

Aster DM Healthcare (ASTERDM IN)

Rating: BUY | CMP: Rs469 | TP: Rs620

February 4, 2025

Q3FY25 Result Update

■ Change in Estimates | ■ Target | ■ Reco

Change in Estimates

	Cur	rent	Pre	vious	
	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	
Rating	В	JY	В	UY	
Target Price	6	20	620		
Sales (Rs. m)	49,435	58,142	49,435	58,142	
% Chng.	-	-			
EBITDA (Rs. m)	9,917	11,923	9,917	11,923	
% Chng.	-	-			
EPS (Rs.)	10.6	13.5	10.6	13.5	
% Chna	_	_			

Key Financials - Consolidated

Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Sales (Rs. m)	36,990	42,201	49,435	58,142
EBITDA (Rs. m)	5,890	7,918	9,917	11,923
Margin (%)	15.9	18.8	20.1	20.5
PAT (Rs. m)	1,880	3,132	5,304	6,731
EPS (Rs.)	3.8	6.3	10.6	13.5
Gr. (%)	27.9	66.6	69.4	26.9
DPS (Rs.)	2.3	2.3	2.3	3.5
Yield (%)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7
RoE (%)	6.0	7.5	13.5	15.4
RoCE (%)	9.8	11.3	15.9	18.6
EV/Sales (x)	6.5	5.3	4.5	3.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	40.7	28.2	22.6	18.7
PE (x)	124.5	74.7	44.1	34.8
P/BV (x)	5.1	6.3	5.7	5.1

Key Data	ATRD.BO ASTERDM IN
52-W High / Low	Rs.535 / Rs.310
Sensex / Nifty	77,187 / 23,361
Market Cap	Rs.234bn/ \$ 2,685m
Shares Outstanding	500m
3M Avg. Daily Value	Rs.633.94m

Shareholding Pattern (%)

Promoter's	41.88
Foreign	22.62
Domestic Institution	23.20
Public & Others	12.30
Promoter Pledge (Rs bn)	96.92

Stock Performance (%)

	1M	6M	12M
Absolute	(10.1)	25.9	42.0
Relative	(7.7)	32.1	32.6

Param Desai

paramdesai@plindia.com | 91-22-66322259

Sanketa Kohale

sanketakohale@plindia.com | 91-22-66322426

In line EBITDA; occupancy in Kerala cluster to recover

Quick Pointers:

- Overall expansion plan of 1,700 beds over FY26/27 with key brownfield expansion at Medcity, CMI and Whitefield.
- Consol margin guidance at +21% by FY27.

ASTER DM Healthcare's (ASTERDM) Q3 consolidated EBITDA (adj. for ESOP) grew 23% YoY to Rs1.94bn, in line with our estimate. ASTERDM India's EBITDA has increased sharply over the last 2 years (29% CAGR over FY22-24). Our FY25-27E EBITDA estimate stands unchanged. We estimate 23% EBITDA CAGR over FY25-27E aided by scale-up in margins, healthy ARPOB and bed additions. ASTER DM's board has recently approved merger with Quality care (QCIL) that makes them third largest healthcare chain by revenue and bed capacity in India. The combined entity is trading at ~20x EV/EBITDA on FY27E (adj. for minority stake and rental) which is discount to some of peers and unwarranted given higher growth profile, backing of marquee PE investors like Blackstone and combined entity scale of operations. We recommend BUY rating with TP of Rs620/share, valuing 27x EV/EBITDA for combined entity.

