RadNet, Inc. Form 10-K March 15, 2010

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington D.C. 20549

#### FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009

Commission File Number 0-19019

#### RadNet, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Delaware 13-3326724 (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

1510 Cotner Avenue
Los Angeles, California
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (310) 478-7808

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class Common Stock, \$.0001 par value Name of each exchange on which registered NASDAQ Global Market

90025

(Zip Code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes "No x

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) or the act. Yes " No x

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 and 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 x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, 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 if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. x

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.

Large Accelerated Filer " Accelerated Filer x

Non-Accelerated Filer "(Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller Reporting Company "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12b-2)

Yes "No

x

The aggregate market value of the registrant's voting and nonvoting common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$63,538,580 on June 30, 2009 (the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second quarter) based on the closing price for the common stock on the NASDAQ Global Market on June 30, 2009.

The number of shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding on March 10, 2010, was 36,488,354 shares (excluding treasury shares).

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The information required by Part III of the Form 10-K, to the extent not set forth herein, is incorporated herein by reference from the registrant's definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A not later than 120 days after the close of the registrant's fiscal year.

### RADNET, INC.

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### Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This annual report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements relate to future events or our future financial performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These risks and other factors include, among other things, those listed in Item 1A, "Risk Factors," Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and elsewhere in this annual report. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "expect," "intend," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential," "continue," "ass "may," "will," "should," "expect," "intend," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential," "continue," "ass

negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. The forward-looking statements contained herein reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on our currently available financial, economic and competitive data and on current business plans. Actual events or results may differ materially depending on risks and uncertainties that may affect the Company's operations, markets, services, prices and other factors. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to statements concerning RadNet's ability to successfully acquire and integrate new operations, to grow our contract management business, our financial guidance, our statements regarding future cost savings, our statements regarding increased business from new equipment or operations and our statements regarding our ability to finance our operations.

We do not undertake any responsibility to release publicly any revisions to these forward-looking statements to take into account events or circumstances that occur after the date of this annual report. Additionally, we do not undertake any responsibility to update you on the occurrence of any unanticipated events which may cause actual results to differ from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained in this annual report.

#### PART I

Item 1. Business

#### **Business Overview**

With 180 centers located in California, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Florida, Kansas and New York, we are the leading national provider of freestanding, fixed-site outpatient diagnostic imaging services in the United States based on number of locations. Our centers provide physicians with imaging capabilities to facilitate the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders and may reduce unnecessary invasive procedures, often minimizing the cost and amount of care for patients. Our services include magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT), positron emission tomography (PET), nuclear medicine, mammography, ultrasound, diagnostic radiology (X-ray), fluoroscopy and other related procedures. The vast majority of our centers offer multi-modality imaging services, a key point of differentiation from our competitors. Our multi-modality strategy diversifies revenue streams, reduces exposure to reimbursement changes, and provides patients and referring physicians one location to serve the needs of multiple procedures.

We seek to develop regional markets in order to leverage operational efficiencies. Our scale and density within our selected geographies provides close, long-term relationships with key payors, radiology groups and referring physicians. Each of our facility managers is responsible for managing relationships with local physicians and payors, meeting our standards of patient service and maintaining profitability. We provide corporate training programs, standardized policies and procedures and sharing of best practices among the physicians in our regional networks.

We derive substantially all of our revenue, directly or indirectly, from fees charged for the diagnostic imaging services performed at our facilities. For the year ended December 31, 2009, we performed 3,174,006 diagnostic imaging procedures and generated net revenue from continuing operations of \$524.4 million. Additional information concerning RadNet, Inc., including our consolidated subsidiaries, for each of the years ended December 31, 2009, December 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007 is included in the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto in this Annual Report.

#### History of our Business

We were originally incorporated in the State of New York in 1985 and have been continuously engaged in the medical imaging business since that time.

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On November 15, 2006, we completed the acquisition of Radiologix, Inc. Radiologix, a Delaware corporation, then employing approximately 2,200 people, through its subsidiaries, was a national provider of diagnostic imaging services through the ownership and operation of freestanding, outpatient diagnostic imaging centers. Radiologix owned, operated and maintained equipment in 69 locations, with imaging centers in seven states, including primary operations in the Mid-Atlantic; the Bay-Area, California; the Treasure Coast area, Florida; Northeast Kansas; and the Finger Lakes (Rochester) and Hudson Valley areas of New York State. Under the terms of the acquisition agreement, Radiologix stockholders received aggregate consideration of 11,310,950 shares (after giving effect to the one-for-two reverse stock split effected in November 2006) of our common stock and \$42,950,000 in cash. We financed the transaction and refinanced substantially all of our outstanding debt with a \$405 million senior secured credit facility with GE Commercial Healthcare Financial Services.

Since that time we have continued to develop our medical imaging business through a combination of organic growth and acquisitions. For a discussion of acquisitions and dispositions of facilities, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis and Results of Operations—Facility Acquisitions" below.

On September 3, 2008 we reincorporated from New York into Delaware and have operated as a Delaware corporation since that time. References to

"RadNet," "we," "us," "our" or the "Company" in this report refer to RadNet, Inc., its subsidiaries and affiliated entities. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis and Results of Operations—Overview."

#### Company Website

We maintain a website at www.radnet.com. We make available, free of charge, on our website our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and all amendments to those reports as soon as is reasonably practicable after the material is electronically filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. References to our website addressed in this report are provided as a convenience and do not constitute, or should be viewed as, an incorporation by reference of the information contained on, or available through, the website. Therefore, such information should not be considered part of this report.

### **Industry Overview**

Diagnostic imaging involves the use of non-invasive procedures to generate representations of internal anatomy and function that can be recorded on film or digitized for display on a video monitor. Diagnostic imaging procedures facilitate the early diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders and may reduce unnecessary invasive procedures, often minimizing the cost and amount of care for patients. Diagnostic imaging procedures include MRI, CT, PET, nuclear medicine, ultrasound, mammography, X-ray and fluoroscopy. We estimate that the national imaging market in the United States is \$100 billion, with projected mid-single digit growth for MRI, CT and PET/CT driven by the aging of the U.S. population, wider physician and payor acceptance for imaging technologies, and greater consumer and physician awareness of diagnostic screening capabilities.

While general X-ray remains the most commonly performed diagnostic imaging procedure, the fastest growing and higher margin procedures are MRI, CT and PET. The rapid growth in PET scans is attributable to the increasing recognition of the efficacy of PET scans in the diagnosis and monitoring of cancer. The number of MRI and CT scans continues to grow due to their wider acceptance by physicians and payors, an increasing number of applications for their use and a general increase in demand due to the aging population in the United States.

#### **Industry Trends**

We believe the diagnostic imaging services industry will continue to grow as a result of a number of factors, including the following:

Escalating Demand for Healthcare Services from an Aging Population

Persons over the age of 65 comprise one of the fastest growing segments of the population in the United States. According to the United States Census Bureau, this group is expected to increase as much as 33% from 2010 to 2020. Because diagnostic imaging use tends to increase as a person ages, we believe the aging population will generate more demand for diagnostic imaging procedures.

New Effective Applications for Diagnostic Imaging Technology

New technological developments are expected to extend the clinical uses of diagnostic imaging technology and increase the number of scans performed. Recent technological advancements include:

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- MRI spectroscopy, which can differentiate malignant from benign lesions;
- •MRI angiography, which can produce three-dimensional images of body parts and assess the status of blood vessels;
- •enhancements in teleradiology systems, which permit the digital transmission of radiological images from one location to another for interpretation by radiologists at remote locations; and
- the development of combined PET/CT scanners, which combine the technology from PET and CT to create a powerful diagnostic imaging system.

Additional improvements in imaging technologies, contrast agents and scan capabilities are leading to new non-invasive methods of diagnosing blockages in the heart's vital coronary arteries, liver metastases, pelvic diseases and vascular abnormalities without exploratory surgery. We believe that the use of the diagnostic capabilities of MRI and other imaging services will continue to increase because they are cost-effective, time-efficient and non-invasive, as compared to alternative procedures, including surgery, and that newer technologies and future technological advancements will further increase the use of imaging services. At the same time, the industry has increasingly used upgrades to existing equipment to expand applications, extend the useful life of existing equipment, improve image quality, reduce image acquisition time and increase the volume of scans that can be performed. We believe this trend toward equipment upgrades rather than equipment replacements will continue, as we do not foresee new imaging technologies on the near-term horizon that will displace MRI, CT or PET as the principal advanced diagnostic imaging modalities.

Wider Physician and Payor Acceptance of the Use of Imaging

During the last 30 years, there has been a major effort undertaken by the medical and scientific communities to develop higher quality, cost-effective diagnostic imaging technologies and to minimize the risks associated with the application of these technologies. The thrust of product development during this period has largely been to reduce the hazards associated with conventional x-ray and nuclear medicine techniques and to develop new, harmless imaging technologies. As a result, the use of advanced diagnostic imaging modalities, such as MRI, CT and PET, which provide superior image quality compared to other diagnostic imaging technologies, has increased rapidly in recent years. These advanced modalities allow physicians to diagnose a wide variety of diseases and injuries quickly and accurately without exploratory surgery or other surgical or invasive procedures, which are usually more expensive, involve greater risk to patients and result in longer rehabilitation time. Because advanced imaging systems are increasingly seen as a tool for reducing long-term healthcare costs, they are gaining wider acceptance among payors.

Greater Consumer Awareness of and Demand for Preventive Diagnostic Screening

Diagnostic imaging, such as elective full-body scans, is increasingly being used as a screening tool for preventive care procedures. Consumer awareness of diagnostic imaging as a less invasive and preventive screening method has added to the growth in diagnostic imaging procedures. We believe that further technological advancements allowing for early diagnosis of diseases and disorders using less invasive procedures will create additional demand for diagnostic imaging.

**Diagnostic Imaging Settings** 

Diagnostic imaging services are typically provided in one of the following settings:

Fixed-site, freestanding outpatient diagnostic facilities

These facilities range from single-modality to multi-modality facilities and are generally not owned by hospitals or clinics. These facilities depend upon physician referrals for their patients and generally do not maintain dedicated, contractual relationships with hospitals or clinics. In fact, these facilities may compete with hospitals or clinics that have their own imaging systems to provide services to these patients. These facilities bill third-party payors, such as managed care organizations, insurance companies, Medicare or Medicaid. All of our facilities are in this category.

### Hospitals

Many hospitals provide both inpatient and outpatient diagnostic imaging services, typically on site. These inpatient and outpatient centers are owned and operated by the hospital or clinic, or jointly by both, and are primarily used by patients of the hospital or clinic. The hospital or clinic bills third-party payors, such as managed care organizations, insurance companies, Medicare or Medicaid.

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While many hospitals own or lease their own equipment, certain hospitals provide these services by contracting with providers of mobile imaging equipment. Using specially designed trailers, mobile imaging service providers transport imaging equipment and provide services to hospitals and clinics on a part-time or full-time basis, thus allowing small to mid-size hospitals and clinics that do not have the patient demand to justify fixed on-site access to advanced diagnostic imaging technology. Diagnostic imaging providers contract directly with the hospital or clinic and are typically reimbursed directly by them.

**Diagnostic Imaging Modalities** 

The principal diagnostic imaging modalities we use at our facilities are:

#### **MRI**

MRI has become widely accepted as the standard diagnostic tool for a wide and fast-growing variety of clinical applications for soft tissue anatomy, such as those found in the brain, spinal cord and interior ligaments of body joints such as the knee. MRI uses a strong magnetic field in conjunction with low energy electromagnetic waves that are processed by a computer to produce high-resolution, three-dimensional, cross-sectional images of body tissue, including the brain, spine, abdomen, heart and extremities. A typical MRI examination takes from 20 to 45 minutes. MRI systems can have either open or closed designs, routinely have magnetic field strength of 0.2 Tesla to 3.0 Tesla and are priced in the range of \$0.6 million to \$2.5 million. As of December 31, 2009, we had 139 MRI systems in operation.

#### CT

CT provides higher resolution images than conventional X-rays, but generally not as well defined as those produced by MRI. CT uses a computer to direct the movement of an X-ray tube to produce multiple cross-sectional images of a particular organ or area of the body. CT is used to detect tumors and other conditions affecting bones and internal organs. It is also used to detect the occurrence of strokes, hemorrhages and infections. A typical CT examination takes from 15 to 45 minutes. CT systems are priced in the range of \$0.3 million to \$1.2 million. As of December 31, 2009, we had 79 CT systems in operation.

### **PET**

PET scanning involves the administration of a radiopharmaceutical agent with a positron-emitting isotope and the measurement of the distribution of that isotope to create images for diagnostic purposes. PET scans provide the capability to determine how metabolic activity impacts other aspects of physiology in the disease process by correlating the reading for the PET with other tools such as CT or MRI. PET technology has been found highly effective and appropriate in certain clinical circumstances for the detection and assessment of tumors throughout the body, the evaluation of some cardiac conditions and the assessment of epilepsy seizure sites. The information provided by PET technology often obviates the need to perform further highly invasive or diagnostic surgical procedures. PET systems are priced in the range of \$0.8 million to \$2.5 million. In addition, we employ combined PET/CT systems that blend the PET and CT imaging modalities into one scanner. These combined systems are priced in the range of \$1.1 million to \$2.8 million. As of December 31, 2009, we had 32 PET or combination PET/CT systems in operation.

#### Nuclear Medicine

Nuclear medicine uses short-lived radioactive isotopes that release small amounts of radiation that can be recorded by a gamma camera and processed by a computer to produce an image of various anatomical structures or to assess the

function of various organs such as the heart, kidneys, thyroid and bones. Nuclear medicine is used primarily to study anatomic and metabolic functions. Nuclear medicine systems are priced in the range of \$300,000 to \$400,000. As of December 31, 2009, we had 40 nuclear medicine systems in operation.

### X-ray

X-rays use roentgen rays to penetrate the body and record images of organs and structures on film. Digital X-ray systems add computer image processing capability to traditional X-ray images, which provides faster transmission of images with a higher resolution and the capability to store images more cost-effectively. X-ray systems are priced in the range of \$95,000 to \$440,000. As of December 31, 2009, we had 155 x-ray systems in operation.

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#### Ultrasound

Ultrasound imaging uses sound waves and their echoes to visualize and locate internal organs. It is particularly useful in viewing soft tissues that do not X-ray well. Ultrasound is used in pregnancy to avoid X-ray exposure as well as in gynecological, urologic, vascular, cardiac and breast applications. Ultrasound systems are priced in the range of \$90,000 to \$250,000. As of December 31, 2009, we had 253 ultrasound systems in operation.

### Mammography

Mammography is a specialized form of radiology using low dosage X-rays to visualize breast tissue and is the primary screening tool for breast cancer. Mammography procedures and related services assist in the diagnosis of and treatment planning for breast cancer. Analog mammography systems are priced in the range of \$70,000 to \$100,000, and digital mammography systems are priced in the range of \$250,000 to \$400,000. As of December 31, 2009, we had 122 mammography systems in operation, 113 of which are digital mammography systems. During the last two years we converted 92 of our analog mammography systems to digital mammography systems.

### Fluoroscopy

Fluoroscopy uses ionizing radiation combined with a video viewing system for real time monitoring of organs. Fluoroscopy systems are priced in the range of \$100,000 to \$400,000. As of December 31, 2009, we had 86 fluoroscopy systems in operation.

### Our Competitive Strengths

Our Position as the Largest Provider of Freestanding, Fixed-site Outpatient Diagnostic Imaging Services in the United States, Based on Number of Centers and Revenue

As of December 31, 2009, we operated 180 centers in California, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Florida, Kansas and New York. Our size and scale allow us to achieve operating, sourcing and administrative efficiencies, including equipment and medical supply sourcing savings and favorable maintenance contracts from equipment manufacturers and other suppliers. Our specific knowledge of our geographic markets drives strong relationships with key payors, radiology groups and referring physicians within our markets.

## Our Comprehensive "Multi-Modality" Diagnostic Imaging Offering

The vast majority of our centers offer multi-modality procedures, driving strong relationships with referring physicians and payors in our markets and a diversified revenue base. At each of our multi-modality facilities, we offer patients and referring physicians one location to serve their needs for multiple procedures. Furthermore, we have complemented many of our multi-modality sites with single-modality sites to accommodate overflow and to provide a full range of services within a local area consistent with demand. This prevents multiple patient visits or unnecessary travel between facilities, thereby increasing patient throughput and decreasing costs and time delays. Our revenue is generated by a broad mix of modalities. We believe our multi-modality strategy lessens our exposure to reimbursement changes in any specific modality.

## Our Facility Density in Many Highly Populated Areas of the United States

The strategic organization of our diagnostic imaging facilities into regional networks densely concentrated around major population centers in seven states offers unique benefits to our patients, our referring physicians, our payors and us. We are able to increase the convenience of our services to patients by implementing scheduling systems within

geographic regions, where practical. For example, many of our diagnostic imaging facilities within a particular region can access the patient appointment calendars of other facilities within the same regional network to efficiently allocate time available and to meet a patient's appointment, date, time or location preferences. The grouping of our facilities within regional networks enables us to easily move technologists and other personnel, as well as equipment, from under-utilized to over-utilized facilities on an as-needed basis, and drive referrals. Our organization of referral networks results in increased patient throughput, greater operating efficiencies and better equipment utilization rates and improved response time for our patients. We believe our networks of facilities and tailored service offerings for geographic areas drives local physician referrals, makes us an attractive candidate for selection as a preferred provider by third-party payors, creates economies of scale and provides barriers to entry by competitors in our markets.

