Executive Summary – Full Year & Q4 2021 HIT / Digital Health Update

Global M&A deal count and \$ volume in Q4 2021 were both \$\psi \~60\%\$. YoY deal count \$\psi 28\%\$ but \$ volume \$\frac{35\%}{150}\$ to \$2.8 Trillion. U.S. M&A deal count were virtually unchanged from Q3 to Q4 2021 and \$ volume \$\psi 14\%\$. YoY U.S. M&A deal count and \$ value were both \$\rangle 9\%\$ and 6\% respectively, making 2021 close to a record year for U.S. total M&A deals.
Global Private Placements in Q4 was $\downarrow 5\%$ in \$ volume and $\downarrow 26\%$ in deal count on QoQ basis. YoY \$ volume $\uparrow 12\%$ and deal count $\downarrow 12\%$. U.S. Private Placements set a record of \$421 Bil in 2021 with YoY deal count $\uparrow 19\%$ and \$ volume $\uparrow 66\%$.
U.S. Digital Health M&A total disclosed \$ volume in Q4 was \sim \$52 Bil, a $5x \uparrow QoQ$. Q4 deal count was 86 transactions, a slight increase from Q3 2021 to Q4 2020. The total number of M&A transactions (378) as well as \$ volume in 2021 reached the highest level of Digital Health deal activity ever recorded by NHA since keeping track from 2011.
In terms of Broad HIT Sector categories, Spending & Revenue Analytics was the most active broad sector category in Q4 with 28 deals. Patient Centric was the 2 nd with 23 deals, slightly ↓ from Q3. Clinical Data Analytics remained in its typical last place.
U.S. Digital Health Private Placement transaction count decreased to 235 deals in Q4 vs 252 in Q3, but the number of PP deals in 2021 (1,026) outpaced the total number of transactions in any of the past 5 years and set a record in deal activity. Disclosed dollar investments in NHA's defined N. American Digital Health sector was \$5.5 Bil in Q4, up slightly from \$5.3 Bil in Q3 and the full year of PP \$ volume also reached record levels of \$25 Billion.
The Patient Centric broad category continued to be the most active area for investments in Q4, registering 99 deals or 42% of total Q4 PP deals. The Clinical Data analytics broad sector enjoyed an ↑ in deal counts during Q4, 2021 while the Productivity Solutions / Spending and Revenue Analytics experienced a ↓ in deals. For the Full Year 2021, investors preferred Patient Centric companies by almost half of all PP Digital Health deals.
Digital Health stocks entering the U.S. public markets in Q4 2021 took the form of one SPAC deal (SOC Telemed) and there were no IPOs. There were 7 SPAC and 4 IPO in the Digital Health sector during 2021. All the newly listed companies lost value by the end of Dec 31st compared to their first day of trading.
Novahill's Digital Health Public Comparable Index lost 27% of its value compared to the S&P 500 Index's 27% gain over the latest 12-month period. Only two broad sectors, Productivity Solutions (\uparrow 9%) and Provider Centric (\uparrow 7%) turned in positive results for 2021. Patient Centric companies lost 50% of their value while Clinical Data (\downarrow 44%) and Spending Analytics (\downarrow 31%) also turned in poor results. 2021 was the worst year ever for Digital Health stocks performance relative to the S&P Index.
US and Global M&A and PP Data Source: Capital IQ