## MONITOR GROUP

# Market Based Solutions to Social Change in India

## **Low-Cost Service Delivery in Health & Education**



## **Delhi, June 16, 2008**

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This document provides an outline of a presentation and is incomplete without the accompanying oral commentary and discussion.

## 2008

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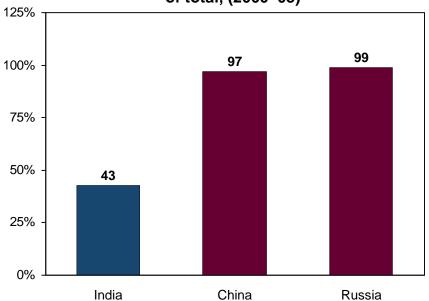
## **LifeSpring: Context**

## India has a high maternal mortality rate, some of it may be attributed to fewer births attended by skilled health staff

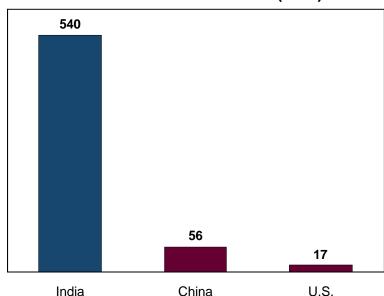
Average number of deliveries in India are ~26 Million per year and only 43% are deliveries by skilled health staff

India has the highest number of maternal deaths in the world; ~ 117,000 maternal mortalities per year

### Births attended by skilled health staff (%) of total, (2000-03)1



### **Indian Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR)** relative to other countries<sup>2</sup> (2000)



Note: MMR (Maternal Mortality Rate) is the number of deaths from pregnancy-related causes per 100,000 live births in the 15-49 age group <sup>1</sup> Data for the latest year available in 2000-03, <sup>2</sup> Modeled estimates from WDI (Urban-619 and Rural-267)

Source: India-stat, WDI Indicators, NFHS -2 & 3, India Census, CIA World Fact Book, Gupta RK - Institutional and non-institutional deliveries in slum areas of Delhi, Monitor Analysis

## **LifeSpring: Overview**



# LifeSpring Hospital provides low-cost, women and child care services in peri-urban India



### Company Overview

- LifeSpring Hospitals provides low-cost, quality healthcare solutions
  - Private company, joint venture between Hindustan Latex and Acumen Fund
  - 1 hospital started in 2005, 2 more operational in past 2 months, plan to have 6 hospitals in AP by end-2008
- Operating model focused on "Service Quality at a low & transparent price"
  - Services are priced substantially lower than prevailing market prices
- Plans include chain of 30 small hospitals (20 beds) by 2010 in AP, Maharashtra and Karnataka
- Financially self sustaining model
  - Broke-even in 20 months of operations
  - Initial project costs funded by Hindustan Latex

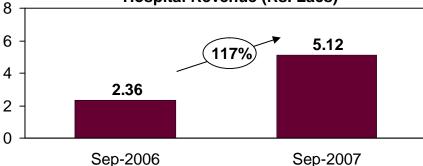
### Rs. Lacs

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### Service Description: Maternal Care

- Provides maternal and child health care services
  - Gynecology, Obstetrics, Pediatric
- In-patient service is limited to uncomplicated women's health
- LifeSpring hospitals' primary customers are women and children
  - Caters to the B60 population living in peri-urban areas within a 10km radius
- Has served 2,314 in-patients and 27,316 out-patients (inception-May 2008)