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#### Our Strong Relationships with Payors and Diversified Payor Mix

Our revenue is derived from a diverse mix of payors, including private payors, managed care capitated payors and government payors, which should mitigate our exposure to possible unfavorable reimbursement trends within any one payor class. In addition, our experience with capitation arrangements over the last several years has provided us with the expertise to manage utilization and pricing effectively, resulting in a predictable and recurring stream of revenue. We believe that third-party payors representing large groups of patients often prefer to enter into managed care contracts with providers that offer a broad array of diagnostic imaging services at convenient locations throughout a geographic area. As of December 31, 2009, we received approximately 56% of our payments from commercial insurance payors, 15% from managed care capitated payors, 20% from Medicare and 3% from Medicaid. With the exception of Blue Cross/Blue Shield, which are managed by different entities in each of the states in which we operate, and Medicare, no single payor accounted for more than 5% of our net revenue for the twelve months ended December 31, 2009.

#### Our Strong Relationships with Experienced and Highly Regarded Radiologists

Our contracted radiologists have outstanding credentials, strong relationships with referring physicians, and a broad mix of sub-specialties. The collective experience and expertise of these radiologists translates into more accurate and efficient service to patients. Our close relationship with Dr. Berger, our President and Chief Executive Officer, and BRMG in California and our long-term arrangements with radiologists outside of California enable us to better ensure that medical service provided at our facilities is consistent with the needs and expectations of our referring physicians, patients and payors.

### Our Experienced and Committed Management Team

Our senior management group has more than 100 years of combined healthcare management experience. Our executive management team has created our differentiated approach based on their comprehensive understanding of the diagnostic imaging industry and the dynamics of our regional markets. We have a track record of successful acquisitions and integration of acquired businesses into RadNet, and have managed the business through a variety of economic and reimbursement cycles. Our management beneficially owns approximately 29% of our common stock.

#### Our Technologically Advanced Imaging Systems

We have invested significant capital in our imaging systems over the last three years. Our state-of-the-art imaging systems can perform high quality scans more rapidly and can be used for a wider variety of imaging applications than less advanced systems. While general X-ray remains the most commonly performed diagnostic imaging procedure, the fastest growing and higher margin procedures are MRI, CT and PET. Because technological change in diagnostic imaging is gradual, most of our systems can be upgraded with software or hardware enhancements, which should allow us to continue to provide advanced technology without significant capital expenditure to replace an entire system. In recent years, we have made significant investments in upgrading our facilities to 100% digital imaging technology, inclusive of x-ray and mammography, and believe our advanced imaging systems will drive increased applications and higher patient through-put.

**Business Strategy** 

Maximize Performance at Our Existing Facilities

We intend to enhance our operations and increase scan volume and revenue at our existing facilities by expanding physician relationships and increasing the procedure offerings.

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#### Focus on Profitable Contracting

We regularly evaluate our contracts with third-party payors, industry vendors and radiology groups, as well as our equipment and real property leases, to determine how we may improve the terms to increase our revenues and reduce our expenses. Because many of our contracts with third party payors are short-term in nature, we can regularly renegotiate these contracts, if necessary. We believe our position as a leading provider of diagnostic imaging services and our long-term relationships with physician groups in our markets enable us to obtain more favorable contract terms than would be available to smaller or less experienced imaging services providers.

## Expand MRI, CT and PET Applications

We intend to continue to use expanding MRI, CT and PET applications as they become commercially available. Most of these applications can be performed by our existing MRI, CT and PET systems with upgrades to software and hardware, thereby minimizing capital expenditure requirements. We intend to introduce applications that will decrease scan and image-reading time to increase our productivity.

### **Optimize Operating Efficiencies**

We intend to maximize our equipment utilization by adding, upgrading and re-deploying equipment where we experience excess demand. We will continue to trim excess operating and general and administrative costs where it is feasible to do so, including consolidating, divesting or closing under-performing facilities to reduce operating costs and improve operating income. We also may continue to use, where appropriate, highly trained radiology physician assistants to perform, under appropriate supervision of radiologists, basic services traditionally performed by radiologists. We will continue to upgrade our advanced information technology system to create cost reductions for our facilities in areas such as image storage, support personnel and financial management.

### **Expand Our Networks**

We intend to continue to expand the number of our facilities through new developments and targeted acquisitions, using a disciplined approach for evaluating and entering new areas, including consideration of whether we have adequate financial resources to expand. Our current plans are to strengthen our market presence in geographic areas where we currently have existing operations and to expand into neighboring and other areas which we determine to be appropriate. We perform extensive due diligence before developing a new facility or acquiring an existing facility, including surveying local referral sources and radiologists, as well as examining the demographics, reimbursement environment, competitive landscape and intrinsic demand of the geographic market. We generally will only enter new markets where:

- there is sufficient patient demand for outpatient diagnostic imaging services;
  - we believe we can gain significant market share;
- we can build key referral relationships or we have already established such relationships; and
  - payors are receptive to our entry into the market.

#### **Our Services**

We offer a comprehensive set of imaging services including MRI, CT, PET, nuclear medicine, X-ray, ultrasound, mammography, fluoroscopy and other related procedures. In our centers we focus on providing standardized high

quality imaging services, regardless of location, to ensure patients, physicians and payors consistency in service and quality. To ensure the high quality of our services, we monitor patient satisfaction, timeliness of services to patients and reports to physicians. Based on our conversations with payors, in our experience, our fees are generally lower than hospital fees for the services we provide.

The key features of our services include:

- patient-friendly, non-clinical environments;
- a 24-hour turnaround on routine examinations;
- interpretations within one to two hours, if needed;
- flexible patient scheduling, including same-day appointments;

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- extended operating hours, including weekends;
- reports delivered by courier, facsimile or email;
- availability of second opinions and consultations;
- availability of sub-specialty interpretations at no additional charge; and
  - standardized fee schedules by region.

### **Radiology Professionals**

In the states in which we provide services (except Florida), a lay person or any entity other than a professional corporation or similar professional organization is not allowed to practice medicine, including by employing professional persons or by having any ownership interest or profit participation in or control over any medical professional practice. This doctrine is commonly referred to as the prohibition on the "corporate practice" of medicine. In order to comply with this prohibition, we contract with radiologists to provide professional medical services in our facilities, including the supervision and interpretation of diagnostic imaging procedures. The radiology practice maintains full control over the physicians it employs. Pursuant to each management contract, we make available the imaging facility and all of the furniture and medical equipment at the facility for use by the radiology practice, and the practice is responsible for staffing the facility with qualified professional medical personnel. In addition, we provide management services and administration of the non-medical functions relating to the professional medical practice at the facility, including among other functions, provision of clerical and administrative personnel, bookkeeping and accounting services, billing and collection, provision of medical and office supplies, secretarial, reception and transcription services, maintenance of medical records, and advertising, marketing and promotional activities. As compensation for the services furnished under contracts with radiologists, we generally receive an agreed percentage of the medical practice billings for, or collections from, services provided at the facility, typically varying between 75% to 85% of global net revenue or collections after deduction of the professional fees.

At all but 10 of our California facilities we contract, directly or through BRMG, with other radiology groups to provide professional medical services. At our imaging facilities we charge a fee for our services as manager of the entity which owns the center.

Many states have also enacted laws prohibiting a licensed professional from splitting fees derived from the practice of medicine with an unlicensed person or business entity. We do not believe that the management, administrative, technical and other non-medical services we provide to each of our contracted radiology groups violate the corporate practice of medicine prohibition or that the fees we charge for such services violate the fee splitting prohibition. However, the enforcement and interpretation of these laws by regulatory authorities and state courts vary from state to state. If our arrangements with our independent contractor radiology groups are found to violate state laws prohibiting the practice of medicine by general business corporations or fee splitting, our business, financial condition and ability to operate in those states could be adversely affected.

### BRMG in California

Howard G. Berger, M.D., is our President and Chief Executive Officer, a member of our Board of Directors and owns approximately 18% of our outstanding common stock. Dr. Berger also owns, indirectly, 99% of the equity interests in BRMG. BRMG provides all of the professional medical services at 87 of our facilities located in California under a management agreement with us, and contracts with various other independent physicians and physician groups to provide the professional medical services at most of our other California facilities. We obtain professional medical

services from BRMG in California, rather than provide such services directly or through subsidiaries, in order to comply with California's prohibition against the corporate practice of medicine. However, as a result of our close relationship with Dr. Berger and BRMG, we believe that we are able to better ensure that medical service is provided at our California facilities in a manner consistent with our needs and expectations and those of our referring physicians, patients and payors than if we obtained these services from unaffiliated physician groups.

We believe that physicians are drawn to BRMG and the other radiologist groups with whom we contract by the opportunity to work with the state-of-the-art equipment we make available to them, as well as the opportunity to receive specialized training through our fellowship programs, and engage in clinical research programs, which generally are available only in university settings and major hospitals.

As of December 31, 2009, BRMG employed 78 full-time and nine part-time radiologists. Under our management agreement with BRMG, we are paid a percentage of the amounts collected for the professional services BRMG physicians render as compensation for our services and for the use of our facilities and equipment. For the year ended December 31, 2009, this percentage was 79%. The percentage may be adjusted, if necessary, to ensure that the parties receive the fair value for the services they render. The following are the other principal terms of our management agreement with BRMG:

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- The agreement expires on January 1, 2014. However, the agreement automatically renews for consecutive 10-year periods, unless either party delivers a notice of non-renewal to the other party no later than six months prior to the scheduled expiration date. Either party may terminate the agreement if the other party defaults under its obligations, after notice and an opportunity to cure. We may terminate the agreement if Dr. Berger no longer owns at least 60% of the equity of BRMG; as of December 31, 2009, he owned 99% of the equity of BRMG.
- At its expense, BRMG employs or contracts with an adequate number of physicians necessary to provide all professional medical services at all of our California facilities, except for 10 facilities for which we contract with separate medical groups.
- At our expense, we provide all furniture, furnishings and medical equipment located at the facilities and we manage and administer all non-medical functions at, and provide all nurses and other non-physician personnel required for the operation of, the facilities.
- If BRMG wants to open a new facility, we have the right of first refusal to provide the space and services for the facility under the same terms and conditions set forth in the management agreement.
- If we want to open a new facility, BRMG must use its best efforts to provide medical personnel under the same terms and conditions set forth in the management agreement. If BRMG cannot provide such personnel, we have the right to contract with other physicians to provide services at the facility.
  - BRMG must maintain medical malpractice insurance for each of its physicians with coverage limits not less than \$1 million per incident and \$3 million in the aggregate per year. BRMG also has agreed to indemnify us for any losses we suffer that arise out of the acts or omissions of BRMG and its employees, contractors and agents.

### Non-California Locations and 10 California Locations

At the 10 centers in California that BRMG does not provide professional medical services, and at all of the centers which are located outside of California, we have entered into long-term contracts with prominent third-party radiology groups in the area to provide physician services at those facilities. These arrangements also allow us to comply with the prohibition against the "corporate practice" of medicine in other states in which we operate (except in Florida which does not have an equivalent statute prohibiting the corporate practice of medicine).

These third-party radiology practice groups provide professional services, including supervision and interpretation of diagnostic imaging procedures, in our diagnostic imaging centers. The radiology practices maintain full control over the provision of professional services. The contracted radiology practices generally have outstanding physician and practice credentials and reputations; strong competitive market positions; a broad sub-specialty mix of physicians; a history of growth and potential for continued growth. In these facilities we have entered into long-term agreements (typically 10-40 years in length) under which, in addition to obtaining technical fees for the use of our diagnostic imaging equipment and the provision of technical services, we provide management services and receive a fee based on the practice group's professional revenue. We typically receive 100% of the technical reimbursements associated with imaging procedures plus certain fees paid to us for providing additional management services. The radiology practice groups retain the professional reimbursements associated with imaging procedures after deducting certain additional management service fees paid to us.

Additionally, we perform certain management services for a portion of the professional groups with whom we contract who provide professional radiology services at local hospitals. For performing these management services, which include billing, collecting, transcription and medical coding, we receive management fees.

# Payors

The fees charged for diagnostic imaging services performed at our facilities are paid by a diverse mix of payors, as illustrated for the following periods presented in the table below:

	% of Net Revenue					
	Year Ended	Year Ended				
	December 31,	December 31,	December 31,			
	2007	2008	2009			
Commercial Insurance (1)	57%	56%	56%			
Managed Care Capitated Payors	15%	15%	15%			
Medicare	19%	20%	20%			
Medicaid	3%	3%	3%			
Other (2)	2%	2%	2%			
Workers Compensation/Personal Injury	4%	4%	4%			

We have described below the types of reimbursement arrangements we have with third-party payors.

#### Commercial Insurance

Generally, insurance companies reimburse us, directly or indirectly, including through BRMG in California or through the contracted radiology groups elsewhere, on the basis of agreed upon rates. These rates are on average approximately the same as the rates set forth in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule for the particular service. The patients are generally not responsible for any amount above the insurance allowable amount.

### Managed Care Capitation Agreements

Under these agreements, which are generally between BRMG in California and outside of California between the contracted radiology group and the payor, typically an independent physician group or other medical group, the payor pays a pre-determined amount per-member per-month in exchange for the radiology group providing all necessary covered services to the managed care members included in the agreement. These contracts pass much of the financial risk of providing outpatient diagnostic imaging services, including the risk of over-use, from the payor to the radiology group and, as a result of our management agreement with the radiology group, to us.

We believe that through our comprehensive utilization management, or UM, program we have become highly skilled at assessing and moderating the risks associated with the capitation agreements, so that these agreements are profitable for us. Our UM program is managed by our UM department, which consists of administrative and nursing staff as well as BRMG medical staff who are actively involved with the referring physicians and payor management in both prospective and retrospective review programs. Our UM program includes the following features, all of which are designed to manage our costs while ensuring that patients receive appropriate care:

Physician Education

At the inception of a new capitation agreement, we provide the new referring physicians with binders of educational material comprised of proprietary information that we have prepared and third-party information we have compiled, which are designed to address diagnostic strategies for common diseases. We distribute additional material according to the referral practices of the group as determined in the retrospective analysis described below.

Prospective Review

Referring physicians are required to submit authorization requests for non-emergency high-intensity services: MRI, CT, special procedures and nuclear medicine studies. The UM medical staff, according to accepted practice guidelines, considers the necessity and appropriateness of each request. Notification is then sent to the imaging facility, referring physician and medical group. Appeals for cases not approved are directed to us. The capitated payor has the final authority to uphold or deny our recommendation.

Retrospective Review

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes Blue Cross/Blue Shield plans, which represented 19% of our net revenue for the year ended December 31, 2007, 19% of our net revenue for the year ended December 31, 2008 and 24% of our net revenue for the year ended December 31, 2009.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes co-payments, direct patient payments and payments through contracts with physician groups and other non-insurance company payors.

We collect and sort encounter activity by payor, place of service, referring physician, exam type and date of service. The data is then presented in quantitative and analytical form to facilitate understanding of utilization activity and to provide a comparison between fee-for-service and Medicare equivalents. Our Medical Director prepares a quarterly report for each payor and referring physician, which we send to them. When we find that a referring physician is over utilizing services, we work with the physician to modify referral patterns.

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#### Medicare/Medicaid

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people age 65 or older and people under age 65 with certain disabilities. Medicaid, funded by both the federal government and states, is a state-administered health insurance program for qualifying low-income and medically needy persons. For services for which we bill Medicare directly or indirectly, including through contracted radiologists, we are paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. Medicare patients usually pay a 20% co-payment unless they have secondary insurance. Medicaid rates are set by the individual states for each state program and Medicaid patients may be responsible for a modest co-payment.

#### Contracts with Physician Groups and Other Entities

For some of our contracts with physician groups and other providers, we do not bill payors, but instead accept agreed upon rates for our radiology services.

### Contracts with Physician Groups and Other Non-Insurance Company Payors

These payors reimburse us, directly or indirectly, on the basis of agreed upon rates. These rates are typically at or below the rates set forth in the current Medicare Fee Schedule for the particular service. However, we often agree to a specified rate for MRI and CT procedures that is not tied to the Medicare Fee Schedule. The patients are generally not responsible for the unreimbursed portion.

#### **Facilities**

Through our wholly owned subsidiaries, we operate 97 fixed-site, freestanding outpatient diagnostic imaging facilities in California, 36 in the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. area, 22 in the Rochester and Hudson Valley areas of New York, 12 in Delaware, eight in New Jersey, as well as three individual facilities in Florida and two in Kansas. We lease the premises at which these facilities are located.

Our facilities are primarily located in regional networks that we refer to as regions. The majority of our facilities are multi-modality sites, offering various combinations of MRI, CT, PET, nuclear medicine, ultrasound, X-ray, fluoroscopy services and other related procedures. A portion of our facilities are single-modality sites, offering either X-ray or MRI services. Consistent with our regional network strategy, we locate our single-modality facilities near multi-modality facilities, to help accommodate overflow in targeted demographic areas.

