

For immediate release:

**PROVIDENT HEALTHCARE PARTNERS ADVISES ILLINOIS GASTROENTEROLOGY
INSTITUTE AND CENTRAL ILLINOIS ENDOSCOPY CENTER IN ITS PARTNERSHIP
WITH GI ALLIANCE**

Illinois Gastroenterology Institute (IGI), the second largest independent gastroenterology practice in Illinois, has partnered with GI Alliance (GIA). GIA, an entity formed through Waud Capital's partnership with Texas Digestive Disease Consultants, is the largest independent gastroenterology practice in the U.S. Alongside its affiliated physicians, GIA also invested in Central Illinois Endoscopy Center (CIEC), which will remain majority-owned by physicians and GIA. [Provident Healthcare Partners](#) (Provident) served as exclusive financial advisor to Illinois Gastroenterology Institute. The terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

"Working with Provident made the transition and process extremely transparent. They took the time to understand the goals of the entire group and guided us to a match with the right partner," said Dr. Shiraz Khaiser, Physician Board member and Partner of IGI. "This merger would not have been possible without the guidance and counsel of the Provident team. We are thrilled to have closed our transaction with GIA and look forward to the new opportunities this partnership will bring."

"Despite difficulties posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we are pleased with the efforts by all parties to execute a transformative transaction for the IGI shareholders. We look forward to seeing the contribution IGI will bring to GIA's strong Illinois footprint," commented Eric Major, Managing Director at Provident.

About Illinois Gastroenterology Institute

Established more than 20 years ago, IGI is the largest downstate Illinois practice dedicated to gastroenterology conditions. Offering both medical and surgical services, IGI's physicians, nurse practitioners and staff provide comprehensive diagnosis and treatment. With 9 gastroenterologists and 5 advanced-level providers, IGI's team brings together extensive experience and cutting-edge knowledge to offer the best possible care. Visit <https://www.visitgi.com/>.

About GI Alliance

GIA is a physician-led and majority physician-owned GI services organization supporting the needs of more than 350 independent gastroenterologists operating in Texas, Louisiana, Illinois, Arizona, Indiana, and Arkansas. GI practices that are part of the GI Alliance are focused on providing the highest-quality care to their patients. In addition to providing operational support for practices, GIA is working to unite gastroenterologists nationwide to align interests and improve the quality of care for patients. Visit <https://gialliance.com/>.

About Provident Healthcare Partners

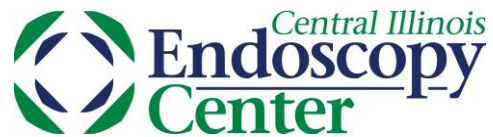
Provident is the leading investment banking firm specializing in merger and acquisition advisory, strategic planning, and capital formation for healthcare companies. The firm has a comprehensive knowledge of market sectors and specialties, including the gastroenterology specialty. Provident also has unsurpassed experience and insight into the M&A process, which includes working with a number of buyers such as private equity firms and strategic consolidators. Visit www.providenthp.com.

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and



have partnered with



a portfolio company of



Waud Capital

The undersigned initiated and structured this transaction,
conducted the negotiations, and acted as exclusive financial advisor to
Illinois Gastroenterology Institute and Central Illinois Endoscopy
Center



Provident Healthcare Partners, LLC
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