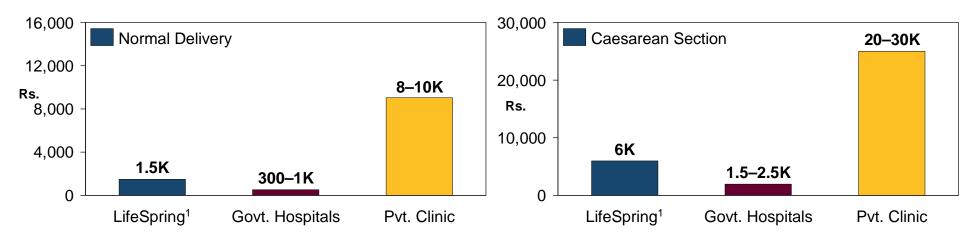


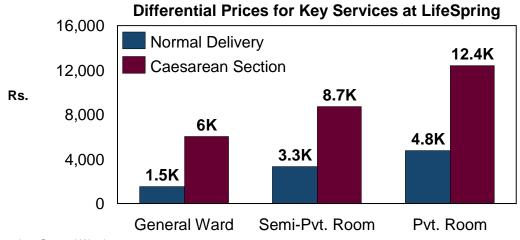
## **LifeSpring: Pricing**



# Normal & caesarean delivery charges at LifeSpring are ~1/6<sup>th</sup> the cost of private clinic rates

### LifeSpring Price Comparison with Possible Alternatives (Rs.)





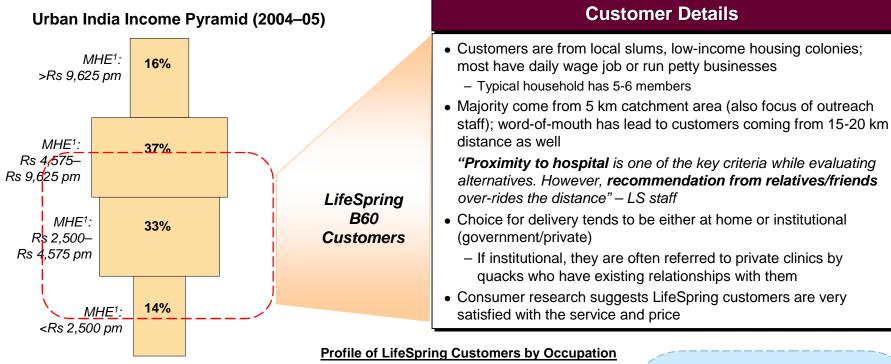
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> LifeSpring Prices for key services in a General Ward

Note: Pvt. Clinic refers to small 20–30 bed nursing homes, often run by a family in Hyderabad and have private rooms in most cases Source: Satapathy et al. — Indian Journal of Community Medicine(2004–05), LifeSpring Data, Interviews, Secondary Research, Monitor Analysis BZR-SAB-Phase 1b-Low-Cost Service Delivery Health Education-Final Presentation

## **LifeSpring: Customer Profile**



### LifeSpring customers are B60 women who have a household income of Rs. 3k-7k/month



32%

Driver

10%

24%

30%

**Petty Business** 

**Daily Wages** 

Pvt. Sector

**Employment** 



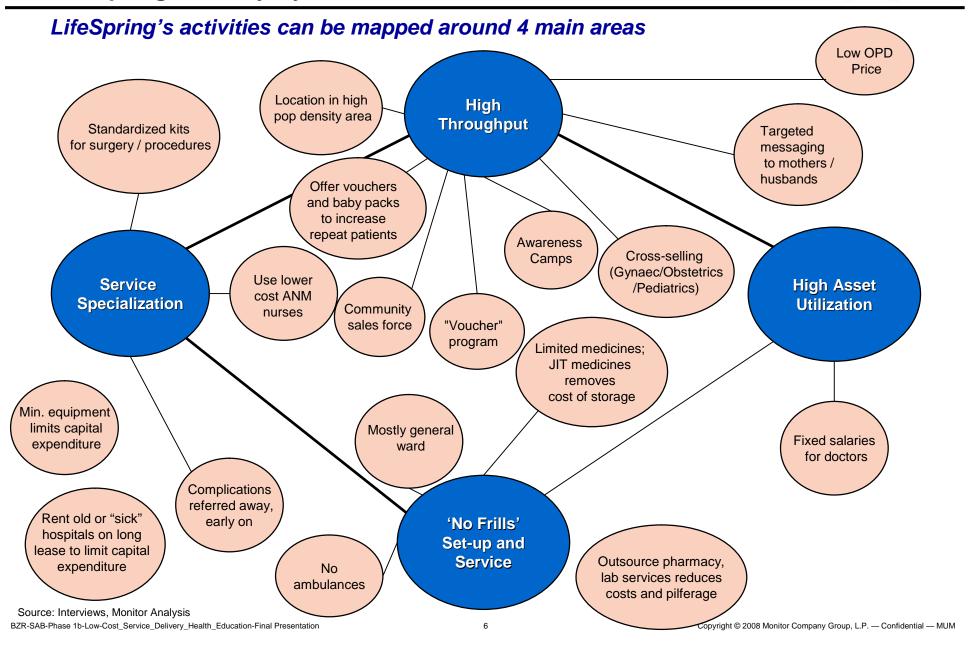
Govt. Employee <sup>1</sup> Monthly Household Expenditure Source: NCAER, LifeSpring Newsletter (Sept, 07), Interviews, Monitor Analysis BZR-SAB-Phase 1b-Low-Cost Service Delivery Health Education-Final Presentation