The following table sets forth the number of our facilities for each year during the five-year period ended December 31, 2009:

	Year Ended December 31					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
Total facilities owned or						
managed (at beginning of the						
year)	56	57	132	141	164	
Facilities added by:						
Acquisition *	-	78	12	24	14	
Internal development	1	4	2	4	3	
Facilities closed or sold	-	(7)	(5)	(5)	(1)	
Total facilities owned or						
managed (at year end)	57	132*	141	164	180	

\* Includes 69 Radiologix facilities acquired on November 15, 2006

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### **Diagnostic Imaging Equipment**

The following table indicates, as of December 31, 2009, the quantity of principal diagnostic equipment available at our facilities, by region:

	MRI Ope	n/MRI	CT	PET/CT	Mammo	Ultrasound	X-ray	NucMedF	luoroscopy	Total
Kansas	-	-	2	-	-	3	4	-	1	10
California	47	22	29	18	62	103	69	15	51	416
Florida	2	1	2	1	6	5	4	2	2	25
Delaware	7	1	6	1	4	14	13	1	4	51
New Jersey	7	1	3	-	3	5	-	-	3	22
New York	17	1	11	3	14	35	17	2	9	109
Maryland	24	9	26	9	33	88	48	20	16	273
Total	104	35	79	32	122	253	155	40	86	906

The average age of our MRI and CT units is less than six years, and the average age of our PET units is less than four years. The useful life of our MRI, CT and PET units is typically ten years.

### Facility Acquisitions and Divestitures

Information regarding our facility acquisitions can be found within Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, as well as Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements of this Form 10-K.

### Information Technology

Our corporate headquarters and many of our facilities are interconnected through a state-of-the-art information technology system. This system, which is compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, is comprised of a number of integrated applications and provides a single operating platform for billing and collections, electronic medical records, practice management and image management.

This technology has created cost reductions for our facilities in areas such as image storage, support personnel and financial management and has further allowed us to optimize the productivity of all aspects of our business by enabling us to:

- capture patient demographic, history and billing information at point-of-service;
- automatically generate bills and electronically file claims with third-party payors;
  - record and store diagnostic report images in digital format;
- digitally transmit in real-time diagnostic images from one location to another, thus enabling networked radiologists to cover larger geographic markets by using the specialized training of other networked radiologists;
  - perform claims, rejection and collection analysis; and
- perform sophisticated financial analysis, such as analyzing cost and profitability, volume, charges, current activity and patient case mix, with respect to each of our managed care contracts.

Diagnostic reports and images are currently accessible via the Internet by our California referring providers. We have worked with some of the larger medical groups in California with whom we have contracts to provide access to this content through their web portals. We are in the process of making such services available outside of California.

#### Personnel

At December 31, 2009, we had a total of 3,006 full-time, 501 part-time and 639 per diem employees, including those employed by BRMG. These numbers include 78 full-time and nine part-time physicians and 873 full-time, 312 part-time and 396 per-diem technologists.

We employ site managers who are responsible for overseeing day-to-day and routine operations at each of our facilities, including staffing, modality and schedule coordination, referring physician and patient relations and purchasing of materials. These site managers report to regional managers and directors, who are responsible for oversight of the operations of all facilities within their region, including sales, marketing and contracting. The regional managers and directors, along with our directors of contracting, marketing, facilities, management/purchasing and human resources report to our chief operating officers. These officers, our chief financial officer, our director of information services and our medical director report to our chief executive officer.

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None of our employees is subject to a collective bargaining agreement nor have we experienced any work stoppages. We believe our relationship with our employees is good.

## Marketing

Our California marketing team consists of one director of marketing, six territory sales managers and 20 customer service representatives. Our eastern marketing team consists of 27 customer sales representatives and six sales managers who each report to a district manager. Our marketing team employs a multi-pronged approach to marketing, including physician, payor and sports marketing programs.

#### Physician Marketing

Each customer service representative is responsible for marketing activity on behalf of one or more facilities. The representatives act as a liaison between the facility and referring physicians, holding meetings periodically and on an as-needed basis with them and their staff to present educational programs on new applications and uses of our systems and to address particular patient service issues that have arisen. In our experience, consistent hands-on contact with a referring physician and his or her staff generates goodwill and increases referrals. The representatives also continually seek to establish referral relationships with new physicians and physician groups. In addition to a base salary and a car allowance, each representative receives a quarterly bonus if the facility or facilities on behalf of which he or she markets meets specified net revenue goals for the quarter.

### **Payor Marketing**

Our marketing team regularly meets with managed care organizations and insurance companies to solicit contracts and meet with existing contracting payors to solidify those relationships. The comprehensiveness of our services, the geographic location of our facilities and the reputation of the physicians with whom we contract all serve as tools for obtaining new or repeat business from payors.

### **Sports Marketing Program**

We have a sports marketing program designed to increase our public profile. We provide X-ray equipment and a technician for all of the basketball games of the Lakers, Clippers and Sparks held at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, Ducks hockey games held at the Honda Center in Anaheim, and University of Southern California football games held in the Los Angeles Coliseum. In exchange for this service, we receive game tickets and an advertisement in each team program throughout the season. In addition, we have a close relationship with the physicians for some of these teams.

### Suppliers

Historically, we have acquired a majority of our advanced diagnostic imaging equipment from GE Medical Systems, Inc., and we purchase medical supplies from various national vendors. We believe that we have excellent working relationships with all of our major vendors. However, there are several comparable vendors for our supplies that would be available to us if one of our current vendors becomes unavailable.

We primarily acquire our equipment with cash or through various financing arrangements with equipment vendors and third party equipment finance companies involving the use of capital leases with purchase options at minimal prices at the end of the lease term. At December 31, 2009, capital lease obligations, excluding interest, totaled approximately \$27.7 million through 2014, including current installments totaling approximately \$14.1 million. If we open or acquire additional imaging facilities, we may have to incur material capital lease obligations.

Timely, effective maintenance is essential for achieving high utilization rates of our imaging equipment. We have an arrangement with GE Medical Systems, Inc. under which it has agreed to be responsible for the maintenance and repair of a majority of our equipment for a fee that is based upon a percentage of our revenue, subject to a minimum payment. Net revenue is reduced by the provision for bad debts, mobile PET revenue and other professional reading service revenue to obtain adjusted net revenue.

### Competition

The market for diagnostic imaging services is highly competitive. We compete principally on the basis of our reputation, our ability to provide multiple modalities at many of our facilities, the location of our facilities, the quality of our diagnostic imaging services and technologists and the ability to establish and maintain relationships with healthcare providers and referring physicians. We compete locally with groups of radiologists, established hospitals, clinics and other independent organizations that own and operate imaging equipment. Our competitors include Alliance Healthcare Services, Inc., Diagnostic Imaging Group, InSight Health Services Corp. and American Radiology Services. Some of our competitors may now or in the future have access to greater financial resources than we do and may have access to newer, more advanced equipment. In addition, some physician practices have established their own diagnostic imaging facilities within their group practices to compete with us. We experience additional competition as a result of those activities.

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Each of the non-BRMG contracted radiology practices under the comprehensive services model has entered into agreements with its physician shareholders and full-time employed radiologists that generally prohibit those shareholders and radiologists from competing for a period of two years within defined geographic regions after they cease to be owners or employees, as applicable. In certain states, like California, a covenant not to compete is enforced in limited circumstances involving the sale of a business. In other states, a covenant not to compete will be enforced only:

- to the extent it is necessary to protect a legitimate business interest of the party seeking enforcement;
  - if it does not unreasonably restrain the party against whom enforcement is sought; and
    - if it is not contrary to public interest.

Enforceability of a non-compete covenant is determined by a court based on all of the facts and circumstances of the specific case at the time enforcement is sought. For this reason, it is not possible to predict whether or to what extent a court will enforce the contracted radiology practices' covenants. The inability of the contracted radiology practices or us to enforce radiologist's non-compete covenants could result in increased competition from individuals who are knowledgeable about our business strategies and operations.

### Liability Insurance

We maintain insurance policies with coverage we believe is appropriate in light of the risks attendant to our business and consistent with industry practice. However, adequate liability insurance may not be available to us in the future at acceptable costs or at all. We maintain general liability insurance and professional liability insurance in commercially reasonable amounts. Additionally, we maintain workers' compensation insurance on all of our employees. Coverage is placed on a statutory basis and responds to individual state's requirements.

Pursuant to our agreements with physician groups with whom we contract, including BRMG, each group must maintain medical malpractice insurance for each physician in the group, having coverage limits of not less than \$1.0 million per incident and \$3.0 million in the aggregate per year.

California's medical malpractice cap further reduces our exposure. California places a \$250,000 limit on non-economic damages for medical malpractice cases. Non-economic damages are defined as compensation for pain, suffering, inconvenience, physical impairment, disfigurement and other non-pecuniary injury. The cap applies whether the case is for injury or death, and it allows only one \$250,000 recovery in a wrongful death case. No cap applies to economic damages. Other states in which we now operate do not have similar limitations and in those states we believe our insurance coverage to be sufficient.

We maintain a \$5.0 million key-man life insurance policy on the life of Dr. Berger. We are the beneficiary under the policy.

### Regulation

## General

The healthcare industry is highly regulated, and we can give no assurance that the regulatory environment in which we operate will not change significantly in the future. Our ability to operate profitably will depend in part upon us, and the contracted radiology practices and their affiliated physicians obtaining and maintaining all necessary licenses and other approvals, and operating in compliance with applicable healthcare regulations. We believe that healthcare

regulations will continue to change. Therefore, we monitor developments in healthcare law and modify our operations from time to time as the business and regulatory environment changes. Although we intend to continue to operate in compliance, we cannot ensure that we will be able to adequately modify our operations so as to address changes in the regulatory environment.

### Licensing and Certification Laws

Ownership, construction, operation, expansion and acquisition of diagnostic imaging facilities are subject to various federal and state laws, regulations and approvals concerning licensing of facilities and personnel. In addition, free-standing diagnostic imaging facilities that provide services not performed as part of a physician office must meet Medicare requirements to be certified as an independent diagnostic testing facility to bill the Medicare program. We may not be able to receive the required regulatory approvals for any future acquisitions, expansions or replacements, and the failure to obtain these approvals could limit the market for our services. We have experienced a slowdown in the credentialing of our physicians over the last several years which has lengthened our billing and collection cycle.

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#### Corporate Practice of Medicine

In the states in which we operate, a lay person or any entity other than a professional corporation or other similar professional organization is not allowed to practice medicine, including by employing professional persons or by having any ownership interest or profit participation in or control over any medical professional practice. The laws of such states also prohibit a lay person or a non-professional entity from exercising control over the medical judgments or decisions of physicians and from engaging in certain financial arrangements, such as splitting professional fees with physicians. We structure our relationships with the radiology practices, including the purchase of diagnostic imaging facilities, in a manner that we believe keeps us from engaging in the practice of medicine, exercising control over the medical judgments or decisions of the radiology practices or their physicians, or violating the prohibitions against fee-splitting. There can be no assurance that our present arrangements with BRMG or the other physicians providing medical services and medical supervision at our imaging facilities will not be challenged, and, if challenged, that they will not be found to violate the corporate practice of medicine or fee splitting prohibitions, thus subjecting us to a potential combination of damages, injunction and civil and criminal penalties or require us to restructure our arrangements in a way that would affect the control or quality of our services or change the amounts we receive under our management agreements, or both.

#### Medicare and Medicaid Fraud and Abuse

Our revenue is derived through our ownership, operation and management of diagnostic imaging centers and from service fees paid to us by contracted radiology practices. During the twelve months ended December 31, 2009, approximately 20% of our revenue generated at our diagnostic imaging centers was derived from federal government sponsored healthcare programs (Medicare) and 3% from state sponsored programs (Medicaid).

Federal law known as the Anti-kickback Statute prohibits the knowing and willful offer, payment, solicitation or receipt of any form of remuneration in return for, or to induce, (i) the referral of a person, (ii) the furnishing or arranging for the furnishing of items or services reimbursable under the Medicare, Medicaid or other governmental programs or (iii) the purchase, lease or order or arranging or recommending purchasing, leasing or ordering of any item or service reimbursable under the Medicare, Medicaid or other governmental programs. Enforcement of this anti-kickback law is a high priority for the federal government, which has substantially increased enforcement resources and is scheduled to continue increasing such resources. Noncompliance with the federal Anti-kickback Statute can result in exclusion from the Medicare, Medicaid or other governmental programs and civil and criminal penalties.

As described above, the Anti-kickback Statute is broad, and it prohibits many arrangements and practices that are lawful in businesses outside of the healthcare industry. Recognizing that the Anti-kickback Statute is broad and may technically prohibit many innocuous or beneficial arrangements within the healthcare industry, the Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued regulations in July of 1991, which the Department has referred to as "safe harbors." These safe harbor regulations set forth certain provisions which, if met in form and substance, will assure healthcare providers and other parties that they will not be prosecuted under the federal Anti-kickback Statute. Additional safe harbor provisions providing similar protections have been published intermittently since 1991. Our arrangements with physicians, physician practice groups, hospitals and other persons or entities who are in a position to refer may not fully meet the stringent criteria specified in the various safe harbors. Although full compliance with these provisions ensures against prosecution under the federal Anti-kickback Statute, the failure of a transaction or arrangement to fit within a specific safe harbor does not necessarily mean that the transaction or arrangement is illegal or that prosecution under the federal Anti-kickback Statute will be pursued.

Although some of our arrangements may not fall within a safe harbor, we believe that such business arrangements do not violate the Anti-kickback Statute because we are careful to structure them to reflect fair market value and ensure

that the reasons underlying our decision to enter into a business arrangement comport with reasonable interpretations of the Anti-kickback Statute. However, even though we continuously strive to comply with the requirements of the Anti-kickback Statute, liability under the Anti-kickback Statute may still arise because of the intentions or actions of the parties with whom we do business. While we are not aware of any such intentions or actions, we have only limited knowledge regarding the intentions or actions underlying those arrangements. Conduct and business arrangements that do not fully satisfy one of these safe harbor provisions may result in increased scrutiny by government enforcement authorities such as the Office of the Inspector General.

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Significant prohibitions against physician referrals have been enacted by Congress. These prohibitions include the Ethics in Patient Referral Act of 1989 which is commonly known as the Stark Law. The Stark Law prohibits a physician from referring Medicare patients to an entity providing designated health services, as defined under the Stark Law, including, without limitation, radiology services, in which the physician (or immediate family member) has an ownership or investment interest or with which the physician (or immediate family member) has entered into a compensation arrangement. The Stark Law also prohibits the entity from billing for any such prohibited referral. The penalties for violating the Stark Law include a prohibition on payment by these governmental programs and civil penalties of as much as \$15,000 for each violation referral and \$100,000 for participation in a circumvention scheme. We believe that, although we receive fees under our service agreements for management and administrative services, we are not in a position to make or influence referrals of patients.

On January 4, 2001, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published the first phase of the final regulations to implement the Stark Law. CMS subsequently released phase two of the Stark Law final rule as a final rule effective July 26, 2004; phase three, effective on December 4, 2007; and finally, on August 19, 2008, CMS finalized additional changes to the Stark Law which became effective on October 1, 2009. Under the Stark Law, radiology and certain other imaging services and radiation therapy services and supplies are services included in the designated health services subject to the self-referral prohibition. Such services include the professional and technical components of any diagnostic test or procedure using X-rays, ultrasound or other imaging services, CT, MRI, radiation therapy and diagnostic mammography services (but not screening mammography services). The Stark Law, however, excludes from designated health services: (i) X-ray, fluoroscopy or ultrasound procedures that require the insertion of a needle, catheter, tube or probe through the skin or into a body orifice; (ii) radiology procedures that are integral to the performance of, and performed during, non-radiological medical procedures; and (iii) invasive or interventional radiology, because the radiology services in these procedures are merely incidental or secondary to another procedure that the physician has ordered. Beginning January 1, 2007, PET and nuclear medicine procedures are included as designated health services under the Stark Law.

The Stark Law provides that a request by a radiologist for diagnostic radiology services or a request by a radiation oncologist for radiation therapy, if such services are furnished by or under the supervision of such radiologist or radiation oncologist pursuant to a consultation requested by another physician, does not constitute a referral by a referring physician. If such requirements are met, the Stark Law self-referral prohibition would not apply to such services. The effect of the Stark Law on the radiology practices, therefore, will depend on the precise scope of services furnished by each such practice's radiologists and whether such services derive from consultations or are self-generated. We believe that, other than self-referred patients, all of the services covered by the Stark Law provided by the contracted radiology practices derive from requests for consultation by non-affiliated physicians. Therefore, we believe that the Stark Law is not implicated by the financial relationships between our operations and the contracted radiology practices.

In addition, we believe that we have structured our acquisitions of the assets of existing practices, and we intend to structure any future acquisitions, so as not to violate the Anti-kickback Statute and Stark Law and regulations. Specifically, we believe the consideration paid by us to physicians to acquire the tangible and intangible assets associated with their practices is consistent with fair market value in arms' length transactions and is not intended to induce the referral of patients or other business generated by such physicians. Should any such practice be deemed to constitute an arrangement designed to induce the referral of Medicare or Medicaid patients, then our acquisitions could be viewed as possibly violating anti-kickback and anti-referral laws and regulations. A determination of liability under any such laws could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The federal government embarked on an initiative to audit all Medicare carriers, which are the companies that adjudicate and pay Medicare claims. These audits are expected to intensify governmental scrutiny of individual

providers. An unsatisfactory audit of any of our diagnostic imaging facilities or contracted radiology practices could result in any or all of the following: significant repayment obligations, exclusion from the Medicare, Medicaid or other governmental programs, and civil and criminal penalties.

Federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities have increased enforcement activities with respect to Medicare, Medicaid fraud and abuse regulations and other reimbursement laws and rules, including laws and regulations that govern our activities and the activities of the radiology practices. The federal government also has increased funding to fight healthcare fraud and is coordinating its enforcement efforts among various agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, and state Medicaid fraud control units. The trend towards increased funding is also seen most recently in President Obama's budget for fiscal year 2011. The government may investigate our or the radiology practices' activities, claims may be made against us or the radiology practices and these increased enforcement activities may directly or indirectly have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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### State Anti-kickback and Physician Self-referral Laws

Many states have adopted laws similar to the federal Anti-kickback Statute. Some of these state prohibitions apply to referral of patients for healthcare services reimbursed by any source, not only the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Although we believe that we comply with both federal and state Anti-kickback laws, any finding of a violation of these laws could subject us to criminal and civil penalties or possible exclusion from federal or state healthcare programs. Such penalties would adversely affect our financial performance and our ability to operate our business.

#### Federal False Claims Act

The federal False Claims Act provides, in part, that the federal government may bring a lawsuit against any person who it believes has knowingly presented, or caused to be presented, a false or fraudulent request for payment from the federal government, or who has made a false statement or used a false record to get a claim approved. The federal False Claims Act further provides that a lawsuit thereunder may be initiated in the name of the United States by an individual, a "whistleblower," who is an original source of the allegations. The government has taken the position that claims presented in violation of the federal anti-kickback law or Stark Law may be considered a violation of the federal False Claims Act. Penalties include civil penalties of not less than \$5,500 and not more than \$11,000 for each false claim, plus three times the amount of damages that the federal government sustained because of the act of that person.

Recently, the number of suits brought against healthcare providers by private individuals has increased dramatically. Further, on May 20, 2009, President Obama signed into law the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009 (FERA), which greatly expanded the types of entities and conduct subject to the False Claims Act. Also, various states are considering or have enacted laws modeled after the federal False Claims Act. Under the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, or DRA, states are being encouraged to adopt false claims acts similar to the federal False Claims Act, which establish liability for submission of fraudulent claims to the State Medicaid program and contain whistleblower provisions. Even in instances when a whistleblower action is dismissed with no judgment or settlement, we may incur substantial legal fees and other costs relating to an investigation. Future actions under the False Claims Act may result in significant fines and legal fees, which would adversely affect our financial performance and our ability to operate our business.

We believe that we are in compliance with the rules and regulations that apply to the federal False Claims Act as well as its state counterparts. However, we could be found to have violated certain rules and regulations resulting in sanctions under the federal False Claims Act or its state counterparts. If we are so found in violation, any sanctions imposed could result in fines and penalties and restrictions on and exclusion from participation in federal and state healthcare programs that are integral to our business.

### Healthcare Reform Initiatives

Currently pending before the United States Congress is health care reform legislation which, if enacted, could affect the amount of reimbursement from federally-funded health care programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. Changes in reimbursement for services rendered to beneficiaries of Medicare managed care or Medicare Advantage plans, may also impact our finances in general. We cannot predict at this time the nature of the final reform legislation, whether current initiatives will be finalized or their effects on radiology service providers such as us.

### Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996

Congress enacted the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or HIPAA, in part, to combat healthcare fraud and to protect the privacy and security of patients' individually identifiable healthcare information.

HIPAA, among other things, amends existing crimes and criminal penalties for Medicare fraud and enacts new federal healthcare fraud crimes, including actions affecting non-government healthcare benefit programs. Under HIPAA, a healthcare benefit program includes any private plan or contract affecting interstate commerce under which any medical benefit, item or service is provided. A person or entity that knowingly and willfully obtains the money or property of any healthcare benefit program by means of false or fraudulent representations in connection with the delivery of healthcare services is subject to a fine or imprisonment, or potentially both. In addition, HIPAA authorizes the imposition of civil money penalties against entities that employ or enter into contracts with excluded Medicare or Medicaid program participants if such entities provide services to federal health program beneficiaries. A finding of liability under HIPAA could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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Further, HIPAA requires healthcare providers and their business associates to maintain the privacy and security of individually identifiable protected health information ("PHI"). HIPAA imposes federal standards for electronic transactions, for the security of electronic health information and for protecting the privacy of PHI. The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009 ("HITECH"), signed into law on February 17, 2009, dramatically expanded, among other things, (1) the scope of HIPAA to now apply directly to "business associates," or independent contractors who receive or obtain PHI in connection with providing a service to a covered entity, (2) substantive security and privacy obligations, including new federal security breach notification requirements to affected individuals, DHHS and prominent media outlets, of certain breaches of unsecured PHI, (3) restrictions on marketing communications and a prohibition on covered entities or business associates from receiving remuneration in exchange for PHI, and (4) the civil and criminal penalties that may be imposed for HIPAA violations, increasing the annual cap in penalties from \$25,000 to \$1.5 million per year.

In addition, many states have enacted comparable privacy and security statutes or regulations that, in some cases, are more stringent than HIPAA requirements. In those cases it may be necessary to modify our operations and procedures to comply with the more stringent state laws, which may entail significant and costly changes for us. We believe that we are in compliance with such state laws and regulations. However, if we fail to comply with applicable state laws and regulations, we could be subject to additional sanctions.

We believe that we are in compliance with the current HIPAA requirements, as amended by HITECH, and comparable state laws, but we anticipate that we may encounter certain costs associated with future compliance. Moreover, we cannot guarantee that enforcement agencies or courts will not make interpretations of the HIPAA standards that are inconsistent with ours, or the interpretations of our contracted radiology practices or their affiliated physicians. A finding of liability under the HIPAA standards may result in significant criminal and civil penalties. Noncompliance also may result in exclusion from participation in government programs, including Medicare and Medicaid. These actions could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

# Compliance Program

We maintain a program to monitor compliance with federal and state laws and regulations applicable to healthcare entities. We have a compliance officer who is charged with implementing and supervising our compliance program, which includes the adoption of (i) Standards of Conduct for our employees and affiliates and (ii) a process that specifies how employees, affiliates and others may report regulatory or ethical concerns to our compliance officer. We believe that our compliance program meets the relevant standards provided by the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services.

An important part of our compliance program consists of conducting periodic audits of various aspects of our operations and that of the contracted radiology practices. We also conduct mandatory educational programs designed to familiarize our employees with the regulatory requirements and specific elements of our compliance program.

#### U.S. Food and Drug Administration or FDA

The FDA has issued the requisite pre-market approval for all of the MRI and CT systems we use. We do not believe that any further FDA approval is required in connection with the majority of equipment currently in operation or proposed to be operated, except under regulations issued by the FDA pursuant to the Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992, as amended by the Mammography Quality Standards Reauthorization Acts of 1998 and 2004 (collectively, the MQSA). All mammography facilities are required to meet the applicable MQSA requirements, including quality standards, be accredited by an approved accreditation body or state agency and certified by the FDA or an FDA-approved certifying state agency. Pursuant to the accreditation process, each facility providing mammography services must comply with certain standards that include, among other things, annual inspection of the

facility's equipment, personnel (interpreting physicians, technologists and medical physicists) and practices.

Compliance with these MQSA requirements and standards is required to obtain Medicare payment for services provided to beneficiaries and to avoid various sanctions, including monetary penalties, or suspension of certification. Although the Mammography Accreditation Program of the American College of Radiology is an approved accreditation body and currently accredits all of our facilities which provide mammography services, and although we anticipate continuing to meet the requirements for accreditation, if we lose such accreditation, the FDA could revoke our certification. Congress has extended Medicare benefits to include coverage of screening mammography but coverage is subject to the facility performing the mammography meeting prescribed quality standards described above. The Medicare requirements to meet the standards apply to diagnostic mammography and image quality examination as well as screening mammography.

# Radiologist Licensing

The radiologists providing professional medical services at our facilities are subject to licensing and related regulations by the states in which they provide services. As a result, we require BRMG and the other radiology groups with which we contract to require those radiologists to have and maintain appropriate licensure. We do not believe that such laws and regulations will either prohibit or require licensure approval of our business operations, although no assurances can be made that such laws and regulations will not be interpreted to extend such prohibitions or requirements to our operations.

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#### Insurance Laws and Regulation

States in which we operate have adopted certain laws and regulations affecting risk assumption in the healthcare industry, including those that subject any physician or physician network engaged in risk-based managed care to applicable insurance laws and regulations. These laws and regulations may require physicians and physician networks to meet minimum capital requirements and other safety and soundness requirements. Implementing additional regulations or compliance requirements could result in substantial costs to the contracted radiology practices, limiting their ability to enter into capitated or other risk-sharing managed care arrangements and indirectly affecting our revenue from the contracted practices.

#### **Environmental Matters**

The facilities we operate or manage generate hazardous and medical waste subject to federal and state requirements regarding handling and disposal. We believe that the facilities that we operate and manage are currently in compliance in all material respects with applicable federal, state and local statutes and ordinances regulating the handling and disposal of such materials. We do not believe that we will be required to expend any material additional amounts in order to remain in compliance with these laws and regulations or that compliance will materially affect our capital expenditures, earnings or competitive position.

#### Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA)

On February 8, 2006, the President signed into law the Deficit Reduction Act, or DRA. Effective January 1, 2007, the DRA provides that Medicare reimbursement for the technical component for imaging services (excluding diagnostic and screening mammography) performed in freestanding facilities will be capped. Payment will be the lesser of the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule or the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (HOPPS) rates. Implementation of these reimbursement reductions contained in the DRA has had a significant adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The DRA also codified the reduction in reimbursement for multiple images on contiguous body parts previously announced by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the agency responsible for administering the Medicare program. In November 2005, CMS announced that it would pay 100% of the technical component of the higher priced imaging procedure and 50% of the technical component of each additional imaging procedure for imaging procedures involving contiguous body parts within a family of codes when performed in the same session. CMS had indicated that it would phase in this 50% rate reduction over two years, so that the reduction was 25% for each additional imaging procedure in 2006 and another 25% in 2007. To date, CMS has implemented the 25% reduction for each additional procedure but has not yet implemented the additional 25% reduction scheduled for 2007. The U.S. Congress is currently considering legislative proposals that would change the percentage reduction to require the additional 25% reduction. At this time, we cannot predict the impact on our business if the proposal is passed.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

If BRMG or any of our other contracted radiology practices terminate their agreements with us, our business could substantially diminish.

Our relationship with BRMG is an integral part of our business. Through our management agreement, BRMG provides all of the professional medical services at 87 of our 97 California facilities. Professional medical services are provided at the balance of our other facilities through management contracts with other radiology groups. BRMG and these other radiology groups contract with various other independent physicians and physician groups to provide all of the professional medical services at most of our facilities, and they must use their best efforts to provide the

professional medical services at any new facilities that we open or acquire in their areas of operation. In addition, BRMG and the other radiology groups' strong relationships with referring physicians are largely responsible for the revenue generated at the facilities they service. Although our management agreement with BRMG runs until 2014, and for terms as long, if not longer, with the other groups, BRMG and the other radiology groups have the right to terminate the agreements if we default on our obligations and fail to cure the default. Also, the various radiology groups' ability to continue performing under the management agreements may be curtailed or eliminated due to the groups' financial difficulties, loss of physicians or other circumstances. If the radiology groups cannot perform their obligations to us, we would need to contract with one or more other radiology groups to provide the professional medical services at the facilities serviced by the group. We may not be able to locate radiology groups willing to provide those services on terms acceptable to us, if at all. Even if we were able to do so, any replacement radiology group's relationships with referring physicians may not be as extensive as those of the terminated group. In any such event, our business could be seriously harmed. In addition, the radiology groups are party to substantially all of the managed care contracts from which we derive revenue. If we were unable to readily replace these contracts, our revenue would be negatively affected.

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Adverse changes in general domestic and worldwide economic conditions and instability and disruption of credit markets could adversely affect our operating results, financial condition, or liquidity.

We are subject to risk arising from adverse changes in general domestic and global economic conditions, including recession or economic slowdown and disruption of credit markets. Recent global market and economic conditions have been unprecedented and challenging with tighter credit conditions and recession in most major economies continuing into 2010. Continued concerns about the systemic impact of potential long-term and wide-spread recession, inflation, energy costs, geopolitical issues, the availability and cost of credit and the United States mortgage market have contributed to increased market volatility and diminished expectations for the United States economy. Added concerns fueled by the United States government's financial assistance to certain companies and other federal government's interventions in the United States financial system has led to increased market uncertainty and instability in both United States and international capital and credit markets. These conditions, combined with volatile oil prices, declining business and consumer confidence and increased unemployment, have contributed to volatility of unprecedented levels. We believe our MRI and PET/CT scan volumes have been impacted in 2009 by rising unemployment rates, the number of under-insured or uninsured patients and other conditions arising from the global economic conditions described above.

As a result of these market conditions, the cost and availability of credit has been and may continue to be adversely affected by illiquid credit markets and wider credit spreads. Concern about the stability of the markets generally and the strength of counterparties specifically has led many lenders and institutional investors to reduce, and in some cases, cease to provide funding to borrowers.

Continued turbulence in the United States and international markets and economies may adversely affect our liquidity and financial condition, and the liquidity and financial condition of our customers. If these market conditions continue, they may limit our ability, and the ability of our customers, to timely replace maturing liabilities, and access the capital markets to meet liquidity needs, resulting in adverse effects on our financial condition and results of operations.

We have experienced operating losses and we have a substantial accumulated deficit. If we are unable to improve our financial performance, we may be unable to pay our obligations.

We have incurred net losses of \$2.3 million, \$12.8 million and \$18.1 million, for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. As of December 31, 2009, our accumulated deficit was \$74.8 million. We have been successful in significantly reducing our net losses over the past two years. We expect to continue this trend and to begin generating net income. However, we cannot provide any assurances as to the likelihood, timing, or extent of our ability to achieve net income from operations. If we cannot generate income from operations in sufficient amounts, we will not be able to pay our obligations as they become due. Our inability to generate income from operations to pay our obligations could adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our success depends in part on our key personnel and loss of key executives could adversely affect our operations. In addition, former employees and radiology practices we have previously contracted with could use the experience and relationships developed while employed or under contract with us to compete with us.

Our success depends in part on our ability to attract and retain qualified senior and executive management, managerial and technical personnel. Competition in recruiting these personnel may make it difficult for us to continue our growth and success. The loss of their services or our inability in the future to attract and retain management and other key personnel could hinder the implementation of our business strategy. The loss of the services of Dr. Howard G. Berger, our President and Chief Executive Officer, and Norman R. Hames or Stephen M. Forthuber, our Chief Operating Officers, west and east coast, respectively, could have a significant negative impact on our operations. We believe that

they could not easily be replaced with executives of equal experience and capabilities. We do not maintain key person insurance on the life of any of our executive officers with the exception of a \$5.0 million policy on the life of Dr. Berger. Also, if we lose the services of Dr. Berger, our relationship with BRMG could deteriorate, which would materially adversely affect our business.

Many of the states in which we operate do not enforce agreements that prohibit a former employee from competing with a former employer. As a result, many of our employees whose employment is terminated are free to compete with us, subject to prohibitions on the use of confidential information and, depending on the terms of the employee's employment agreement, on solicitation of existing employees and customers. A former executive, manager or other key employee who joins one of our competitors could use the relationships he or she established with third party payors, radiologists or referring physicians while our employee and the industry knowledge he or she acquired during that tenure to enhance the new employer's ability to compete with us.

The agreements with most of our radiology practices contain non-compete provisions however the enforceability of these provisions is determined by a court based on all the facts and circumstances of the specific case at the time enforcement is sought. The inability of us to enforce radiologists' non-compete provisions could result in increased competition from individuals who are knowledgeable about our business strategies and operations.

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The California budget crisis, if not successfully resolved could have an impact on our revenue.

California is experiencing a budget crisis which has resulted in significant state government cutbacks. 97 of our 180 facilities are located in California. One to one-and-one-half percent (1% to 1.5%) of our revenues come from the California Medicaid program (\$5 million to \$7.5 million). To the extent California is unable to provide these payments on a timely basis, or at all, our revenues will be negatively impacted.

Our failure to integrate the businesses we acquire successfully and on a timely basis could reduce our profitability.

We may never realize expected synergies, business opportunities and growth prospects in connection with our acquisitions. We may experience increased competition that limits our ability to expand our business. We may not be able to capitalize on expected business opportunities, assumptions underlying estimates of expected cost savings may be inaccurate, or general industry and business conditions may deteriorate. In addition, integrating operations will require significant efforts and expenses on our part. Personnel may leave or be terminated because of an acquisition. Our management may have its attention diverted while trying to integrate an acquisition. If these factors limit our ability to integrate the operations of an acquisition successfully or on a timely basis, our expectations of future results of operations, including certain cost savings and synergies as a result of the acquisition, may not be met. In addition, our growth and operating strategies for a target's business may be different from the strategies that the target company pursued prior to our acquisition. If our strategies are not the proper strategies, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash flow to meet our debt service obligations.

Our ability to generate sufficient cash flow from operations to make payments on our debt and other contractual obligations will depend on our future financial performance. A range of economic, competitive, regulatory, legislative and business factors, many of which are outside of our control, will affect our financial performance. Our inability to generate sufficient cash flow to satisfy our debt and other contractual obligations would adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our ability to generate revenue depends in large part on referrals from physicians.

