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Hospital execs are at the top with nowhere to go

Local hospital consolidations squeeze executives out of their jobs.



By

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When Mount Sinai Hospital took over Continuum Health Partners in 2013, top health care executives and physicians from both systems had one thought: Were their jobs safe?

They had good reason to worry. Once the dust settled over the merger, many senior-level workers were gone as the two systems consolidated operations to save money. Some of those laid off are still job-hunting or have resorted to consulting. Others moved out of state

to find equivalent employment. Half of the eight doctors on [Crain's list of top-paid employees](#) who worked at Continuum in 2013 are now gone.

One former executive called the reorganization "a scorched-earth" process and cited eight former colleagues who took out-of-state jobs.

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"When you get to this level, there aren't that many jobs for people who want to go to another institution of similar size," said the executive, who like several others interviewed for this story asked not to be identified.

In the past three years, at least 17 community hospitals in the New York City area have joined larger systems, and the deals show no sign of abating.

NYU Langone Medical Center last week [finalized a partnership](#) with Brooklyn's Lutheran Hospital; Maimonides Medical Center, also in Brooklyn, is [in discussions](#) to become part of the North Shore-LIJ Health System.