### Value to Customer

- Lower priced than majority of private clinic alternatives
- Quality healthcare at an affordable price (marginally higher than low quality alternatives – government hospitals/quack)

## **LifeSpring: Activity System**

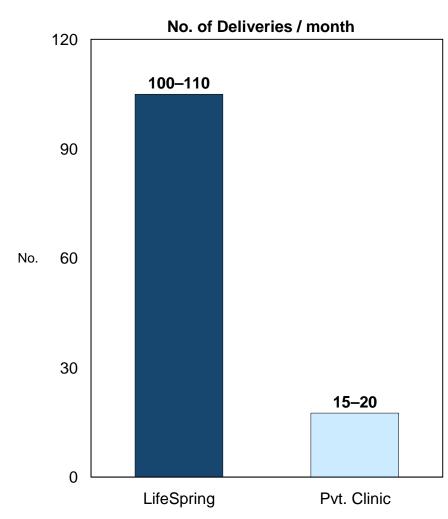




## LifeSpring: Service Specialization



# LifeSpring has chosen a service which is high incidence and by specializing it can concentrate on lowering costs and increasing productivity



- Narrow specialization on women's care for in-patient
   Services include delivery c-section bysterectomy
  - Services include delivery, c-section, hysterectomy, fibroids, MTP (abortion)
  - Complications are referred to other hospitals early on

### Specialization enables LifeSpring to do the following

- Use more ANM nurses than GNM nurses
  - ANM nurses are less qualified and are therefore not as expensive as GNMs
  - Demand for ANMs is not as high, thus keeping LS's attrition low

### Standardization

- Clinical protocols and other procedures have been standardized to enable clarity of tasks and higher productivity
- Surgery kits also standardized
- Lower Other Costs
  - Bulk purchase of limited equipment and medicine lowers medical supplies cost

## **LifeSpring: High Throughput (1/2)**



# Targeted marketing via multiple channels especially dedicated outreach staff has contributed to high throughput in the hospital

#### Customer



Previous Child / OPD at Private Hospital

## Previous Child / OPD at Government Hospital

## Previous Child at Home (non-institutional)

### Message



 Convey "low-cost and highquality" advantage of LS

 Relatively easier to convert as already aware of benefits of institutional deliveries

- Reinforce "Quality" aspect of LS offering with focus on
  - Transparent pricing
  - Trained doctors
  - Hygienic environment

- Strong focus on customer education and relationship building
  - Explain warning signs, high-risks, etc.

"Trust is an important criterion....as most of them have built trust in one hospital/mid-wife where the entire extended family has been going for years. So, switching to LS isn't very obvious to them"

#### Channels



## Dedicated Outreach Staff

- 3–4 local woman (XII pass) hired as marketing force, do 6 hours/day of field work
  - Gathers information on family, medical history and target the customer (mother-in-law and husband)

### **Community Initiatives**

- Health camps (1/month)
  - Doctor visits the community and advises them on nutrition, health-related issues
- On-going initiatives
  - Reinforce brand with free vaccination camp, free photograph of your child, etc.