A significant reduction in physician referrals would have a negative impact on our business. We derive substantially all of our net revenue, directly or indirectly, from fees charged for the diagnostic imaging services performed at our facilities. We depend on referrals of patients from unaffiliated physicians and other third parties who have no contractual obligations to refer patients to us for a substantial portion of the services we perform. If a sufficiently large number of these physicians and other third parties were to discontinue referring patients to us, our scan volume could decrease, which would reduce our net revenue and operating margins. Further, commercial third-party payors have implemented programs that could limit the ability of physicians to refer patients to us. For example, prepaid healthcare plans, such as health maintenance organizations, sometimes contract directly with providers and require their enrollees to obtain these services exclusively from those providers. Some insurance companies and self-insured employers also limit these services to contracted providers. These "closed panel" systems are now common in the managed care environment. Other systems create an economic disincentive for referrals to providers outside the system's designated panel of providers. If we are unable to compete successfully for these managed care contracts, our results and prospects for growth could be adversely affected.

The regulatory framework in which we operate is uncertain and evolving.

Healthcare laws and regulations may change significantly in the future. We continuously monitor these developments and modify our operations from time to time as the regulatory environment changes. We cannot assure you however,

that we will be able to adapt our operations to address new regulations or that new regulations will not adversely affect our business. In addition, although we believe that we are operating in compliance with applicable federal and state laws, neither our current or anticipated business operations nor the operations of the contracted radiology practices have been the subject of judicial or regulatory interpretation. We cannot assure you that a review of our business by courts or regulatory authorities will not result in a determination that could adversely affect our operations or that the healthcare regulatory environment will not change in a way that restricts our operations.

Certain states have enacted statutes or adopted regulations affecting risk assumption in the healthcare industry, including statutes and regulations that subject any physician or physician network engaged in risk-based managed care contracting to applicable insurance laws and regulations. These laws and regulations, if adopted in the states in which we operate, may require physicians and physician networks to meet minimum capital requirements and other safety and soundness requirements. Implementing additional regulations or compliance requirements could result in substantial costs to us and the contracted radiology practices and limit our ability to enter into capitation or other risk-sharing managed care arrangements.

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Changes in the method or rates of third-party reimbursement could have a negative impact on our results.

From time to time, changes designed to contain healthcare costs have been implemented, some of which have resulted in decreased reimbursement rates for diagnostic imaging services that impact our business. For services for which we bill Medicare directly, we are paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, which is updated on an annual basis. Under the Medicare statutory formula, payments under the Physician Fee Schedule would have decreased for the past several years if Congress failed to intervene. For example, for 2008, the fee schedule rates were to be reduced by approximately 10.1%. The Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 eliminated the 10.1% reduction for 2008 and increased the annual payment rate update by 0.5%. This increase to the annual Medicare Physician Fee Schedule payment update was effective only for Medicare claims with dates of service between January 1, 2008 and June 30, 2008. Beginning July 1, 2008, under the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA), the 0.5% increase was continued for the rest of 2008. In addition, MIPPA established a 1.1% increase to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule payment update for 2009. For 2010, CMS is projecting a rate reduction of 21.2%. However, on December 19, 2009, Congress enacted the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2010, which provided a two-month 0% update to the 2010 Medicare physician fee schedule effective only for dates of service January 1, 2010 through February 28, 2010. This was further extended through March 31, 2010 by the Temporary Extension Act of 2010. It remains uncertain whether Congress will enact legislation to revise the formula which determines the annual update to the conversion factor and payment rates, or if, once again, it will pass additional legislation to delay the payment reductions. It is also possible that no action will be taken and the 21.2% reduction in payments will be implemented.,

MIPPA also modified the methodology by which the budget neutrality formula was applied to the 2009 physician fee schedule payment rates, resulting in an overall reduction in payment rates for services performed by many specialties, including an estimated 3% reduction for radiation oncology and 1% reduction for nuclear medicine. The impact of these payment rate reductions could impact the Company's future revenue depending upon our service mix.

A number of other legislative changes impact our business. For example, DRA imposed caps on Medicare payment rates for certain imaging services furnished in physician's offices and other non-hospital based settings. The caps impact MRI and PET/CT. Under the cap, payments for specified imaging services cannot exceed the hospital outpatient payment rates for those services. This change applies to services furnished on or after January 1, 2007. The limitation is applicable to the technical components of the diagnostic imaging services only, which is the payment we receive for the services for which we bill directly under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.

The DRA also codified the reduction in reimbursement for multiple images on contiguous body parts, which was previously announced by CMS. The DRA mandated payment at 100% of the technical component of the higher priced imaging procedure and 50% for the technical component of each additional imaging procedure for multiple images of contiguous body parts within a family of codes performed in the same session. To date, CMS only implemented a 25% reduction for each additional imaging procedure on contiguous body parts, beginning in 2006. The U.S. Congress is currently considering legislative proposals that would require the percentage reduction of 25% to be further reduced to 50%.

Regulatory updates to payment rates for which we bill the Medicare program directly are published annually by CMS. For payments under the Physician Fee Schedule for calendar year 2010, CMS changed the way it calculates components of the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. First, CMS reduced payment rates for certain diagnostic services using equipment costing more than \$1 million through revisions to usage assumptions from the current 50% usage rate to a 90% usage rate. This change applied to MRI and CT scans. Congress is currently considering legislative proposals that would result in lower usage assumptions and, if finalized, would supersede CMS's regulatory changes, resulting in higher payments. Further with respect to its 2010 changes, CMS also reduced payment for services primarily involving the technical component rather than the physician work component, including the

services we provide, by adjusting downward malpractice payments for these services. The reductions primarily impacted radiology and other diagnostic tests. All these changes to the Medicare Fee Schedule will be transitioned over a four year period such that beginning in 2013, CMS will fully implement the revised payment rates. CMS projects that the combined impact of these changes, when fully implemented will result in an estimated 16% reduction in radiology, 23% reduction in nuclear medicine and 34% reduction for all suppliers providing diagnostic tests generally. For the 2010 transitioned payment, CMS estimates the impact of its changes will result in a 5% reduction in radiology, 18% reduction in nuclear medicine and 12% reduction for all suppliers providing the technical component of diagnostic tests generally. These impacts are calculated prior to any application of the projected negative update factor of 21.2% (which will be implemented in April 2010 unless Congress intervenes) related to MIPPA and may impact our future revenues.

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Pressure to control healthcare costs could have a negative impact on our results.

One of the principal objectives of health maintenance organizations and preferred provider organizations is to control the cost of healthcare services. Healthcare providers participating in managed care plans may be required to refer diagnostic imaging tests to certain providers depending on the plan in which a covered patient is enrolled. In addition, managed care contracting has become very competitive, and reimbursement schedules are at or below Medicare reimbursement levels. The expansion of health maintenance organizations, preferred provider organizations and other managed care organizations within the geographic areas covered by our network could have a negative impact on the utilization and pricing of our services, because these organizations will exert greater control over patients' access to diagnostic imaging services, the selections of the provider of such services and reimbursement rates for those services.

If our contracted radiology practices, including BRMG, lose a significant number of their radiologists, our financial results could be adversely affected.

At times, there has been a shortage of qualified radiologists in some of the regional markets we serve. In addition, competition in recruiting radiologists may make it difficult for our contracted radiology practices to maintain adequate levels of radiologists. If a significant number of radiologists terminates their relationships with our contracted radiology practices and those radiology practices cannot recruit sufficient qualified radiologists to fulfill their obligations under our agreements with them, our ability to maximize the use of our diagnostic imaging facilities and our financial results could be adversely affected. For example, in fiscal 2002, due to a shortage of qualified radiologists in the marketplace, BRMG experienced difficulty in hiring and retaining physicians and thus engaged independent contractors and part-time fill-in physicians. Their cost was double the salary of a regular BRMG full-time physician. Increased expenses to BRMG will impact our financial results because the management fee we receive from BRMG, which is based on a percentage of BRMG's collections, is adjusted annually to take into account the expenses of BRMG. Neither we, nor our contracted radiology practices, maintain insurance on the lives of any affiliated physicians.

We may not be able to successfully grow our business, which would adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Our ability to successfully expand through acquiring facilities, developing new facilities, adding equipment at existing facilities, and directly or indirectly entering into contractual relationships with high-quality radiology practices depends upon many factors, including our ability to:

- identify attractive and willing candidates for acquisitions;
- identify locations in existing or new markets for development of new facilities;
- comply with legal requirements affecting our arrangements with contracted radiology practices, including state prohibitions on fee-splitting, corporate practice of medicine and self-referrals;
- obtain regulatory approvals where necessary and comply with licensing and certification requirements applicable to our diagnostic imaging facilities, the contracted radiology practices and the physicians associated with the contracted radiology practices;
  - recruit a sufficient number of qualified radiology technologists and other non-medical personnel;
    - expand our infrastructure and management; and

• compete for opportunities. We may not be able to compete effectively for the acquisition of diagnostic imaging facilities. Our competitors may have more established operating histories and greater resources than we do. Competition may also make any acquisitions more expensive.

Acquisitions involve a number of special risks, including the following:

- inability to obtain adequate financing;
- possible adverse effects on our operating results;
- diversion of management's attention and resources;
  - failure to retain key personnel;
- difficulties in integrating new operations into our existing infrastructure; and
- amortization or write-offs of acquired intangible assets, including goodwill.

If we are unable to successfully grow our business through acquisitions it could have an adverse affect on our financial condition and results of operations.

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We may become subject to professional malpractice liability, which could be costly and negatively impact our business.

The physicians employed by our contracted radiology practices are from time to time subject to malpractice claims. We structure our relationships with the practices under our management agreements in a manner that we believe does not constitute the practice of medicine by us or subject us to professional malpractice claims for acts or omissions of physicians employed by the contracted radiology practices. Nevertheless, claims, suits or complaints relating to services provided by the contracted radiology practices have been asserted against us in the past and may be asserted against us in the future. In addition, we may be subject to professional liability claims, including, without limitation, for improper use or malfunction of our diagnostic imaging equipment or for accidental contamination or injury from exposure to radiation. We may not be able to maintain adequate liability insurance to protect us against those claims at acceptable costs or at all.

Any claim made against us that is not fully covered by insurance could be costly to defend, result in a substantial damage award against us and divert the attention of our management from our operations, all of which could have an adverse effect on our financial performance. In addition, successful claims against us may adversely affect our business or reputation. Although California places a \$250,000 limit on non-economic damages for medical malpractice cases, no limit applies to economic damages and no such limits exist in the other states in which we now provide services.

We may not receive payment from some of our healthcare provider customers because of their financial circumstances.

Some of our healthcare provider customers do not have significant financial resources, liquidity or access to capital. If these customers experience financial difficulties they may be unable to pay us for the equipment and services that we provide. A significant deterioration in general or local economic conditions could have a material adverse affect on the financial health of certain of our healthcare provider customers. As a result, we may have to increase the amounts of accounts receivables that we write-off, which would adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Some of our imaging modalities use radioactive materials, which generate regulated waste and could subject us to liabilities for injuries or violations of environmental and health and safety laws.

Some of our imaging procedures use radioactive materials, which generate medical and other regulated wastes. For example, patients are injected with a radioactive substance before undergoing a PET scan. Storage, use and disposal of these materials and waste products present the risk of accidental environmental contamination and physical injury. We are subject to federal, state and local regulations governing storage, handling and disposal of these materials. We could incur significant costs and the diversion of our management's attention in order to comply with current or future environmental and health and safety laws and regulations. Also, we cannot completely eliminate the risk of accidental contamination or injury from these hazardous materials. Although we believe that we maintain professional liability insurance coverage consistent with industry practice in the event of an accident, we could be held liable for any resulting damages, and any liability could exceed the limits of or fall outside the coverage of our professional liability insurance.

We experience competition from other diagnostic imaging companies and hospitals, and this competition could adversely affect our revenue and business.

The market for diagnostic imaging services is highly competitive. We compete principally on the basis of our reputation, our ability to provide multiple modalities at many of our facilities, the location of our facilities and the quality of our diagnostic imaging services. We compete locally with groups of radiologists, established hospitals,

clinics and other independent organizations that own and operate imaging equipment. Our competitors include Alliance Healthcare Services, Inc., Diagnostic Imaging Group, InSight Health Services Corp. and American Radiology Services. Some of our competitors may now or in the future have access to greater financial resources than we do and may have access to newer, more advanced equipment. In addition, some physician practices have established their own diagnostic imaging facilities within their group practices and compete with us. We are experiencing increased competition as a result of such activities, and if we are unable to successfully compete, our business and financial condition would be adversely affected.

State and federal anti-kickback and anti-self-referral laws may adversely affect income.

Various federal and state laws govern financial arrangements among healthcare providers. The federal Anti-Kickback Law prohibits the knowing and willful offer, payment, solicitation or receipt of any form of remuneration in return for, or to induce, the referral of Medicare, Medicaid, or other federal healthcare program patients, or in return for, or to induce, the purchase, lease or order of items or services that are covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or other federal healthcare programs. Similarly, many state laws prohibit the solicitation, payment or receipt of remuneration in return for, or to induce the referral of patients in private as well as government programs. Violation of these Anti-Kickback Laws may result in substantial civil or criminal penalties for individuals or entities and/or exclusion from federal or state healthcare programs. We believe we are operating in compliance with applicable law and believe that our arrangements with providers would not be found to violate the Anti-Kickback Laws. However, these laws could be interpreted in a manner inconsistent with our operations.

Federal law prohibiting physician self-referrals, known as the Stark Law, prohibits a physician from referring Medicare or Medicaid patients to an entity for certain "designated health services" if the physician has a prohibited financial relationship with that entity, unless an exception applies. Certain radiology services are considered "designated health services" under the Stark Law. Although we believe our operations do not violate the Stark Law, our activities may be challenged. If a challenge to our activities is successful, it could have an adverse effect on our operations. In addition, legislation may be enacted in the future that further addresses Medicare and Medicaid fraud and abuse or that imposes additional requirements or burdens on us.

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In addition, under the DRA, states enacting false claims statutes similar to the federal False Claims Act, which establish liability for submission of fraudulent claims to the State Medicaid program and contain qui tam or whistleblower provisions, receive an increased percentage of any recovery from a State Medicaid judgment or settlement. Adoption of new false claims statutes in states where we operate may impose additional requirements or burdens on us.

Technological change in our industry could reduce the demand for our services and require us to incur significant costs to upgrade our equipment.

The development of new technologies or refinements of existing modalities may require us to upgrade and enhance our existing equipment before we may otherwise intend. Many companies currently manufacture diagnostic imaging equipment. Competition among manufacturers for a greater share of the diagnostic imaging equipment market may result in technological advances in the speed and imaging capacity of new equipment. This may accelerate the obsolescence of our equipment, and we may not have the financial ability to acquire the new or improved equipment and may not be able to maintain a competitive equipment base. In addition, advances in technology may enable physicians and others to perform diagnostic imaging procedures without us. If we are unable to deliver our services in the efficient and effective manner that payors, physicians and patients expect and thus our revenue could substantially decrease.

A failure to meet our capital expenditure requirements could adversely affect our business.

We operate in a capital intensive, high fixed-cost industry that requires significant amounts of capital to fund operations, particularly the initial start-up and development expenses of new diagnostic imaging facilities and the acquisition of additional facilities and new diagnostic imaging equipment. We incur capital expenditures to, among other things, upgrade and replace existing equipment for existing facilities and expand within our existing markets and enter new markets. To the extent we are unable to generate sufficient cash from our operations, funds are not available from our lenders or we are unable to structure or obtain financing through operating leases, long-term installment notes or capital leases, we may be unable to meet our capital expenditure requirements.

Because we have high fixed costs, lower scan volumes per system could adversely affect our business.

The principal components of our expenses, excluding depreciation, consist of debt service, capital lease payments, compensation paid to technologists, salaries, real estate lease expenses and equipment maintenance costs. Because a majority of these expenses are fixed, a relatively small change in our revenue could have a disproportionate effect on our operating and financial results depending on the source of our revenue. Thus, decreased revenue as a result of lower scan volumes per system could result in lower margins, which could materially adversely affect our business.

Capitation fee arrangements could reduce our operating margins.

For the year ended December 31, 2009, we derived approximately 15% of our payments from capitation arrangements, and we intend to increase the revenue we derive from capitation arrangements in the future. Under capitation arrangements, the payor pays a pre-determined amount per-patient per-month in exchange for us providing all necessary covered services to the patients covered under the arrangement. These contracts pass much of the financial risk of providing diagnostic imaging services, including the risk of over-use, from the payor to the provider. Our success depends in part on our ability to negotiate effectively, on behalf of the contracted radiology practices and our diagnostic imaging facilities, contracts with health maintenance organizations, employer groups and other third-party payors for services to be provided on a capitated basis and to efficiently manage the utilization of those services. If we are not successful in managing the utilization of services under these capitation arrangements or if patients or enrollees covered by these contracts require more frequent or extensive care than anticipated, we would

incur unanticipated costs not offset by additional revenue, which would reduce operating margins.

We may be unable to effectively maintain our equipment or generate revenue when our equipment is not operational.

