

Accretive Health (ACHI) – A Transformational Hire

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A week ago, I sent out a note to my network highlighting Accretive Health as a special situation (posted yesterday [here](#)). In fact, I called it "the definition of special" because of all the issues the Company has endured over the past three years. In spite of those issues, I concluded that the Company still had a pretty darn good business. And the negativity surrounding the stock would erode as the investing community became confident that the problems were getting fixed.

So imagine my surprise yesterday – a mere seven days later – we learn that ACHI was able to land one of the most respected, influential people in healthcare as their new CEO ([here](#)). I was so surprised, in fact, that I almost spit my coffee onto my keyboard. Emad Rizk is so credible and so respected that I'm going on record stating: **The hire of Emad Rizk is a transformational event for this Company.**

Here's just a few of Emad Rizk's accomplishments over the past 25 years:

- Served as a global director of Deloitte, leading the medical cost and quality management practice across all industries.
- Served as President of McKesson Health Solutions, a business unit within MCK's \$3BN Technology Solutions segment.
- Past Board member on the National Clinical Advisory Board and National Quality Review.
- Current Board member of DMAA: Care Continuum Alliance, National Association for Hispanic Health, University of Miami, University of North Texas, Accuracy, and Managed Care Magazine.
- Literally wrote the book on how healthcare providers and payers can work together to bring about more efficient, cost effective care ("The New Era of Healthcare: Practical Strategies for Providers and Payers").
- Named one of the 50 Most Influential Physician Executives in the US by Modern Physician. He has received this honor 5 times.
- Named among the Top 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare by Modern Healthcare.
- Named one of the nation's Top 25 Leaders in Disease Management by Managed Healthcare Executive.

In my mind, the hire of Emad Rizk completely blows up the bear case. Any bear case. And investors that continue to regard Accretive Health as untouchable are going to be proven very, very wrong.