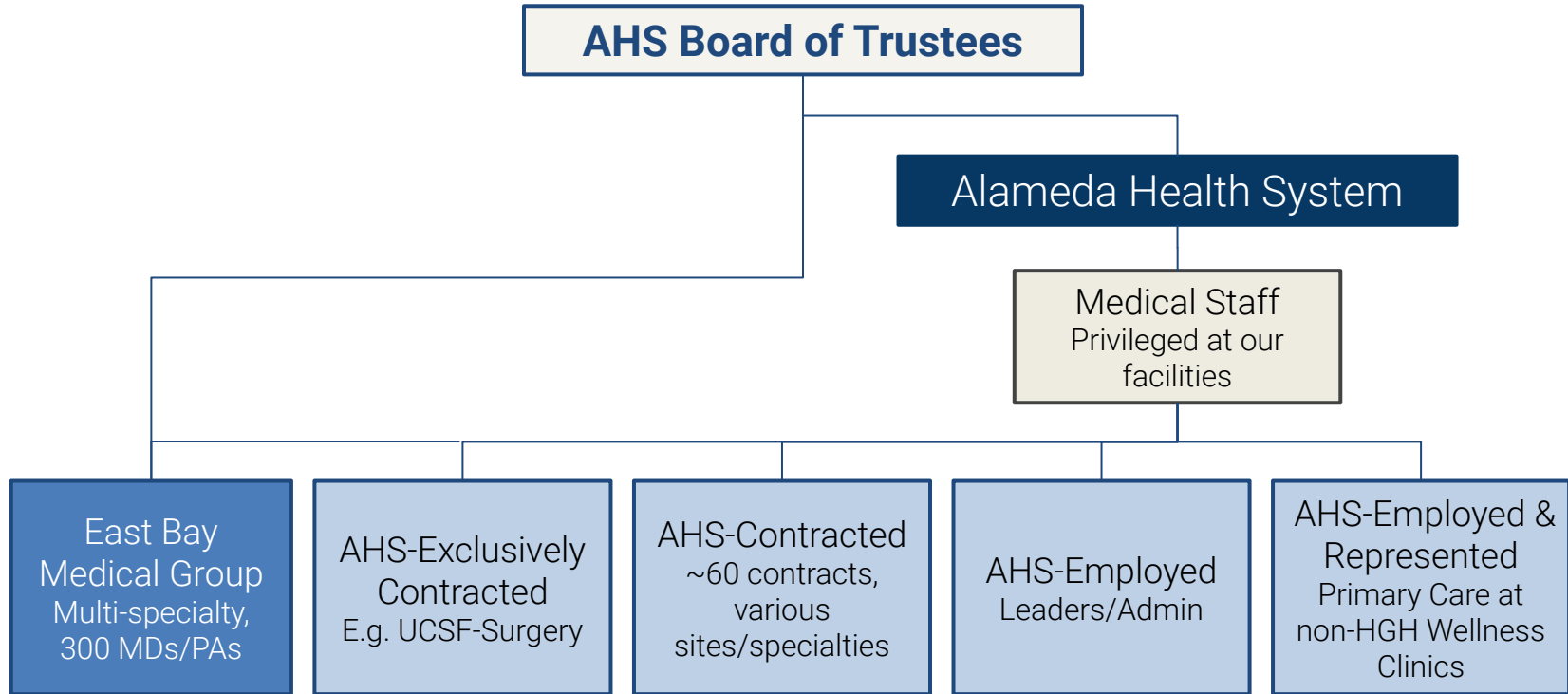
## **Asks and Future**

Asks

Physician Unionization

# Context & Successes

# AHS Physicians



# EBMG Shape and Size

298

Staff MDs and PAs  
representing ~196 FTE  
+102 SANs

## **Who isn't part of EBMG?**

*60 MD specialty  
contracts under AHS  
Primary care MDs  
include UAPD affiliates*

25

Specialty areas  
represented

## **What's missing?**

*Insufficient expertise in  
surgical and medical  
specialties  
Adequate primary care  
capacity?*

10+

5 facilities, 4 wellness  
clinics, 1 ambulatory  
specialty clinic

## **Can the team cover the surface area?**

*Average Dept/Div size is  
4 providers  
Contracts required to  
cover all sites with all  
services*

\$70m+

Approx annual budget  
~98% clinician labor  
costs

## **How does the support staff measure up?**

*3.6 FTE admin staff  
Remaining functions  
provided by AHS*

# Accomplishments to Date

## Culture, Identity, & Relationship with AHS

- Excellent lines of comms w CEO, COO, CMO, CFO, CHRO
- Presence in multiple venues including ELT and Huron Steering Committee
- Regular updates to members on priorities

## Leadership & Governance

- Filled 5 Board seats and appointed new Board Chair
- First EBMG Board Retreat Sept 24
- Installed Director of Learning & Development
- Monthly All-Leaders meeting for critical discussions

## Service Line Stability & Development

- Restructuring multiple specialties using FTE, SAN, contractor dollars in concert with CMO
- Improved benefits: disability, life insurance, parental leave, and fertility/adoption benefit Jan 2022
- 3-year physician compensation plan underway

# Challenges in Progress



19 physicians have left EBMG since January.