Timely, effective service is essential to maintaining our reputation and high use rates on our imaging equipment. Although we have an agreement with GE Medical Systems pursuant to which it maintains and repairs the majority of our imaging equipment, this agreement does not compensate us for loss of revenue when our systems are not fully operational and our business interruption insurance may not provide sufficient coverage for the loss of revenue. Also, GE Medical Systems may not be able to perform repairs or supply needed parts in a timely manner, which could result in a loss of revenue. Therefore, if we experience more equipment malfunctions than anticipated or if we are unable to promptly obtain the service necessary to keep our equipment functioning effectively, our ability to provide services would be adversely affected and our revenue could decline.

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Disruption or malfunction in our information systems could adversely affect our business.

Our information technology system is vulnerable to damage or interruption from:

- earthquakes, fires, floods and other natural disasters;
- power losses, computer systems failures, internet and telecommunications or data network failures, operator negligence, improper operation by or supervision of employees, physical and electronic losses of data and similar events; and
- computer viruses, penetration by hackers seeking to disrupt operations or misappropriate information and other breaches of security.

We rely on our information systems to perform functions critical to our ability to operate, including patient scheduling, billing, collections, image storage and image transmission. Accordingly, an extended interruption in the system's function could significantly curtail, directly and indirectly, our ability to conduct our business and generate revenue.

We are vulnerable to earthquakes, harsh weather and other natural disasters.

Our corporate headquarters and 97 of our facilities are located in California, an area prone to earthquakes and other natural disasters. Three of our facilities are located in an area of Florida that has suffered from hurricanes. Some of our facilities have been affected by snow and other harsh weather conditions. An earthquake, harsh weather conditions or other natural disaster could decrease scan volume during affected periods and seriously impair our operations. Damage to our equipment or interruption of our business would adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Complying with federal and state regulations is an expensive and time-consuming process, and any failure to comply could result in substantial penalties.

We are directly or indirectly through the radiology practices with which we contract subject to extensive regulation by both the federal government and the state governments in which we provide services, including:

- the federal False Claims Act;
- the federal Medicare and Medicaid Anti-Kickback Laws, and state anti-kickback prohibitions;
  - federal and state billing and claims submission laws and regulations;
- the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009, and comparable state laws;
- the federal physician self-referral prohibition commonly known as the Stark Law and the state equivalent of the Stark Law;
- state laws that prohibit the practice of medicine by non-physicians and prohibit fee-splitting arrangements involving physicians;

•

federal and state laws governing the diagnostic imaging and therapeutic equipment we use in our business concerning patient safety, equipment operating specifications and radiation exposure levels; and

• state laws governing reimbursement for diagnostic services related to services compensable under workers compensation rules.

If our operations are found to be in violation of any of the laws and regulations to which we or the radiology practices with which we contract are subject, we may be subject to the applicable penalty associated with the violation, including civil and criminal penalties, damages, fines and the curtailment of our operations. Any penalties, damages, fines or curtailment of our operations, individually or in the aggregate, could adversely affect our ability to operate our business and our financial results. The risks of our being found in violation of these laws and regulations is increased by the fact that many of them have not been fully interpreted by the regulatory authorities or the courts, and their provisions are open to a variety of interpretations. Any action brought against us for violation of these laws or regulations, even if we successfully defend against it, could cause us to incur significant legal expenses and divert our management's attention from the operation of our business.

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If we fail to comply with various licensure, certification and accreditation standards, we may be subject to loss of licensure, certification or accreditation, which would adversely affect our operations.

Ownership, construction, operation, expansion and acquisition of our diagnostic imaging facilities are subject to various federal and state laws, regulations and approvals concerning licensing of personnel, other required certificates for certain types of healthcare facilities and certain medical equipment. In addition, freestanding diagnostic imaging facilities that provide services independent of a physician's office must be enrolled by Medicare as an independent diagnostic treatment facility, or IDTF, to bill the Medicare program. Medicare carriers have discretion in applying the IDTF requirements and therefore the application of these requirements may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. In addition, federal legislation requires all suppliers that provide the technical component of diagnostic MRI, PET/CT, CT, and nuclear medicine to be accredited by an accreditation organization designated by CMS (which currently include the American College of Radiology (ACR), the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) and the Joint Commission) by January 1, 2012. Our MRI, CT, nuclear medicine, ultrasound and mammography facilities are currently accredited by the American College of Radiology. We may not be able to receive the required regulatory approvals or accreditation for any future acquisitions, expansions or replacements, and the failure to obtain these approvals could limit the opportunity to expand our services.

Our facilities are subject to periodic inspection by governmental and other authorities to assure continued compliance with the various standards necessary for licensure and certification. If any facility loses its certification under the Medicare program, then the facility will be ineligible to receive reimbursement from the Medicare and Medicaid programs. For the year ended December 31, 2009, approximately 23% of our net revenue came from the Medicare and Medicaid programs. A change in the applicable certification status of one of our facilities could adversely affect our other facilities and in turn us as a whole. We have experienced a slowdown in the credentialing of our physicians over the last several years which has lengthened our billing and collection cycle, and could negatively impact our ability to collect revenue from patients covered by Medicare. Credentialing of physicians is required by our payors prior to commencing payment.

Our agreements with the contracted radiology practices must be structured to avoid the corporate practice of medicine and fee-splitting.

State law prohibits us from exercising control over the medical judgments or decisions of physicians and from engaging in certain financial arrangements, such as splitting professional fees with physicians. These laws are enforced by state courts and regulatory authorities, each with broad discretion. A component of our business has been to enter into management agreements with radiology practices. We provide management, administrative, technical and other non-medical services to the radiology practices in exchange for a service fee typically based on a percentage of the practice's revenue. We structure our relationships with the radiology practices, including the purchase of diagnostic imaging facilities, in a manner that we believe keeps us from engaging in the practice of medicine or exercising control over the medical judgments or decisions of the radiology practices or their physicians, or violating the prohibitions against fee-splitting. There can be no assurance that our present arrangements with BRMG or the physicians providing medical services and medical supervision at our imaging facilities will not be challenged, and, if challenged, that they will not be found to violate the corporate practice of medicine or fee splitting prohibitions, thus subjecting us to potential damages, injunction and/or civil and criminal penalties or require us to restructure our arrangements in a way that would affect the control or quality of our services and/or change the amounts we receive under our management agreements. Any of these results could jeopardize our business.

Future federal legislation could limit the prices we can charge for our services, which would reduce our revenue and adversely affect our operating results.

In addition to extensive existing government healthcare regulation, there have been and continue to be numerous initiatives at the federal and state levels for reforms affecting the payment for and availability of healthcare services, including proposals that would significantly limit reimbursement under the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Limitations on reimbursement amounts and other cost containment pressures have in the past resulted in a decrease in the revenue we receive for each scan we perform. For example, the DRA, which was signed into law on February 8, 2006, contained provisions affecting Medicare payment for imaging services furnished in a number of settings.

Currently pending before the United States Congress is healthcare reform legislation which, if enacted, could affect the amount of reimbursement from federally-funded health care programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. Changes in reimbursement for services rendered to beneficiaries of Medicare managed care or Medicare Advantage plans, may also impact our finances in general. We cannot predict at this time the nature of the final reform legislation, whether current initiatives will be finalized and their effects on radiology service providers such as us.

Our substantial debt could adversely affect our financial condition and prevent us from fulfilling our obligations.

Our current substantial indebtedness and any future indebtedness we incur could adversely affect our financial condition, which could make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations to our creditors. As of December 31, 2009, our total indebtedness was \$423.6 million. Our substantial indebtedness could also:

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- require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our debt, reducing the availability of our cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes;
  - increase our vulnerability to adverse general economic and industry conditions;
- limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate;
  - place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt; and
  - limit our ability to borrow additional funds on terms that are satisfactory to us or at all.

We will be able to incur substantial additional indebtedness in the future. Although our existing credit facilities contain restrictions on the incurrence of additional indebtedness, these restrictions are subject to a number of significant qualifications and exceptions, and under certain circumstances, the amount of indebtedness that could be incurred in compliance with these restrictions could be substantial. If new indebtedness is added to our current debt levels, the related risks that we now face could intensify.

If we are unable to generate or borrow sufficient cash to make payments on our indebtedness or to refinance our indebtedness on acceptable terms, our financial condition would be materially harmed, our business may fail and you may lose all of your investment.

Our ability to make scheduled payments on or to refinance our obligations with respect to our debt will depend on our financial and operating performance, which will be affected by general economic, financial, competitive, business and other factors beyond our control. As a result of the recent global market and economic conditions, the cost and availability of credit and equity capital have been severely impacted. We cannot assure you that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations or that future borrowings will be available to us in an amount sufficient to enable us to service our debt or to fund our other liquidity needs. If we are unable to meet our debt obligations or fund our other liquidity needs, we may need to restructure or refinance all or a portion of our debt on or before maturity or sell certain of our assets. We cannot assure you that we will be able to restructure or refinance any of our debt on commercially reasonable terms, if at all, which could cause us to default on our debt obligations and impair our liquidity. Any refinancing of our debt could be at higher interest rates and may require us to comply with more onerous covenants, which could further restrict our business operations.

Possible volatility in our stock price could negatively affect us and our stockholders.

The trading price of our common stock on the NASDAQ Global Market has fluctuated significantly in the past. During the period from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2009, the trading price of our common stock fluctuated from a high of \$10.57 per share to a low of \$0.85 per share. In the past, we have experienced a drop in stock price following an announcement of disappointing earnings or earnings guidance. Any such announcement in the future could lead to a similar drop in stock price. The price of our common stock could also be subject to wide fluctuations in the future as a result of a number of other factors, including the following:

- changes in expectations as to future financial performance or buy/sell recommendations of securities analysts;
- our, or a competitor's, announcement of new services, or significant acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments; and
  - the operating and stock price performance of other comparable companies.

In addition, the U.S. securities markets have experienced significant price and volume fluctuations. These fluctuations often have been unrelated to the operating performance of companies in these markets. Broad market and industry factors may lead to volatility in the price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance. Moreover, our stock has limited trading volume, and this illiquidity may increase the volatility of our stock price.

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of an individual company's securities, securities class action litigation often has been instituted against that company. The institution of similar litigation against us could result in substantial costs and a diversion of management's attention and resources, which could negatively affect our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law and our organizational documents may discourage an acquisition of us.

In the future, we could become the subject of an unsolicited attempted takeover of our company. Although an unsolicited takeover could be in the best interests of our stockholders, our organizational documents and the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware both contain provisions that will impede the removal of directors and may discourage a third-party from making a proposal to acquire us. For example, the provisions:

- permit the board of directors to increase its own size, within the maximum limitations set forth in the bylaws, and fill the resulting vacancies;
- authorize the issuance of additional shares of preferred stock in one or more series without a stockholder vote; and
- establish an advance notice procedure for stockholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting of our stockholders, including proposed nominations of persons for election to the board of directors.

We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control.

Item 1B.	Unresolved Staff Comments
None.	
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#### Item 2. Properties

Our corporate headquarters is located in adjoining premises at 1508, 1510 and 1516 Cotner Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90025, in approximately 21,500 square feet occupied under leases, which expire (with options to extend) on June 30, 2017. In addition, we lease approximately 60,000 square feet of warehouse and other space under leases nationwide, which expire at various dates through August 2020. We also have a regional office of approximately 39,000 square feet in Baltimore, Maryland under a lease, which expires September 30, 2012. Our facility lease terms vary in length from month to month to 15 years with renewal options upon prior written notice, from 1 year to 10 years depending upon the agreed upon terms with the local landlord. Facility lease amounts generally increase from 1% to 6% on an annual basis. We do not have options to purchase the facilities we rent.

#### Item 3. Legal Proceedings

We are engaged from time to time in the defense of lawsuits arising out of the ordinary course and conduct of our business. We believe that the outcome of our current litigation will not have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations. However, we could be subsequently named as a defendant in other lawsuits that could adversely affect us.

Item 4. (Removed and Reserved)

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#### **PART II**

Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Our common stock is quoted on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "RDNT." The following table indicates the high and low prices for our common stock for the periods indicated based upon information supplied by the NASDAQ Global Market.

	Low		High	
Quarter Ended				
December 31, 2009	\$	1.90	\$	3.39
September 30, 2009		2.01		3.18
June 30, 2009		1.00		2.79
March 31, 2009		0.85		3.96
December 31, 2008	\$	1.90	\$	5.16
September 30, 2008		2.94		6.90
June 30, 2008		6.00		8.00
March 31, 2008		5.99		10.12

The last low and high prices for our common stock on the NASDAQ Global Market on March 10, 2010 were \$2.36 and \$2.40, respectively. As of March 10, 2010, the number of holders of record of our common stock was 685. However, Cede & Co., the nominee for The Depository Trust Company, the clearing agency for most broker-dealers, owned a substantial number of our outstanding shares of common stock of record on that date. Our management believes that the number of beneficial owners of our common stock is approximately 4,000.

#### Stock Performance Graph

The following graph compares the yearly percentage change in cumulative total stockholder return of the Company's Common Stock during the period from 2004 to 2009 with (i) the cumulative total return of the S&P500 index and (ii) the cumulative total return of the S&P500 – Healthcare Sector index. The comparison assumes \$100 was invested in October 29, 2004 in the Common Stock and in each of the foregoing indices and the reinvestment of dividends through January 1, 2010. The stock price performance on the following graph is not necessarily indicative of future stock price performance.

This graph shall not be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this Form 10-K into any filing under the Securities Act or under the Exchange Act, except to the extent that RadNet specifically incorporates this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under such Acts.

We did not pay dividends in fiscal 2008 or 2009 and we do not expect to pay any dividends in the foreseeable future.

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# Total Return To Stockholders (Includes reinvestment of dividends)

# ANNUAL RETURN PERCENTAGE Years Ending

Company / Index		10/31/05	10/31/06	12/29/06	12/31/07	12/31/08	12/31/09
RadNet, Inc.	-33.93	594.59	-10.12	119.70	-67.00	-39.10	
S&P 500 Index	8.72	16.34	3.33	5.49	-37.00	26.46	
S&P Health Care Se	ector	9.57	11.36	0.91	7.15	-22.81	19.70
			INDE	XED RETUR	NS		
	Base		Y	ears Ending			
	D ' 1						
	Period						
Company / Index	Period 10/29/04	10/31/05	10/31/06	12/29/06	12/31/07	12/31/08	12/31/09
Company / Index RadNet, Inc.		10/31/05 66.07	10/31/06 458.93	12/29/06 412.50	12/31/07 906.25	12/31/08 299.11	12/31/09 182.14
•	10/29/04						
RadNet, Inc.	10/29/04 100	66.07	458.93	412.50	906.25	299.11	182.14
RadNet, Inc. S&P 500 Index	10/29/04 100	66.07	458.93	412.50	906.25	299.11	182.14

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# Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, we sold the following securities pursuant to an exemption from registration provided under Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended:

•In October 2009, we issued 50,000 shares of our common stock to an individual as part of the purchase price for acquisition of an imaging center in Greece, New York.

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#### Item 6. Selected Consolidated Financial Data

The following table sets forth our selected historical consolidated financial data. The selected consolidated statements of operations data set forth below for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007, and the consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere herein. The selected historical consolidated statements of operations data set forth below for the years ended October 31, 2006 and 2005, and the consolidated balance sheet data set forth below as of October 31, 2006 and 2005 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements not included herein. This data should be read in conjunction with and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the audited consolidated financial statements and the related notes included elsewhere in this Form 10-K and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

The financial data set forth below and discussed in this Annual Report are derived from the consolidated financial statements of RadNet, its subsidiaries and certain affiliates. As a result of the contractual and operational relationship among BRMG, Dr. Berger and us, we are considered to have a controlling financial interest in BRMG pursuant to applicable accounting guidance. Due to the deemed controlling financial interest, we are required to include BRMG as a consolidated entity in our consolidated financial statements. This means, for example, that revenue generated by BRMG from the provision of professional medical services to our patients, as well as BRMG's costs of providing those services, are included as net revenue in our consolidated statement of operations, whereas the management fee that BRMG pays to us under our management agreement with BRMG is eliminated as a result of the consolidation of our results with those of BRMG. Also, because BRMG is a consolidated entity in our financial statements, any borrowings or advances we have received from or made to BRMG have been eliminated in our consolidated balance sheet. If BRMG were not treated as a consolidated entity in our consolidated financial statements, the presentation of certain items in our income statement, such as net revenue and costs and expenses, would change but our net income would not, because in operation and historically, the annual revenue of BRMG from all sources closely approximates its expenses, including Dr. Berger's compensation, fees payable to us and amounts payable to third parties.