### "Voucher" Program

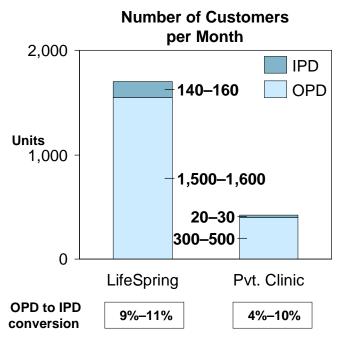
- Voucher distribution (1 free OPD & discount on IPD) to every LS IPD customer
  - Aims to reach out to potential customers and encourage experience sharing within community

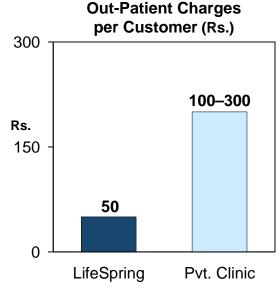
"Follow up with families suggested that most woman go to their mother's house for final delivery. So, we have started targeting mothers who are expecting their pregnant daughters to visit them for final delivery"

## **LifeSpring: High Throughput (2/2)**



## Low OPD fee and proximity to urban slums has enhanced footfall in the hospital







### Low and transparent pricing

- OPD is priced at Rs. 50 vs. Rs.100-300 at the private clinic to increase footfall
- IPD pricing is all inclusive and transparent (conveyed on registration)

#### Location

- Located in high population density area, where target customers reside e.g., industry workers
- Reduces transportation costs to customer and increases chances of repeat visits
- Cross-selling amongst the patients requiring healthcare services in gynecology, obstetrics and pediatrics

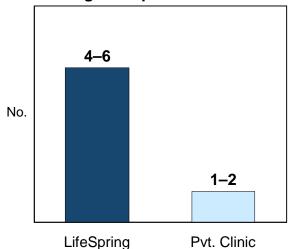
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## **LifeSpring: High Asset Utilization**

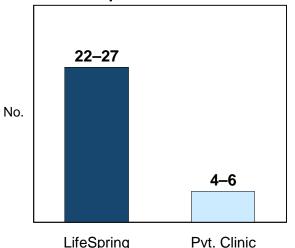


## LifeSpring ensures high utilization of its most expensive asset, its doctors

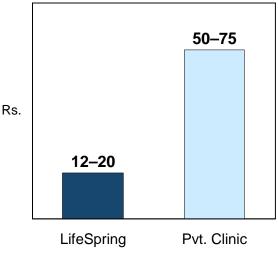
Surgeries<sup>1</sup> per doctor/week



No. of Operations<sup>2</sup> in OT/week



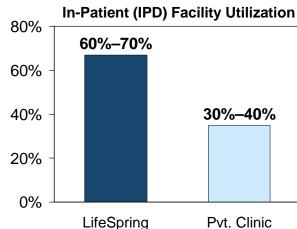




 The drivers of high asset utilization are specialization which enables high productivity of its skilled and unskilled labour, and high volume of patients

### Use of doctors

- Doctors are on salaries rather than consultants. This gives LS the benefits of increased volume and productivity
- Doctors are local; lower rate of absenteeism improves overall productivity



Source: LifeSpring Data, Secondary Research, Interviews, Monitor Analysis

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding Deliveries and Caesareans, <sup>2</sup> Includes Caesarean and not Normal Delivery as it is done in a labour room,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Patients at LS-1500–1600 and Private Clinic 300–500 per month and Salary of a doctor at Rs. 20–30k/month Note: Pvt. Clinic refers to small 20–30 bed nursing homes, often run by a family in Hyderabad

