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Affordable Care Act: Challenges and Opportunities for Hospitals Municipal Analysts Group of New York

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Goals of the ACA

Increase the quality and affordability of health insurance

 Lower the uninsured rate by expanding public and private insurance coverage

Reduce the cost of healthcare for individuals and governments



ACA Requirements or Provisions

Expansion of Coverage

- Individual mandates
- Employer mandates
- Health insurance exchanges
- Federal subsidies
- Expanded Medicaid eligibility
- Extend coverage of children until the age of 26

Other Requirements and Provisions

- Guaranteed issue/no denial of coverage
- Community rating
- Minimum standards for health insurance policies
- Medicare rate cuts
- Bundled payments
- Accountable care organizations



Challenges for Healthcare Providers Posed by the ACA

Issues with Expanded Coverage

- Expanded insurance coverage and increased use rates of the previously uninsured are positives. However, there are some issues with the methodology:
 - Shift of insured patients from relatively high paying commercial plans to lower paying exchange based plans
 - Exacerbation of trend toward high deductible plans – increasing a portion of the self pay aspect of payor mix and increasing bad debt
 - Adverse selection risk resulting in increasing insurance premiums and/or decreased reimbursement

Other Challenges

- Medicare rate cuts to finance low income subsidies
- Integration risk
- Narrow Networks
- Provisions that do not work Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS)



Provider Reaction to Pending Implementation of the ACA

- A continuation of trends already in place:
 - M&A both vertical and horizontal
 - Expense control in anticipation of (additional) revenue pressures
 - Accelerated investments in IT





Post ACA Investment Strategy

Common wisdom dictates:

The Rich get Richer – the Poor get Poorer

OR

- Buy the Strong and Avoid the Weak
 - Beware single site providers
 - Increasing scrutiny of marginal systems
 - Spread widening on perceived risk and actual credit weakness



New Paradigm?

Long Hospital YTW vs. 30y AAA-rated Tax-Exempt GO Yields



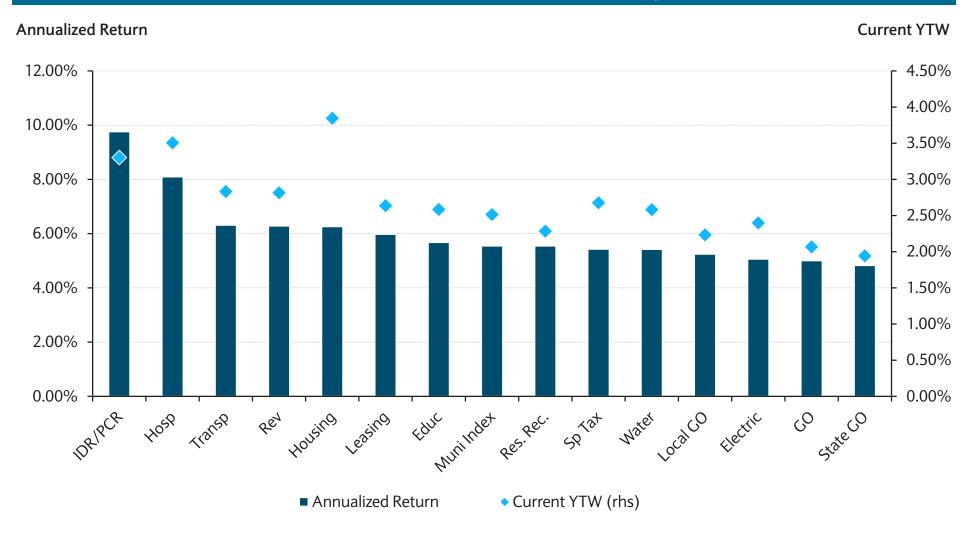
- The commonly accepted wisdom was wrong or perhaps just early
- Spreads did not widen other than typical movements based on the overall muni market movements and in reaction to fund flow patterns