	Years Ended December 31,			,		nths Ended ober 31,		Years Ended October 31,	
	2009	2008	2007	2006 (unaudited)		2006	2005 (unaudited	2006	2005
	(dollars in	thousands, e	xcept per sh	are data)					
Statement of Operations Data:									
Net revenue	\$ 524,368	\$ 498,815	\$ 423,576	\$ 192,859	\$	57,374	\$ 22,52	20 \$ 161,005	\$ 145,573
Operating expenses	397,753	384,297	330,550	147,226		46,033	19,14	19 120,342	109,012
Depreciation and amortization	53,800	53,548	45,281	19,542		5,907	2,75	59 16,394	17,536
Provision for bad bebts	32,704	30,832	27,467	10,707		3,907	82	26 7,626	4,929
Loss (gain) on disposal of equipment, net	523	516	72	335		(38)		- 373	696
Gain on bargin purchase	(1,387)	-	-	-		-			-
	-	-	(1,868)	-		_			-

Gain from sale of joint venture								
interests								
Net loss								
attributable to								
RadNet, Inc.								
common								
stockholders	(2,267)	(12,836)	(18,131)	(17,722)	(10,983)	(155)	(6,894)	(3,570)
Basic and diluted								
loss per share	(0.06)	(0.36)	(0.52)	(0.57)	(0.35)	(0.01)	(0.33)	(0.17)
Balance Sheet								
Data:								
~								
Cash and cash		Φ.	4.0	<b>.</b>			<b>.</b>	
equivalents	\$ 10,094			\$ 3,221	\$ 3,221	\$ 2	\$ 2	\$ 2
Total assets	480,671	495,572	433,620	394,766	394,766	119,112	131,636	117,784
Total long-term	176 707	460.004	100 = 10	201.002	201.002	22 706	150.000	22.040
liabilities	456,727	469,994	428,743	381,903	381,903	23,586	179,288	23,840
Total liabilities	555,432	576,602	503,244	440,508	440,508	189,725	210,430	191,866
Working capital	0.004		22.100	24.220	24.220	(1.11.70.6)	• 006	(1.10.100)
(deficit)	9,204	2,720	23,180	31,230	31,230	(141,586)	2,896	(143,430)
Stockholders'		(0.4.0.0.)					.=====.	/= / 00 <b>-</b> \
deficit	(74,761)	(81,030)	(69,830)	(46,996)	(46,996)	(70,613)	(78,794)	(74,082)
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Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Overview

**Business Overview** 

With 180 centers located in California, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Florida, Kansas and New York, we are the leading national provider of freestanding, fixed-site outpatient diagnostic imaging services in the United States based on number of locations. Our centers provide physicians with imaging capabilities to facilitate the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders and may reduce unnecessary invasive procedures, often minimizing the cost and amount of care for patients. Our services include magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT), positron emission tomography (PET), nuclear medicine, mammography, ultrasound, diagnostic radiology (X-ray), fluoroscopy and other related procedures. The vast majority of our centers offer multi-modality imaging services, a key point of differentiation from our competitors. Our multi-modality strategy diversifies revenue streams, reduces exposure to reimbursement changes, and provides patients and referring physicians one location to serve the needs of multiple procedures.

We seek to develop regional markets in order to leverage operational efficiencies. Our scale and density within our selected geographies provides close, long-term relationships with key payors, radiology groups and referring physicians. Each of our facility managers is responsible for meeting our standards of patient service, managing relationships with local physicians and payors and maintaining profitability. We provide corporate training programs, standardized policies and procedures and sharing of best practices among our regional networks.

As of December 31, 2009, we had in operation 139 MRI systems, 79 CT systems, 32 PET or combination PET/CT systems, 40 nuclear medicine systems, 155 x-ray systems, 122 mammography systems and 86 fluoroscopy systems.

Our revenue is derived from a diverse mix of payors, including private payors, managed care capitated payors and government payors. We believe our payor diversity mitigates our exposure to possible unfavorable reimbursement trends within any one-payor class. In addition, our experience with capitation arrangements over the last several years has provided us with the expertise to manage utilization and pricing effectively, resulting in a predictable stream of revenue. As of December 31, 2009, we received approximately 56% of our payments from commercial insurance payors, 15% from managed care capitated payors, 20% from Medicare and 3% from Medicaid. With the exception of Blue Cross/Blue Shield and government payors, no single payor accounted for more than 5% of our net revenue for the twelve months ended December 31, 2009.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Radnet Management and BRMG. The consolidated financial statements also include Radnet Management I, Inc., Radnet Management II, Inc., Radiologix, Inc., Radnet Management Imaging Services, Inc., Delaware Imaging Partners, Inc., New Jersey Imaging Partners, Inc. and Diagnostic Imaging Services, Inc. (DIS), all wholly owned subsidiaries of Radnet Management. All of these affiliated entities are referred to collectively as "RadNet", "we", "us," "our" or the "Company" in this report.

### Recent Developments

On February 28, 2010, we amended and extended for approximately five additional years our arrangement with GE Medical Systems under which it has agreed to be responsible for the maintenance and repair of a majority of our equipment through 2017. Under this amended contract, we have obtained lower pricing for the maintenance and repair of the majority of our advanced imaging equipment and we will be eligible to earn rebates from purchasing other General Electric products and services, such as medical equipment and information technology. We believe this revised GE Medical Systems contract will provide us significant cost savings through the term of the agreement.

On March 12, 2010, as part of a plan to refinance our existing revolving line of credit, term loan B and second lien credit facility, that matures in 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively, together with Radnet Management, Inc., our wholly owned subsidiary, we entered into a commitment and term loan engagement letter (or, the Commitment Letter) with Barclays Capital (the investment banking division of Barclays Bank PLC), Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, General Electric Capital Corporation, GE Capital Markets, Inc., Royal Bank of Canada, RBC Capital Markets (the brand name for the capital markets activities of Royal Bank of Canada and its affiliates) and Jefferies Finance LLC (together, the Banks). Under the Commitment Letter, these Banks have severally committed, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Commitment Letter, to provide us with proposed new \$100 million senior secured revolving credit facility expiring on the fifth anniversary of the closing of the financing (or, the new revolving credit facility), and we have agreed to seek commitments for a new \$275 million senior secured term loan maturing on the sixth anniversary of the closing of the financing (or, the new term loan credit facility and together with the new revolving credit facility, the new senior secured credit facilities).

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While the new term loan credit facility will be raised using the Banks best efforts, the new revolving credit facility is committed by the Banks, and would be undrawn at close and available to us upon successfully raising the new term loan credit facility. Radnet Management, Inc. will be the borrower under the new senior secured credit facilities. The new senior secured credit facilities will be unconditionally guaranteed by us, all current and future domestic restricted subsidiaries as well as certain affiliates of Radnet Management, Inc. The new senior secured credit facilities will be secured by a perfected first priority security interest in all of our and the guarantors' tangible and intangible assets, including, but not limited to, a stock pledge of all current and future subsidiary guarantors.

In addition, we intend to offer approximately \$210 million aggregate principal amount of senior unsecured debt securities due 2018 (or, the notes) to qualified institutional buyers in a private placement, subject to market and other conditions. The notes will be issued by Radnet Management, Inc., our wholly-owned subsidiary, and guaranteed by us and the subsidiaries that guarantee our new senior secured credit facilities, on a full and unconditional basis.

We expect to close the senior note issuance and the new senior secured credit facilities concurrently in April 2010, and the closing of each would be conditioned upon the closing of the other. The refinancing, upon completion, would extend the maturity of our debt, increase the size of our revolving credit facility by approximately \$45 million and further enhance our liquidity by approximately \$25 million of cash we intend to fund to our balance sheet upon closing the refinancing transaction.

On March 15, 2010, we announced that we had entered into letters of intent to acquire the business of the Truxton Medical Group in Bakersfield, California, and the New Jersey operating subsidiary of Health Diagnostics, the cash consideration for which will be financed from a portion of the net proceeds of the New Credit Facilities and the notes. We expect that aggregate consideration for the target acquisitions will be approximately \$24.5 million, plus the issuance of 375,000 shares of our common stock. The acquisitions are subject to the execution of definitive agreements and customary closing conditions. Truxton Medical Group offers a broad range of services, including MRI, CT, PET/CT, mammography, nuclear medicine, fluoroscopy, ultrasound, x-ray and related procedures. The facilities included in the New Jersey acquisition operate a combination of MRI, CT, PET/CT, mammography, ultrasound and x-ray.

#### **Industry Trends**

Prior to 2007, for services for which we bill Medicare directly, we were paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, which is updated on an annual basis. Under the Medicare statutory formula, payments under the Physician Fee Schedule would have decreased for the past several years if Congress failed to intervene. For example, for 2008, the fee schedule rates were to be reduced by approximately 10.1%. The Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 eliminated the 10.1% reduction for 2008 and increased the annual payment rate update by 0.5%. This increase to the annual Medicare Physician Fee Schedule payment update was effective only for Medicare claims with dates of service between January 1, 2008 and June 30, 2008. Beginning July 1, 2008, under MIPPA, the 0.5% increase was continued for the rest of 2008. In addition, MIPPA established a 1.1% increase to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule payment update for 2009. For 2010, the CMS' are projecting a rate reduction of 21.2% unless Congress intervenes again to avoid the payment reduction. Federal legislative proposals have been introduced to prevent the rate reduction. In the meantime, under legislation signed by President Obama, the 2009 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule payment rates are effective for claims through March 31, 2010.

MIPPA also modified the methodology by which the budget neutrality formula was applied to the 2009 physician fee schedule payment rates, resulting in an overall reduction in payment rates for services performed by many specialties, including an estimated 1% reduction for nuclear medicine. The impact of the payment rates on specific companies depends on their service mix. Also with respect to MIPPA, the legislation requires all suppliers that provide the

technical component of diagnostic MRI, PET/CT, CT, and nuclear medicine to be accredited by an accreditation organization designated by CMS (which currently include the American College of Radiology (ACR), the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) and The Joint Commission) by January 1, 2012. Our MRI, CT, nuclear medicine, ultrasound and mammography facilities are currently accredited by the American College of Radiology.

A number of other legislative changes impact our retail business. For example, beginning on January 1, 2007, the DRA imposed caps on Medicare payment rates for certain imaging services furnished in physician's offices and other non-hospital based settings. Under the cap, payments for specified imaging services cannot exceed the hospital outpatient payment rates for those services. The limitation is applicable to the technical components of the diagnostic imaging services only, which is the payment we receive for the services for which we bill directly under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. CMS issues on an annual basis the hospital outpatient prospective payment rates, which are used to develop the caps. If the technical component of the service established under the Physician Fee Schedule (without including geographic adjustments) exceeds the hospital outpatient payment amount for the service (also without including geographic adjustments), then the payment is to be reduced. In other words, in those instances where the technical component for the particular service is greater for the non-hospital site, the DRA directs that the hospital outpatient payment rate be substituted for the otherwise applicable Physician Fee Schedule payment rate.

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The DRA also codified the reduction in reimbursement for multiple images on contiguous body parts, which was previously announced by CMS. The DRA mandated payment at 100% of the technical component of the higher priced imaging procedure and 50% for the technical component of each additional imaging procedure for multiple images of contiguous body parts within a family of codes performed in the same session. Initially, CMS announced that it would phase in this reimbursement reduction over a two-year period, to include a 25% reduction for each additional imaging procedure on contiguous body parts in 2006 and an additional 25% reduction in 2007. To date, CMS has not yet implemented the additional 25% reduction scheduled for 2007. Congress is currently considering legislative proposals that would require CMS to implement the percentage reduction from 25% to 50%. It is unclear whether this federal legislation will be passed.

Regulatory updates to payment rates for which we bill the Medicare program directly are published annually by CMS. For payments under the Physician Fee Schedule for calendar year 2010, CMS changed the way it calculates components of the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. First, CMS reduced payment rates for certain diagnostic services using equipment costing more than \$1 million through revisions to usage assumptions from the current 50% usage rate to a 90% usage rate. This change applied to MRI and CT scans. Congress is currently considering legislative proposals that would result in lower usage assumptions and, if finalized, would supersede CMS's regulatory changes. Further with respect to its 2010 changes, CMS also reduced payment for services primarily involving the technical component rather than the physician work component, including the services we provide, by adjusting downward malpractice payments for these services. The reductions primarily impact radiology and other diagnostic tests. After 2010, CMS will further reduce payments each year through 2013 by increasing the usage assumption rate to 90% and further adjusting downward malpractice payments and other components of the technical component on our reimbursement. CMS projects that the combined impact on Medicare reimbursement of these changes, when fully implemented will result in an estimated 16% reduction in radiology, 23% reduction in nuclear medicine and 34% reduction for all suppliers providing diagnostic tests generally. These impacts are calculated prior to any application of the projected negative update factor of 21.2% related to MIPPA (which will be implemented in April 2010 unless Congress intervenes) and may impact our future revenues.

Currently pending before the United States Congress is health care reform legislation which, if enacted, could affect the amount of reimbursement from federally-funded health care programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. Changes in reimbursement for services rendered to beneficiaries of Medicare managed care or Medicare Advantage plans, may also impact on our finances in general. We cannot predict at this time the nature of the final reform legislation, whether current initiatives will be finalized or their effects on radiology service providers such as us.

Recent global market and economic conditions have been unprecedented. Concerns about the potential long-term and wide-spread recession, inflation, energy costs, geopolitical issues, the availability and cost of credit, the United States mortgage market and a declining real estate market in the United States have contributed to increased market volatility and diminished expectations for the United States economy. These conditions, combined with declining business and consumer confidence and increased unemployment, have contributed to unusual volatility. At this time, it is unclear what impact this might have on our future revenues or business.

As a result of these market conditions, the cost and availability of credit has been and may continue to be adversely affected by illiquid credit markets and wider credit spreads. Concern about the stability of the markets generally and the strength of counterparties specifically has led many lenders and institutional investors to reduce, and in some cases, cease to provide funding to borrowers. If market conditions continue, they may limit our ability to timely access the capital markets to meet liquidity needs, resulting in adverse effects on our financial condition and results of operations.

**Results of Operations** 

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the percentage that certain items in the statement of operations bears to net revenue.

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# RADNET, INC .. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	Years Ended December 31,			
	2009	2008	2007	
NET REVENUE	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
1,21,12,12,102	100.070	100.070	100.070	
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Operating expenses	75.9%	77.0%	78.0%	
Depreciation and amortization	10.3%	10.7%	10.7%	
Provision for bad debts	6.2%	6.2%	6.5%	
Loss on sale of equipment	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	
Severance costs	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	
Total operating expenses	92.6%	94.1%	95.5%	
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	7.4%	5.9%	4.5%	
OTHER EXPENSES (INCOME)				
Interest expense	9.4%	10.4%	10.5%	
Gain on bargain purchase	-0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	
Gain from sale of joint venture interests	0.0%	0.0%	-0.4%	
Other expenses (income)	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	
Total other expenses	9.4%	10.4%	10.0%	
LOSS BEFORE INCOME TAXES AND EQUITY IN EARNINGS OF				
JOINT VENTURES	-1.9%	-4.5%	-5.5%	
Provision for income taxes	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	
Equity in earnings of joint ventures	1.6%	2.0%	1.4%	
NET LOSS	-0.4%	-2.6%	-4.1%	
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	
NET LOSS ATTRIBUTABLE TO RADNET, INC. COMMON				
STOCKHOLDERS	-0.4%	-2.6%	-4.3%	

Year Ended December 31, 2009 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2008

#### Net Revenue

Net revenue for the year ended December 31, 2009 was \$524.4 million compared to \$498.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008, an increase of \$25.6 million, or 5.1%.

Net revenue, including only those centers which were in operation throughout the full fiscal years of both 2009 and 2008, increased \$8.1 million, or 1.8%. This 1.8% increase is mainly due to an increase in procedure volumes. This comparison excludes revenue contributions from centers that were acquired or divested subsequent to January 1, 2008. For the year ended December 31, 2009, net revenue from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1,

2008 and excluded from the above comparison was \$71.0 million. For the year ended December 31, 2008, net revenue from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2008 and excluded from the above comparison was \$47.7 million. Also excluded was \$5.8 million from centers that were divested subsequent to January 1, 2008.

## **Operating Expenses**

Operating expenses for the year ended December 31, 2009 increased approximately \$13.5 million, or 3.5%, from \$384.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 to \$397.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The following table sets forth our operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 (in thousands):

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2000

Years Ended December 31.

2008

53,548

30,832

469,528

516

335

	2009	2008	
Salaries and professional reading			
fees, excluding stock-based compensation	\$ 215,095	\$	210,450
Stock-based compensation	3,607		2,902
Building and equipment rental	43,346		43,478
Medical supplies	32,507		29,848
Other operating expense *	103,198		97,619
Operating expenses	397,753		384,297

Depreciation and amortization

Loss on sale of equipment, net

Provision for bad debts

Total operating expenses

Severance costs

\* Includes billing fees, office supplies, repairs and maintenance, insurance, business tax and license, outside services, utilities, marketing, travel and other expenses.

485,511

53,800

32,704

523

731

\$

Salaries and professional reading fees, excluding stock-based compensation and severance

Salaries and professional reading fees increased \$4.6 million, or 2.2%, to \$215.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, compared to \$210.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2008.

\$

Salaries and professional reading fees, including only those centers which were in operation throughout the full fiscal years of both 2009 and 2008, decreased \$1.9 million, or 1.0%. This 1.0% decrease is primarily due to cost cutting measures implemented in the third quarter of 2008. This comparison excludes contributions from centers that were acquired or divested subsequent to January 1, 2008. For the year ended December 31, 2009, salaries and professional reading fees from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2008 and excluded from the above comparison was \$26.6 million. For the year ended December 31, 2008, salaries and professional reading fees from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2008, and excluded from the above comparison was \$17.1 million. Also excluded was \$3.0 million from centers that were divested subsequent to January 1, 2008.

Stock-based compensation

Stock-based compensation increased \$705,000, or 24.3%, to \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to \$2.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. The increase is primarily due to additional options granted during the first half of 2009, some of which were fully vested on the date of grant.

Building and equipment rental

Building and equipment rental expenses decreased \$132,000, or 0.3%, to \$43.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, compared to \$43.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2008.