## LifeSpring: 'No Frill' Set-up and Service



# Low capital expenditure and 'no frill' service enables LifeSpring to limit its non-core spending

### • Limit Capital Expenditure

- Rent old or "sick" hospitals on long lease rather than own buildings
- Have minimum expensive equipment (most complex machine in the hospital is ultra-sound)
  - Refer complications to avoid investment in expensive equipment and specialist doctors
- Do not own ambulances
- Out source pharmacy and lab services; on premises
  - This also removes problems of pilferage and inventory costs

### • 'No frills' Environment

- Tiered room system
  - Most beds are in the general ward (Normal delivery rates are Rs.1,500 general ward, Rs. 3,200 shared room, Rs. 4,700 private room)
- Rooms are basic with no air conditioning
- Simple flooring and minimal furniture
- No canteen with food services, no kitchen

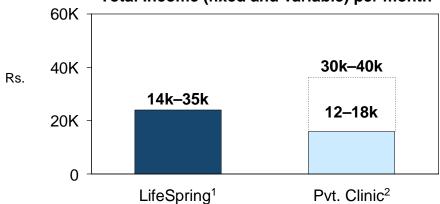


## **LifeSpring: Doctor Profile**



# Doctors at LifeSpring earn fixed salaries vs. variable consulting fees of their private clinic counterparts and have strong non-monetary incentives to stay

### Total Income (fixed and variable) per month





- Doctors are salaried employees, not consultants (Attrition rate for doctor is 4%)
- There are a number of non-monetary reasons or incentives that keep the doctors at LifeSpring:

### Experience

- High throughput provides significantly more clinical experience for a doctor in number and variety of cases especially for young doctors
- o Young doctors handle greater responsibilities at LS than if they were working under an older doctor in a private practice

#### Lack of Alternatives

- o Doctors are local, the lack of clinic choice in their area restricts the ability to switch hospitals
- o Government service is not appealing as the government system is outdated
  - It is very restrictive in terms of prescribed medical techniques, treatments and medications
- No pressure to drive in business helps maintain focus on clinical work; also provides hassle-free environment where all
  administrative tasks are taken care vs. running a private clinic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The range is due to the differences in experience between the senior and junior doctors at LifeSpring

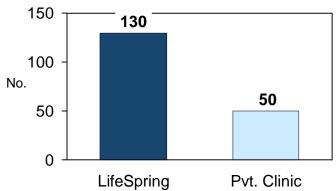
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 12–18,000 is the basic fixed salary and rest is variable pay dependent on patient volumes and number of hospitals the doctor consults at Source: Secondary Research, Interviews, Monitor Analysis

## **LifeSpring: Nurse Profile**

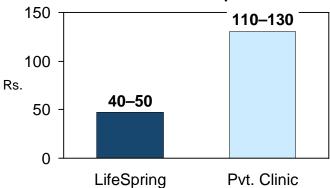


# LifeSpring uses more nurses than private clinics but is able to use them more productively. It uses ANM instead of GNM nurses, keeping cost and attrition low

### Number of IPD customers/month/nurse<sup>1</sup>



## Cost of nurse/patient





- LifeSpring's specialization in maternal care has enabled them to:
  - Achieve higher (2.5x) nurse utilization compared to a private clinic. However, doctor-nurse ratio is in same range as a private clinic (4–6 nurse per doctor)
  - Employ more **ANM nurses than GNM nurses** (9 ANM & 3 GNM vs. 6–10 GNM nurses in a private clinic)
    - Qualifications for Auxillary Nurse Midwifery (ANM):
      - An ANM diploma programme is of an 18 month duration and requires a 10th class education
      - In contrast, a Graduate Nurse Midewifery (GNM) is of 3.5 years and requires a 12th class education
    - o Cost advantage: ANM nurses are more limited in skill and are thus less expensive than GNMs
    - o Low Attrition: Demand for ANMs is not as high as that of GNMs, thus keeping LifeSpring's attrition low
    - o ANM's are easily available and similar skill as GNM in context of maternal care

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> IPD customers at LS: 150/month, Nurses at LS: 12, IPD customers at Private clinic: 30–40, Nurses at Private clinic: 6–10 Note: Majority of nurses in private clinic are GNM