Source: Barclays Research



Muni Annualized Returns: May 2009 to April 2014

Municipal Index Annualized Returns by Sector

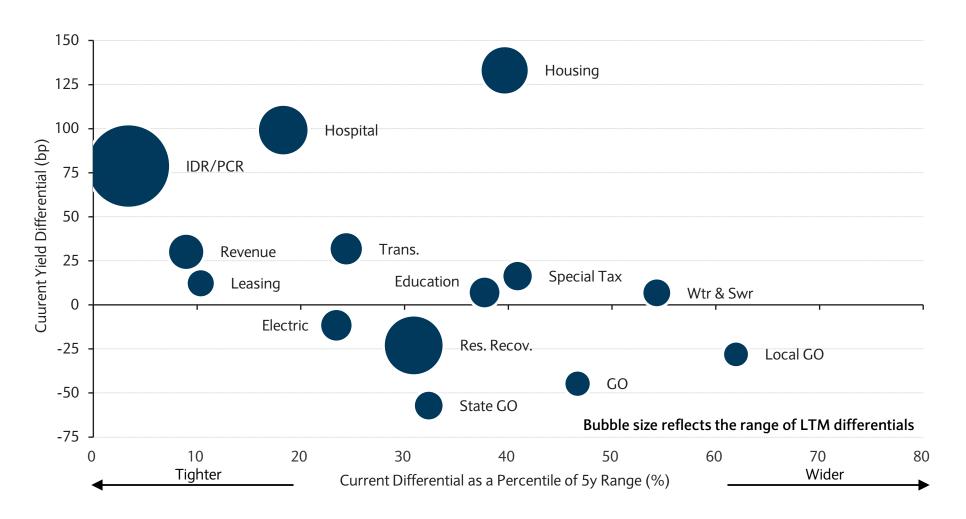


Source: Barclays Research



The Hospital Index Yields 100bp More than the Muni Index

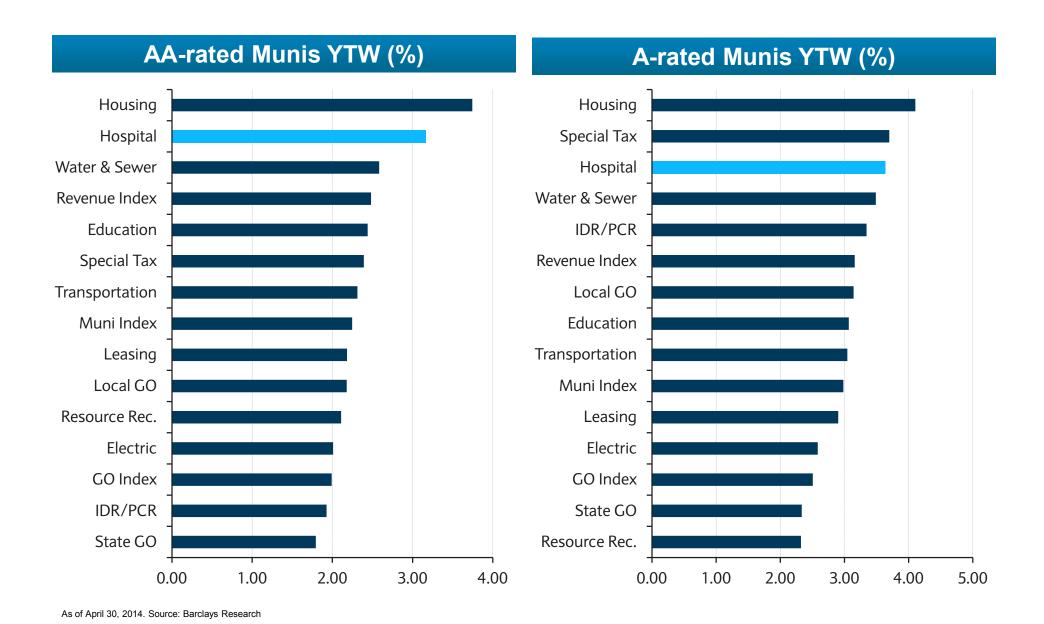
Muni Sector YTW Differential versus the Muni Index (5y Range)