- In line EBITDA aided by Karnataka cluster: ASTERDM's EBITDA (post-Ind AS) grew 23% YoY (down 14% QoQ) to Rs1.94bn, in line with our estimates. OPM improved ~190bps YoY to 18.5% (down by 220 bps QoQ). Pre-IND AS EBITDA was at Rs1.7bn (up 20% YoY) with OPM of 15.8%. Hospital EBITDA grew by 21% YoY to Rs2.2bn with OPM of 22%, up 190bps YoY. Cluster wise, Karnataka & AP cluster reported strong EBITDA growth of 51% and 42% YoY respectively, while Kerala cluster reported moderate 9% YoY EBITDA growth. Aster Pharmacy and Labs reported positive EBITDA of Rs. 30mn.
- Strong ARPOB; occupancy was weak: Consolidated revenues improved 11% YoY (down 3% QoQ) to Rs10.5bn. ARPOB increased 15% YoY (6% QoQ) to Rs45.5k per day. Occupancies declined to 63% vs 72% QoQ and 70% in Q3FY24. IP volumes were up 3% YoY. Lower ALOS (3.2 days vs 3.4 in Q3FY24), and better case mix aided ARPOB. Net cash stood at Rs10.1bn as of Q3FY25. This also aided higher other income of Rs330mn.
- Key con-call takeaways: (1) ATSERDM and QCIL's merger transaction is waiting for regulatory approvals from CCI, NCLT and stock exchanges. (2) On track with overall expansion plans of ~1,700 beds with a total capex requirement at Rs10bn. Commissioned 77 operational beds at Medcity unit in Q3, thereby taking total operational beds to 3,766. Plans to operationalize 159 brownfield beds (Block-D) at Whitefield, 75 brownfield beds at Ongole and 264 greenfield beds at Kasargod in H1FY26. (3) Hospital margins guided to reach ~24% over 2 years with improvement in operational efficiencies, higher ARPOB, reduction in ALOS, and strategic cost control. (4) Kerala cluster's occupancy was impacted for Q3FY25 due to seasonality, new bed addition, decline in international patients (Maldives and GCC region) and recent leadership changes. However, occupancy has seen improvement in Jan month and guided for better case and payor mix further on strategic focus on

improving insurance business and reduction in scheme patients. **(5)** Whitefield unit occupancy for Block A-C stood at 50-52% in Q3 with ARPOB reaching to Rs 75k following the commercialization of Women and child block. Currently, EBITDA margins are at high teens and guided to gradually expand to ~30%, aligning with Aster CMI's margin profile. 5) ARPOB growth aided by improved surgical mix, ALOS reduction and better payor mix (insurance patients contributed 30% in 9MFY25, represents +300bps YoY improvement). 6) Mgmt plans to maintain pharmacy store range at 200-225 stores. **(7)** Annual rental cost including variable costs would be at Rs. 1.2-1.3bn for FY25.

Exhibit 1: Q3FY25 Result Overview (Rs mn) - In line EBITDA

Y/e March	3QFY25	3QFY24	YoY gr. (%)	2QFY25	QoQ gr. (%)	9MFY25	9MFY24	YoY (%)
Net Sales	10,498	9,490	10.6	10,864	(3.4)	31,381	27,242	15.2
COGS	2,470	2,292	<i>7.8</i>	2,375	4.0	7,131	6,841	4.2
% of Net Sales	23.5	24.1		21.9		22.7	25.1	
Employee Cost	1,936	1,773	9.2	1,934	0.1	5,804	5,050	14.9
% of Net Sales	18.4	18.7		17.8		18.5	18.5	
Other Expenses	4,154	3,846	8.0	4,309	(3.6)	12,602	11,052	14.0
% of Net Sales	39.6	40.5		39.7		40.2	40.6	
Total	8,560	7,910	8.2	8,617	(0.7)	25,537	22,943	11.3
EBITDA	1,938	1,580	22.6	2,247	(13.8)	5,844	4,299	35.9
Margins (%)	18.5	16.6		20.7		18.6	15.8	
Other Income	330	92	258.6	352	(6.4)	1,170	208	463.1
Interest	308	253	21.8	315	(2.2)	914	804	13.6
Depreciation	622	565	10.1	623	(0.1)	1,849	1,616	14.4
PBT	1,338	854	56.6	1,662	(19.5)	4,251	2,086	103.7
Tax	375	112	233.5	529	(29.1)	1,294	259	398.7
Tax rate %	28.0	13.2		31.8		30.4	12.4	
PAT	963	742	29.8	1,133	(15.0)	2,957	1,827	61.9
Share in (loss)/profit of associate	(36)	(25)		(26)		(89.0)	(85)	
Minority Interest	(76)	(70)		(89)		(235.4)	(167)	
Reported PAT	851	647	31.6	1,018	(16.4)	2,633	1,575	67.1

Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 2: Hospital's cluster-wise revenue break-up

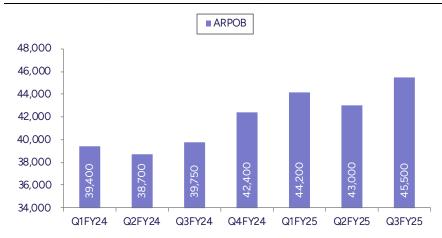
Revenues (Rs. mn)	3QFY25	3QFY24	YoY gr. (%)	2QFY25	QoQ gr. (%)	9MFY25	9MFY24	YoY (%)
Kerala	5,230	5,240	(0.2)	5,590	(6.4)	16,100	14,890	8.1
% of Total Sales	52.2	57.7		53.2		53.3	57.5	
Karnataka and Maharashtra	3,580	2,780	28.8	3,670	(2.5)	10,540	7,940	32.7
% of Total Sales	35. <i>7</i>	30.6		34.9		34.9	30.6	
AP and Telangana	1,210	1,060	14.2	1,250	(3.2)	3,570	3,080	15.9
% of Total Sales	12.1	11.7		11.9		11.8	11.9	
Total sales	10,020	9,080	10.4	10,510	-4.7	30,210	25,910	16.6

Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 3: Hospital's cluster-wise EBITDA break-up

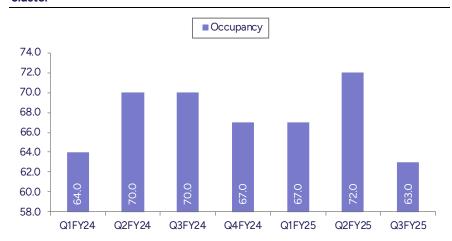
Y/e March	3QFY25	3QFY24	YoY gr. (%)	2QFY25	QoQ gr. (%)	9MFY25	9MFY24	YoY (%)
Kerala	1,280	1,170	9.4	1,390	(7.9)	3,870	3,160	22.5
Karnataka & Maharashtra	800	530	50.9	940	(14.9)	2,440	1,540	58.4
AP and Telangana	170	120	41.7	190	(10.5)	470	330	42.4
Total Hospital EBITDA	2,250	1,820	23.6	2,520	-10.7	6,780	5,030	34.8
Source: Company, PL								

Exhibit 4: ARPOB growth led by improved surgical mix and ALOS reduction



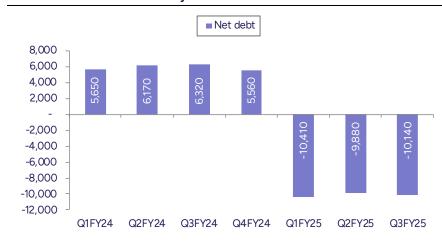
Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 5: Occupancy decline on seasonality and leadership change in Kerala cluster



Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 6: Net cash increased by Rs. 260mn QoQ to Rs10.1bn



Source: Company, PL



Financials

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Income Statement (Rs m) Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net Revenues	36,990	42,201	49,435	58,142
YoY gr. (%)	24.0	14.1	49,435 17.1	17.6
Cost of Goods Sold	9.160	10,339	11,864	13,954
Gross Profit	27,830	31,862	37,570	44,188
Margin (%)	75.2	75.5	76.0	76.0
Employee Cost	6,660	7,526	8,504	9,610
Other Expenses	15,280	16,418	19,149	22,656
EBITDA	5,890	7,918	9,917	11,923
YoY gr. (%)	30.0	34.4	25.3	20.2
Margin (%)	15.9	18.8	20.1	20.5
Depreciation and Amortization	2,220	2,486	2,685	2,846
EBIT	3,670	5,432	7,232	9,077
Margin (%)	9.9	12.9	14.6	15.6
Net Interest	1,110	1,200	1,000	900
Other Income	250	1,450	1,700	1,800
Profit Before Tax	2,810	5,682	7,932	9,977
Margin (%)	7.6	13.5	16.0	17.2
Total Tax	50	1,704	1,983	2,494
Effective tax rate (%)	1.8	30.0	25.0	25.0
Profit after tax	2,760	3,977	5,949	7,482
Minority interest	250	348	525	622
Share Profit from Associate	(110)	(110)	(120)	(130)
Adjusted PAT	1,880	3,132	5,304	6,731
YoY gr. (%)	27.9	66.6	69.4	26.9
Margin (%)	5.1	7.4	10.7	11.6
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	-
Reported PAT	1,880	3,132	5,304	6,731
YoY gr. (%)	27.9	66.6	69.4	26.9
Margin (%)	5.1	7.4	10.7	11.6
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	1,880	3,132	5,304	6,731
Equity Shares O/s (m)	500	500	500	500
EPS (Rs)	3.8	6.3	10.6	13.5