Building and equipment rental expenses, including only those centers which were in operation throughout the full fiscal years of both 2009 and 2008, decreased \$2.4 million, or 6.1%. This 6.1% decrease is primarily due to the conversion of certain equipment lease contracts from operating to capital leases in the first quarter of 2009. This comparison excludes contributions from centers that were acquired or divested subsequent to January 1, 2008. For the

year ended December 31, 2009, building and equipment rental expenses from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2008, and excluded from the above comparison, was \$6.2 million. For the year ended December 31, 2008, building and equipment rental expenses from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2008, and excluded from the above comparison, was \$3.6 million. Also excluded was \$328,000 from centers that were divested subsequent to January 1, 2008.

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## Medical supplies

Medical supplies expense increased \$2.7 million, or 8.9%, to \$32.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, compared to \$29.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008.

Medical supplies expenses, including only those centers which were in operation throughout the full fiscal years of both 2009 and 2008, increased \$1.3 million, or 6.4%. This 6.4% increase is in line with procedure volumes and net revenues generated at these existing centers. This comparison excludes contributions from centers that were acquired or divested subsequent to January 1, 2008. For the year ended December 31, 2009, medical supplies expense from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2008, and excluded from the above comparison was \$11.5 million. For the year ended December 31, 2008, medical supplies expense from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2008, and excluded from the above comparison was \$9.6 million. Also excluded from the above comparison was \$500,000 from centers that were divested subsequent to January 1, 2008.

## Depreciation and amortization expense

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$252,000, or 0.4%, to \$53.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 when compared to the same period last year. The increase is due in part to increases to depreciation expense on new imaging equipment offset by the completion of amortization schedules related to covenant-not-to-compete contracts in early 2009.

### Provision for bad debts

Provision for bad debts increased \$1.9 million, or 6.0%, to \$32.7 million, or 6.2% of net revenue, for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to \$30.8 million, or 6.2% of net revenue, for the year ended December 31, 2008. This increase is in line with the increase in net revenues.

### Loss on sale of equipment

Loss on sale of equipment was \$523,000 and \$516,000 for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. In both years, this loss resulted from the sale of imaging equipment for scrape value upon acquisition of upgraded equipment.

## Severance costs

During the year ended December 31, 2009, we recorded severance costs of \$731,000 compared to \$335,000 recorded during the year ended December 31, 2008. In each period, these costs were primarily associated with the integration of Radiologix and other acquired operations.

### Interest expense

Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2009 was \$49.2 million compared to \$51.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. The interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2009 includes \$6.1 million of amortization associated with a swap agreement that expired in April 2009 and the modification of two interest rate swaps designated as cash flow hedges (see Liquidity and Capital Resources below) and amortization of deferred loan costs of \$2.7 million. Excluding the \$6.1 million one-time amortization, interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2009 decreased by \$8.7 million when compared to the prior year. This decrease is primarily due to a \$9.7 million decrease in interest expense on our senior debt, partially offset by a \$1.6 million increase in interest expense on our interest rate swaps for the year ended December 31, 2009 as compared to the prior year.

## Gain on bargain purchase

On June 12, 2009, we acquired the assets and business of nine imaging centers located in New Jersey from Medical Resources, Inc. for approximately \$2.1 million. At the time of the acquisition, we immediately sold the assets and business of one of those nine centers to an unrelated third party for approximately \$650,000. We have made a preliminary purchase price allocation of the acquired assets and liabilities associated with the remaining eight centers at their respective fair values.

In accordance with accounting standards, any excess of fair value of acquired net assets over the acquisition consideration results in a gain on bargain purchase. Prior to recording a gain, the acquiring entity must reassess whether all acquired assets and assumed liabilities have been identified and recognized and perform re-measurements to verify that the consideration paid, assets acquired, and liabilities assumed have been properly valued. The Company underwent such a reassessment, and as a result, has recorded a gain on bargain purchase of approximately \$1.4 million.

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We believe that the gain on bargain purchase resulted from various factors that impacted the sale of those New Jersey assets. The seller was performing a full liquidation of its assets for the benefit of its creditors. Upon liquidation of all of its assets, the seller intended to close its business. The New Jersey assets were the only remaining assets to be sold before a full wind-down of the seller's business could be completed. We believe that the seller was willing to accept a bargain purchase price from us in return for our ability to act more quickly and with greater certainty than any other prospective acquirer. The decline in the credit markets made it difficult for other acquirers who relied upon third party financing to complete the transaction. The relatively small size of the transaction for us, the lack of required third-party financing and our expertise in completing similar transactions in the past gave the seller confidence that we could complete the transaction expeditiously and without difficulty.

Other expense (income)

For the year ended December 31, 2009, we recorded \$1.2 million of other expense primarily related to litigation.

Income tax expense

For the year ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, we recorded \$443,000 and \$151,000, respectively, for income tax expense primarily related to taxable income generated in the states of Maryland and Delaware.

Equity in earnings from unconsolidated joint ventures

For the year ended December 31, 2009, we recognized equity in earnings from unconsolidated joint ventures of \$8.5 million compared to \$9.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This variance is due to a combination of decreases in our collection rates and increases in our repair and maintenance costs associated with new equipment transitioning from warranty to maintenance contracts in the third quarter of 2009.

Year Ended December 31, 2008 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2007

Net Revenue

Net revenue for the year ended December 31, 2008 was \$498.8 million compared to \$423.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2007, an increase of \$75.2 million, or 17.5%.

Net revenue, including only those centers which were in operation throughout the full fiscal years of both 2008 and 2007, increased \$27.2 million, or 6.8%. This 6.8% increase is mainly due to an increase in procedure volumes. This comparison excludes revenue contributions from centers that were acquired or divested subsequent to January 1, 2007. For the year ended December 31, 2008, net revenue from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2007 and excluded from the above comparison was \$70.0 million. For the year ended December 31, 2007, net revenue from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2007 and excluded from the above comparison was \$10.6 million. Also excluded was \$11.4 million from centers that were divested subsequent to January 1, 2007.

### **Operating Expenses**

Operating expenses for the year ended December 31, 2008 increased approximately \$53.7 million, or 16.3%, from \$330.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 to \$384.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. The following table sets forth our operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 (in thousands):

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2008	2007			
Salaries and professional reading fees,					
excluding stock-based compensation	\$ 210,450	\$	178,573		
Stock-based compensation	2,902		3,313		
Building and equipment rental	43,478		41,299		
General administrative expenses	127,467		107,245		
NASDAQ one-time listing fee	-		120		
Operating expenses	384,297		330,550		
Depreciation and amortization	53,548		45,281		
Provision for bad debts	30,832		27,467		
Loss on sale of equipment, net	516		72		
Severance costs	335		934		
Total operating expenses	\$ 469,528	\$	404,304		

Salaries and professional reading fees, excluding stock-based compensation and severance

Salaries and professional reading fees increased \$31.9 million, or 17.9%, to \$210.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2008, compared to \$178.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2007.

Salaries and professional reading fees, including only those centers which were in operation throughout the full fiscal years of both 2008 and 2007, increased \$12.7 million, or 7.1%. This 7.1% increase is primarily due to increased salaries and staffing to support the revenue growth of these existing imaging centers. This comparison excludes contributions from centers that were acquired or divested subsequent to January 1, 2007. For the year ended December 31, 2008, salaries and professional reading fees from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2007, and excluded from the above comparison was \$25.6 million. For the year ended December 31, 2007, salaries and professional reading fees from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2007, and excluded from the above comparison was \$3.2 million. Also excluded was \$3.2 million from centers that were divested subsequent to January 1, 2007.

### Stock-based compensation

Stock-based compensation decreased \$411,000, or 12.4%, to \$2.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to \$3.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2007. Share-based compensation for the year ended December 31, 2007, included \$1.7 million of additional stock based compensation expense as a result of the acceleration of vesting of certain warrants.

### Building and equipment rental

Building and equipment rental expenses increased \$2.2 million, or 5.3%, to \$43.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2008, compared to \$41.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2007.

Building and equipment rental expenses, including only those centers which were in operation throughout the full fiscal years of both 2008 and 2007, decreased \$1.7 million, or 4.2%. This 4.2% decrease is primarily due to the conversion of certain equipment leases contracts from operating to capital leases. This comparison excludes contributions from centers that were acquired or divested subsequent to January 1, 2007. For the year ended December 31, 2008, building and equipment rental expenses from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1,

2007, and excluded from the above comparison, was \$6.4 million. For the year ended December 31, 2007, building and equipment rental expenses from centers that were acquired subsequent to January 1, 2007, and excluded from the above comparison, was \$1.2 million. Also excluded was \$1.3 million from centers that were divested subsequent to January 1, 2007.

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## General and administrative expenses

General and administrative expenses include billing fees, medical supplies, office supplies, repairs and maintenance, insurance, business tax and license, outside services, utilities, marketing, travel and other expenses. Many of these expenses are variable in nature including medical supplies and billing fees, which increase with volume and repairs and maintenance under our GE service agreement as a percentage of net revenue. Overall, general and administrative expenses increased \$20.2 million, or 18.8%, for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to the previous period. The increase is consistent with our increase in procedure volumes at both existing centers as well as newly acquired centers.

## Depreciation and amortization expense

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$8.3 million, or 18.3%, to \$53.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 when compared to the same period last year. The increase is primarily due to property and equipment additions for existing centers and newly acquired centers.

## Provision for bad debts

Provision for bad debts increased \$3.3 million, or 12.3%, to \$30.8 million, or 6.2% of net revenue, for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to \$27.5 million, or 6.4% of net revenue, for the year ended December 31, 2007. The decrease in our provision for bad debts as a percentage of revenue is primarily due to an increase in collection performance and the completion of our billing system implementation which began in the first quarter of 2007.

# Loss on sale of equipment

Loss on sale of equipment was \$516,000 and \$72,000 for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

#### Severance costs

During the year ended December 31, 2008, we recorded severance costs of \$335,000 compared to \$934,000 recorded during the year ended December 31, 2007. In each period, these costs were primarily associated with the integration of Radiologix and other acquired operations.

## Interest expense

Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2008 increased approximately \$7.5 million, or 16.9%, from the same period in 2007. The increase is primarily due to the \$60 million increase in Term Loans B & C and increased borrowing on our line of credit. Also included in interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 is amortization of deferred loan costs of \$2.6 million and \$1.6 million, respectively, as well as realized gains of \$707,000 and realized losses of \$820,000 on our fair value hedges for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

### Income tax expense

For the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, we recorded \$151,000 and \$337,000, respectively, for income tax expense related to taxable income generated in the state of Maryland.

Equity in earnings from unconsolidated joint ventures

For the year ended December 31, 2008, we recognized equity in earnings from unconsolidated joint ventures of \$9.8 million compared to \$5.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2007. This increase is due to our purchase of additional equity interests in certain existing joint ventures as well as the deconsolidation in the fourth quarter of 2007 of a previously consolidated joint venture.

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

We had a working capital balance of \$9.2 million and \$2.7 million at December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. We had a net loss attributable to our common stockholders of \$2.3 million, \$12.8 million and \$18.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. We also had a stockholder equity deficit of \$74.8 million and \$81.0 million at December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

We operate in a capital intensive, high fixed-cost industry that requires significant amounts of capital to fund operations. In addition to operations, we require a significant amount of capital for the initial start-up and development expense of new diagnostic imaging facilities, the acquisition of additional facilities and new diagnostic imaging equipment, and to service our existing debt and contractual obligations.

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On November 15, 2006, we entered into a \$405 million senior secured credit facility with GE Commercial Finance Healthcare Financial Services (the "November 2006 Credit Facility"). This facility was used to finance our acquisition of Radiologix, refinance existing indebtedness, pay transaction costs and expenses relating to our acquisition of Radiologix and provide financing for working capital needs post-acquisition. The facility consists of a revolving credit facility of up to \$45 million, a \$225 million first lien term loan and a \$135 million second lien term loan. The first lien term loan has a term of six years and the second lien term loan has a term of six and one-half years. Interest is payable on all loans initially at an Index Rate plus the Applicable Index Margin, as defined. The Index Rate is initially a floating rate equal to the higher of the rate quoted from time to time by The Wall Street Journal as the "base rate on corporate loans posted by at least 75% of the nation's largest 30 banks" or the Federal Funds Rate plus 50 basis points. The Applicable Index Margin on each of the revolving credit facility and the term loan is 2% and on the second lien term loan is 6%. We may request that the interest rate instead be based on LIBOR plus the Applicable LIBOR Margin, which is 3.5% for the revolving credit facility and the term loan and 7.5% for the second lien term loan. The credit facility includes customary covenants for a facility of this type, including minimum fixed charge coverage ratio, maximum total leverage ratio, maximum senior leverage ratio, limitations on indebtedness, contingent obligations, liens, capital expenditures, lease obligations, mergers and acquisitions, asset sales, dividends and distributions, redemption or repurchase of equity interests, subordinated debt payments and modifications, loans and investments, transactions with affiliates, changes of control and payment of consulting and management fees.

On August 23, 2007, we secured an incremental \$35 million ("Incremental Facility") as part of our existing credit facilities with GE Commercial Finance Healthcare Financial Services. The Incremental Facility consists of an additional \$25 million as part of our first lien term loan and \$10 million of additional capacity under our existing revolving line of credit bringing the total capacity to \$55 million. The Incremental Facility can be used to fund certain identified strategic initiatives and for general corporate purposes.

On February 22, 2008, we secured a second incremental \$35 million ("Second Incremental Facility") of capacity as part of our existing credit facilities with GE Commercial Finance Healthcare Financial Services. The Second Incremental Facility consists of an additional \$35 million as part of our second lien term loan and the first lien term loan or revolving credit facility may be increased by up to an additional \$40 million sometime in the future. As part of the transaction, partly due to the drop in LIBOR of over 2.00% since the credit facilities were established in November 2006, we increased the Applicable LIBOR Margin to 4.25% for the revolving credit facility and first lien term loan and to 9.0% for the second lien term loan. The additions to our existing credit facilities are intended to provide capital for near-term opportunities and future expansion. As of December 31, 2009, we qualified to borrow up to \$30.4 million dollars under our existing credit facilities.

On November 15, 2006, we entered into an interest rate swap, designated as a cash flow hedge, on \$107.0 million fixing the LIBOR rate of interest at 5.02% for a period of three years, and on November 28, 2006, we entered into an interest rate swap, also designated as a cash flow hedge, on \$90.0 million fixing the LIBOR rate of interest at 5.03% for a period of three years. Previously, the interest rate on the \$270.0 million first lien term and revolving credit facilities was based upon a spread over LIBOR which floats with market conditions.

During the first quarter of 2009 we modified the two interest rate swaps designated as cash flow hedges described above. The modifications, commonly referred to as "blend and extends," extended the maturity of, and re-priced these two interest rate swaps for an additional 36 months, resulting in an estimated annualized cash interest expense savings of \$2.9 million.

With respect to the \$107 million interest rate swap, on January 28, 2009, we replaced the existing fixed LIBOR rate of 5.02% with a new rate of 3.47% maturing on November 15, 2012. With respect to the \$90 million interest rate swap, on February 5, 2009 we replaced the existing fixed LIBOR rate of 5.03% with a new rate of 3.62% also maturing on November 15, 2012. Both modified interest swaps have been designated as cash flow hedges.

As part of these modifications, the negative fair values of the original interest rate swaps, as well as a certain amount of accrued interest, associated with the original cash flow hedges were incorporated into the fair values of the new modified cash flow hedges. The related Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss (AOCL) associated with the negative fair values of the original cash flow hedges on their dates of modification, which totaled \$6.1 million, was on a straight-line basis to interest expense through November 15, 2009, the maturity date of the original cash flow hedges.

Our ability to generate sufficient cash flow from operations to make payments on our debt and other contractual obligations will depend on our future financial performance. A range of economic, competitive, regulatory, legislative and business factors, many of which are outside of our control, will affect our financial performance. Although no assurance can be given, taking these factors into account, including our historical experience, we believe that through implementing our strategic plans and continuing to restructure our financial obligations, we will obtain sufficient cash to satisfy our obligations as they become due in the next twelve months.

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### Sources and Uses of Cash

Cash provided by operating activities was \$76.6 million, \$45.4 million and \$25.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Cash used in investing activities was \$36.3 million, \$56.0 million and \$45.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2009, we purchased property and equipment for approximately \$30.8 million and acquired the assets and businesses of additional imaging facilities for approximately \$6.1 million, which is net of proceeds generated from the immediate sale of one of these acquired centers (see Note 3). We also purchased additional equity interests in joint ventures totaling \$315,000.

Cash used by financing activities was \$30.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, compared to cash provided by financing activities of \$10.6 million and \$17.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The cash used by financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2009, was related to payments we made toward our term loans, capital leases and line of credit balances, as well as \$4.7 million of cash payments, net of cash receipts, related to our modified cash flow hedges.

### **Contractual Commitments**

Our future obligations for notes payable, equipment under capital leases, lines of credit, equipment and building operating leases and purchase and other contractual obligations for the next five years and thereafter include (dollars in thousands):

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Thereafter	Total
Notes payable (1)	\$ 6,927	\$ 7,207	\$ 239,097	\$ 170,395	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 423,626
Capital leases (2)	16,019	9,597	4,242	810	32	-	30,700
Operating leases (3)	35,105	30,593	26,417	21,801	16,541	59,931	190,388
Total	\$ 58,051	\$ 47,397	\$ 269,756	\$ 193,006	\$ 16,573	\$	