We are losing experienced physicians/clinicians at a higher than average rate (10%).

We risk service coverage gaps.

What do we know about this attrition?

# Member Departures

## Jan

Ortho - Relocation

## Feb

## Mar

Primary Care - Transition to AHS

## Apr

## May

Neurology - New Job

## June

Pathology - Relocation

Pathology - New Job

PM&R - New Job

Palliative Care - Personal

## July

Hospitalist x 2 - Fellowship, spouse

Emergency Medicine - Relocation

Radiology - Fit

Rheumatology - Relocation

Ob/Gyn - Relocation

## Aug

Pediatric SAN

Pediatric SAN

Emergency Medicine SAN

## Sept

Ob/Gyn - Fit

Pediatric SAN

## Oct

Anesthesiology - New Job

## Nov

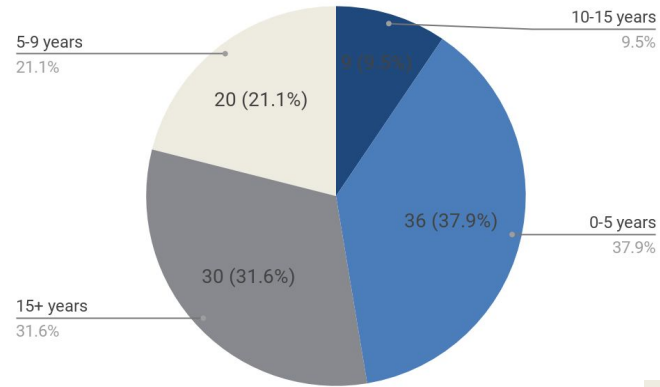
## Dec

# Attrition Themes

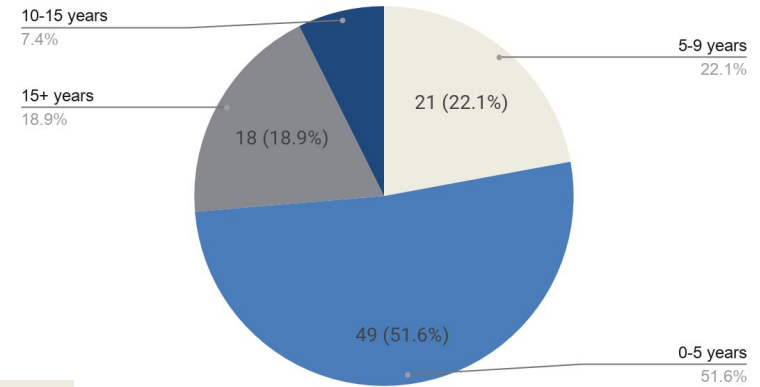
- **We are losing the hardest segment of our workforce to retain.**
  - EBMG has a bimodal distribution - <5 years, >15 years from residency
  - 4 of 19 departures were Chiefs or Chairs
  - We need these seasoned mid-career physicians to mentor, train, lead
- **Exit interviews suggest many leave at this stage because they cannot fulfill their purpose.**
  - Profile of EBMG physicians are changemakers, willing to take a paycut to work in a challenging environment
  - Hearing too many “no’s” especially as leaders forces people to be transactional and lose morale
- **Lack of transparent compensation discourages retention after motivation has depleted**
  - Most physicians working >100% FTE to cover services, may not feel valued even if total compensation “fair”

# March DEIRR Survey (n=97)

How far out are you from your residency training?



How long have you been working at AHS?