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Balance Sheet Abstract (Rs m)

Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Non-Current Assets				
Gross Block	23,035	27,268	31,569	35,908
Tangibles	23,035	27,268	31,569	35,908
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Acc: Dep / Amortization	-	-	-	-
Tangibles	-	-	-	-
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Net fixed assets	23,035	27,268	31,569	35,908
Tangibles	23,035	27,268	31,569	35,908
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Capital Work In Progress	1,701	1,701	1,701	1,701
Goodwill	2,641	2,641	2,641	2,641
Non-Current Investments	170	170	170	170
Net Deferred tax assets	-	-	-	-
Other Non-Current Assets	11,401	17,933	17,933	17,933
Current Assets				
Investments	-	-	-	-
Inventories	1,105	1,272	1,490	1,752
Trade receivables	2,334	2,775	3,250	3,823
Cash & Bank Balance	1,526	17,517	16,194	15,557
Other Current Assets	1,36,001	-	-	-
Total Assets	1,79,913	71,277	74,949	79,486
Equity				
Equity Share Capital	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Other Equity	40,603	32,379	36,327	41,024
Total Networth	45,603	37,379	41,327	46,024
Non-Current Liabilities				
Long Term borrowings	6,693	6,693	5,693	4,693
Provisions	-	-	-	-
Other non current liabilities	5,029	5,830	5,830	5,830
Current Liabilities				
ST Debt / Current of LT Debt	-	-	-	-
Trade payables	4,587	4,587	4,587	4,587
Other current liabilities	1,13,298	15,128	15,326	15,545
Total Funda of 12 1 222	4 70 040	=4.0==	74040	70.400

1,79,913

71,277

74,949

79,486

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Total Equity & Liabilities



Cash Flow (Rs m)				
Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
PBT	2,810	5,682	7,932	9,977
Add. Depreciation	2,220	2,486	2,685	2,846
Add. Interest	1,110	1,200	1,000	900
Less Financial Other Income	250	1,450	1,700	1,800
Add. Other	-	(110)	(120)	(130)
Op. profit before WC changes	6,140	9,258	11,497	13,593
Net Changes-WC	223	(1,400)	(495)	(617)
Direct tax	(320)	(1,704)	(1,983)	(2,494)
Net cash from Op. activities	6,043	6,154	9,019	10,482
Capital expenditures	(3,023)	(4,500)	(4,500)	(4,500)
Interest / Dividend Income	13	-	-	-
Others	(1,272)	-	-	-
Net Cash from Invt. activities	(4,282)	(4,500)	(4,500)	(4,500)
Issue of share cap. / premium	-	-	-	-
Debt changes	723	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
Dividend paid	(1,356)	(61,106)	(1,356)	(2,034)
Interest paid	(1,110)	(1,200)	(1,000)	(900)
Others	573	76,644	(2,486)	(2,685)
Net cash from Fin. activities	(1,170)	14,338	(5,842)	(6,619)
Net change in cash	591	15,991	(1,323)	(637)
Free Cash Flow	2,638	1,654	4,519	5,982

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Quarterly Financials (Rs m)