Note: As of April 30, 2014. The size of the bubble reflects the LTM range of differentials. For example, the differential between hospital and the muni index has been in a 94bp range (82-176bp) in the past five years, while that between special tax and the muni index has been in a 35bp range (2-37bp). Source: Barclays Research



Across Different Rating Buckets, Hospital Bonds also Offer Excess Yield





Hospital Defaults Based on Moody's and S&P Studies

Obligor	State	Default Date	Last Rating	Orignal Rating	Recovery	Facility Closed?
Midlands Community Hospital	NE	1/1/1978	Caa	Ваа	85%	N
Hilton Head Hospital	SC	1/1/1978	Caa	Baa	85%	N
St. Joseph's Hospital of Alton	IL	5/24/1989	CCC-	Α		N
Central Medical Center	MO	6/7/1989	CCC-	BBB-		N
Metro Hospital	PA	12/19/1989	CCC	A-	64%	N
Choate-Symmes Health	MA	1/8/1990	CCC	A-	61%	N
Northwest General Hospital	MI	10/4/1990	С	BBB	33%	Υ
Downtown Hospital Association	TN	8/1/1991	С	Baa	90 +%	N
Hyde Park Community Hospital	IL	12/17/1991	CCC	BBB		Υ
Sacred Heart Medical Center	PA	1/8/1992	CCC	A-		N
Hialeah Hospital	FL	2/10/1992	CCC	BBB		N
Jackson Park Hospital Foundation	IL	3/4/1992	CCC	Α		N
Jacksonville General Hospital	FL	4/2/1992	CCC	BBB		Υ
James C. Guiffre Medical Center	PA	7/2/1992	CCC	BBB		Υ
Parkview Hospital	OH	10/13/1994	С	A-		Υ
Michigan Health Care Corp.	MI	9/20/1995	CCC	BB	10%	Υ
Logan General Hospital	WV	2/3/1999	CCC	BBB		N
AHERF - DVOG	PA	7/21/1998			pending	N
Graduate Health System	PA	7/21/1998	CCC	Α	pending	N
Boston Regional Medical Center	MA	2/1/1999	Ca	Ваа	20%	Υ
Greater Southeast Healthcare System	DC, MD	5/1/1999	Ca	Ваа	less than 50%	N
South Fulton Medical Center	GA	4/27/2000	CCC	BBB+		N
Citizen's General Hospital	PA	1/1/2001	B1	B1	100%	N
Genesee Hospital	NY	5/1/2001	Caa2	Α	undisclosed	N
Granada Hills Community Hospital	CA	5/14/2001	CCC	BBB-		Υ
Crouse Health Hospital	NY	7/3/2001	CCC	BBB		N
Metro Health Center	PA	7/1/2002	Ca	Α	21%	N
St. Francis Medical Center	PA	11/1/2002	Caa1	Baa1	< 100%	N
Mercy Hospital and Medical Center	IL	1/5/2004	CCC	Α	100%	N
Fort Worth Osteopathic Hospital	TX	8/1/2004			100%/21%	Υ
Forum Health	OH	9/1/2006	Ca	A2	100%	N
North Oakland Medical Center	MI	3/31/2008	В	BBB	10%	Υ
Pascack Valley Hospital	NJ	9/30/2008	CC	Α		Υ
Lower Bucks Hospital	PA	12/15/2009	С	Ваа	pending	N
Valley Health System	CA	6/4/2010	С	BBB-	100%	N
Northern Berkshire Healthcare	MA	6/20/2011	CCC	BBB-		Υ

Based on Standard and Poor's Rating Universe (1986-2011) and Moody's Rating Universe (1970-2011). Recovery information based on Moody's data. Source: S&P, Moody's, Barclays Research