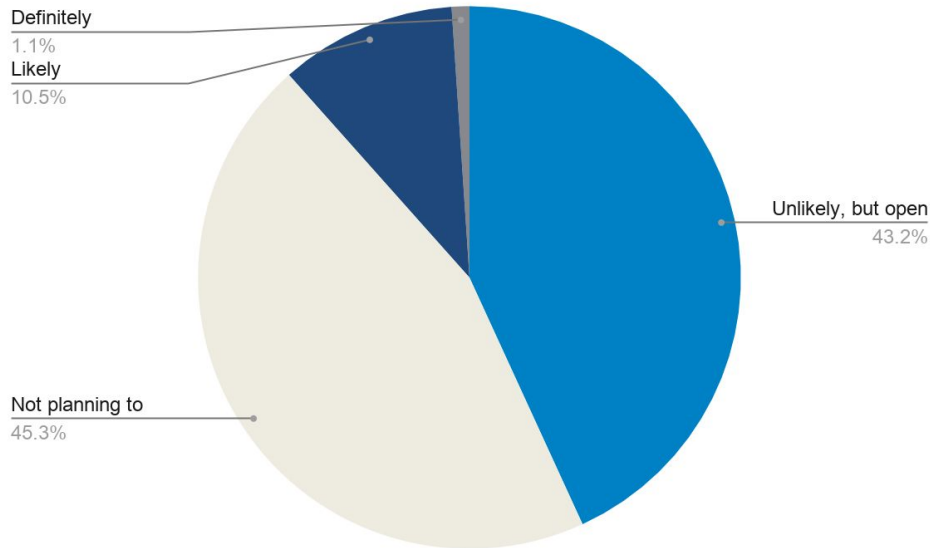


70%

Survey respondents either 0-5yrs or >15yrs out from training

# March DEIRR Survey (n=97)

## How likely are you to leave AHS in the next 12 months?



Average Medical Group attrition rate is **5-7%**.

## Most Important Factor in Decision to Leave

Admin politics & perceived lack of AHS leadership support	29.8%
Salary	17.0%
Leadership opportunities	10.6%
Location / need to move	8.5%
The Chair of my Dept	8.5%
Scope of practice	6.4%
Career development and future	4.3%
DEIB concerns	4.3%
Working with trainees	4.3%
Colleagues and staff	4.3%
Benefits	2.1%

Ref: [SHRM](#)

# Costs of Turnover

Replacing a physician costs \$500K to \$1 million.

## Recruitment costs

- Recruiter fees
- Advertising/job postings
- Travel, lodging, interview costs

## Time/resource costs

- Admin/support time for recruiting
- Physician time for recruiting

## Relocation costs

- Signing bonus
- Relocation reimbursement
- Onboarding costs

## Revenue costs

- Downward productivity when departure planned
- Loss of revenue without services
- Loss of revenue when replacement onramps

# Services at Risk

Orthopedic Surgery  
Primary Care  
Pulmonary & Critical Care  
Surgical Subspecialties: Urology, ENT

\*A number of other specialties are understaffed or having difficulty recruiting

# Mitigation Strategy

- **Compensation needs to be fair, transparent, and incentivize mid-career retention**
  - Tenure-based increases are nominal currently
  - Compensation structure needs to favor senior clinicians
- **Benefits plan design to support all aspects of our lives**
  - Family benefits to recruit and retain younger hires who want to “grow up” with us
  - Need to consider benefits beyond family-building: eldercare, sabbatical, professional development, housing
- **Collaborate with AHS on approach to physician recruitment**
  - Working on recruitment capacity to support key physician hires including Chairs



# Mitigation Strategy cont'd...

- **Support for leaders**
  - EBMG Leadership coaching and programming
  - Sufficient administrative time and operational support to be successful
- **A culture of “yes”**
  - Encourage physicians to be agents of change
  - Support initiatives led by physicians to improve operations and expand services
- **Grow single physician service lines**
  - Enable peer support and sharing of coverage requirements
  - Reduce isolation and work burden
- **Celebrate high performers**
  - Track critical metrics and honor those who are shining

# Compensation Plan & PSA Revisions

- **Kicked off a 3-year Compensation Plan and broader PSA revisions**
  - Compensation structure should be transparent, competitive, fair, and able to attract/retain highly qualified physicians
  - Phasing plan over 3 years to include incentives for metrics
  - Engaging outside consultant (ECG) to support process and FMV assessment
- **AHS and EBMG counsel working closely to revise PSA language to support physician retention and support**
- **Goal to complete revisions by Jan 1, 2022** and issue EBMG members new contracts

# Asks & Future

# Asks for Support

- **We need your support to stabilize services at risk for our patients**
  - Catch up on historical under-investment in specific services
  - Capacity to recruit highly qualified physicians
  - Operational support for physician leadership
- **We need to harness the innovation and potential that physicians bring**
  - Operating budget for EBMG for experimentation and project work
  - Create opportunities to build community and improve morale
  - Offer pathways to realizing one's potential through leadership, research, and advocacy

# Physician Unionization

We support the direction that our members want to take EBMG.

We believe that EBMG as an organization has the talent and ability to serve our physicians.

Open questions:

- Can EBMG and a union coexist?
- How long will the process take?
- How will the relationship with ELT change?
- Will there be an opportunity for partnership in hospital operations?
- How will the mission of our physicians to deliver quality care be elevated?
- How can we embrace those who have differences in opinion about unionizing?

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# Questions