Y/e Mar	Q4FY24	Q1FY25	Q2FY25	Q3FY25
Net Revenue	9,736	10,019	10,864	10,498
YoY gr. (%)	20.7	19.1	16.3	10.6
Raw Material Expenses	2,318	2,286	2,375	2,470
Gross Profit	7,418	7,733	8,490	8,028
Margin (%)	76.2	77.2	78.1	76.5
EBITDA	1,583	1,659	2,247	1,938
YoY gr. (%)	27.7	33.9	51.9	22.6
Margin (%)	16.3	16.6	20.7	18.5
Depreciation / Depletion	584	604	623	622
EBIT	1,000	1,055	1,625	1,316
Margin (%)	10.3	10.5	15.0	12.5
Net Interest	299	292	315	308
Other Income	41	487	352	330
Profit before Tax	742	1,251	1,662	1,338
Margin (%)	7.6	12.5	15.3	12.7
Total Tax	306	390	529	375
Effective tax rate (%)	41.2	31.2	31.8	28.0
Profit after Tax	436	861	1,133	963
Minority interest	90	70	89	76
Share Profit from Associates	(29)	(27)	(26)	(36)
Adjusted PAT	878	734	958	554
YoY gr. (%)	78.1	70.7	92.2	(14.4
Margin (%)	9.0	7.3	8.8	5.3
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	
Reported PAT	878	734	958	554
YoY gr. (%)	78.1	70.7	92.2	(14.4
Margin (%)	9.0	7.3	8.8	5.3
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	878	734	958	554
Avg. Shares O/s (m)	500	500	500	500
EPS (Rs)	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.1

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Ke۱	/ Fina	ncıal	Me	trics

Rey Financial Metrics				
Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Per Share(Rs)				
EPS	3.8	6.3	10.6	13.5
CEPS	8.2	11.2	16.0	19.2
BVPS	91.2	74.8	82.7	92.0
FCF	5.3	3.3	9.0	12.0
DPS	2.3	2.3	2.3	3.5
Return Ratio(%)				
RoCE	9.8	11.3	15.9	18.6
ROIC	2.1	10.1	12.3	14.2
RoE	6.0	7.5	13.5	15.4
Balance Sheet				
Net Debt : Equity (x)	0.1	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.2)
Net Working Capital (Days)	(11)	(5)	1	6
Valuation(x)				
PER	124.5	74.7	44.1	34.8
P/B	5.1	6.3	5.7	5.1
P/CEPS	57.1	41.7	29.3	24.5
EV/EBITDA	40.7	28.2	22.6	18.7
EV/Sales	6.5	5.3	4.5	3.8
Dividend Yield (%)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7

Source: Company Data, PL Research





Analyst Coverage Universe

Sr. No.	Company Name	Rating	TP (Rs)	Share Price (Rs)
1	Apollo Hospitals Enterprise	BUY	8,000	7,437
2	Aster DM Healthcare	BUY	620	524
3	Aurobindo Pharma	Accumulate	1,475	1,298
4	Cipla	BUY	1,730	1,421
5	Divi's Laboratories	Accumulate	6,000	5,920
6	Dr. Reddy's Laboratories	Reduce	1,335	1,289
7	Eris Lifesciences	BUY	1,420	1,301
8	Fortis Healthcare	BUY	710	735
9	HealthCare Global Enterprises	BUY	535	488
10	Indoco Remedies	Hold	325	343
11	Ipca Laboratories	Accumulate	1,700	1,736
12	J.B. Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals	BUY	2,250	1,896
13	Jupiter Life Line Hospitals	BUY	1,660	1,565
14	Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences	BUY	675	649
15	Lupin	BUY	2,420	2,359
16	Max Healthcare Institute	BUY	1,300	1,061
17	Narayana Hrudayalaya	BUY	1,420	1,351
18	Rainbow Children's Medicare	BUY	1,785	1,552
19	Sun Pharmaceutical Industries	BUY	2,275	1,744
20	Sunteck Realty	BUY	700	494
21	Torrent Pharmaceuticals	Accumulate	3,750	3,248
22	Zydus Lifesciences	Accumulate	1,050	1,001

PL's Recommendation Nomenclature (Absolute Performance)

 Buy
 : > 15%

 Accumulate
 : 5% to 15%

 Hold
 : +5% to -5%

 Reduce
 : -5% to -15%

 Sell
 : < -15%</td>

Not Rated (NR) : No specific call on the stock
Under Review (UR) : Rating likely to change shortly

February 4, 2025 6



ANALYST CERTIFICATION

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