Hospital Defaults Summary

Current Rating Universe

• Moody's: 448

• S&P: 600

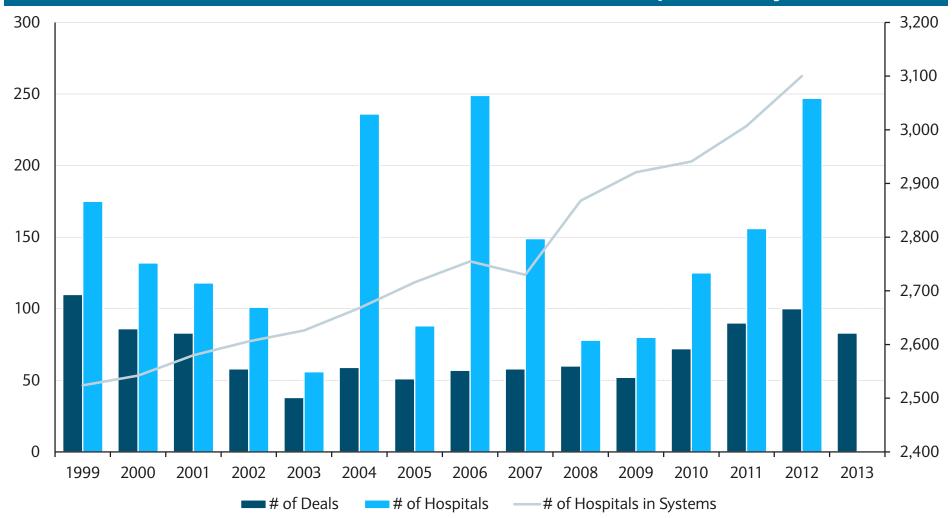
- 36 defaults from 1978-2011 less than 1 default per year
- 12 resulted in facility closure
- Recovery Data:
 - Average recovery for the 6* closures with recovery data: 65%
 - More realistic: 20%*
 - Overall recovery rate for the 18 defaults where data exists: 61%

Note: *One transaction is counted twice due to the 100% recovery on the insured debt and 21% recovery on the uninsured debt. Source: S&P, Moody's, Barclays Research



Hospital M&A Activity

Number of deals declined in 2013, but the number of hospitals likely increased



Source: AHA, Irving Levin Associates, Barclays Research



New(er) Paradigm

- The rich get richer, and the poor get poorer but some get acquired
- Hospitals rarely close this dynamic will likely change under healthcare reform, as more will close but many marginal facilities could be acquired
- Caritas and Detroit Medical Center
- Conemaugh:

"The strategic planning process, in part, came in response to the challenges health care systems across the country face, including increasing capital needs, reimbursement cuts and changing patient volumes, as well as a desire to position Conemaugh for population health management in this new era of health care. Given these factors, Conemaugh's board recognized that the time is now to evolve and ensure the long-term success of the health system."

http://www.conemaugh.org/template_pressrelease.aspx?id=12515



Muni Investors are Under-Allocated to Healthcare

- Hospital sector as a percent of the Barclays Municipal Index: 8.55%
- Bloomberg's holders search identified 108 holders of hospital bonds aggregated by investment firm
 - 14 holders invested at 9% of total holdings or above
 - 3 holders invested at 7%
 - 4 holders invested at 6%
 - 5 holders invested at 5%
- On the macro level, muni investors are under-allocated to healthcare



Summary

- Healthcare provides high yield with high total return performance.
- According to rating agency reports, no hospital or hospital system rated higher than A has ever defaulted.
- Risk premium for hospitals appears excessive, given the limited default history (less than 1 per year) and relatively high recovery rates (60% based on limited data set).
- While investors fear closures and defaults due to healthcare reform, the business changes will likely occur over a relatively longer horizon while historically weaker credits tend to merge or be acquired.
- The importance of credit selection is increasing.
- The largest opportunity is simply to allocate portfolios to hospitals adequately.



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