

SECTOR HEALTHCARE

REGION AFRICA, AMERICAS, CARIBBEAN

International Healthcare Services Ltd (IHS) and its affiliated companies operate in the Caribbean and Africa.

Included in the privately held IHS group are the Heart Institute of the Caribbean, DNA Healthcare Services Ltd, Doctors On Call Services (DOCS) Ltd, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Ltd, Breath Wellness and Medical Spa.

About the sector

IHS Ltd provides specialised services in healthcare in the Caribbean and Africa, leveraging technology advances to pioneer innovative solutions to pressing healthcare problems in developing countries.

Eight years ago, IHS developed the Heart Institute of the Caribbean, Jamaica – the first and only comprehensive cardiac centre of excellence in the Englishspeaking Caribbean. The institute has been internationally recognised for its approach to cardiovascular care delivery in low-resource environments. Caribbean citizens are now able to access advanced care and procedures locally. Many of these services were previously unavailable in the Caribbean.

The institute has also demonstrated the first clinical use of telemedicine and remote image management in the Caribbean, enabling patients to access specialists from other countries remotely.

Through its subsidiaries, DNA Healthcare Services Ltd and DOCS Nigeria Ltd, IHS has established two cardiac centres in Nigeria, in Lagos and Enugu. The DOCS Heart Center, Enugu, is the only cardiac centre in the south/south-east of the country, serving a population of about 50 million people.

In addition, IHS has launched several transformative programmes, such as



its 24-hour medical call centre ('Hello doctor') that provides round-the-clock access to doctors for routine and urgent medical concerns – the only such service in West Africa.

DOCS Nigeria has also introduced real-time audio visual telemedicine consultations that allow Nigeria-based patients to obtain real-time consultation with expert physicians based in the US. This service is further complemented by its Electronic Consultation and Second Opinions delivered through the DOCS web portal, which allows electronic consultation with international experts without geographical limitations.

UHY services

UHY member firms have provided financial services for IHS and its subsidiary companies in multiple areas, including financial management, business structuring, taxation, business advisory, debt management, auditing services and fiscal controls.

In the Caribbean, the Heart Institute of the Caribbean has worked with UHY Dawgen Chartered Accountants, Jamaica, over the past eight years. UHY Dawgen has provided skills and expertise in corporate structuring, financial management, auditing and tax advisory and has helped the client expand into Africa.

Since then, IHS has made contact with UHY Maaji & Co., Nigeria, where it plans to launch DOCS services and a



telemedicine service, in partnership with Globacom, a leading mobile network operator in Nigeria.

UHY Dawgen provides financial and auditing services for all companies in the group and generates consolidated statements and annual returns.

Why UHY?

Ernest Madu, IHS chairman, says: "We chose UHY after an exhaustive evaluation of different companies. We found UHY Dawgen to be well informed about key financial issues that impact the successful running of a company. We were impressed with the ability of the principal to understand our needs and their willingness to work with our company to ensure proper corporate structuring, financial and asset management.

"We naturally looked at the top accounting firms, including from the Big Four, but we liked the individualised and personalised attention to detail we were able to obtain from the UHY member firm. We appreciated that UHY Dawgen took time to understand our business model and craft an approach that we believe is specifically designed for us."

Working with UHY

The IHS chairman cites "personalised attention and innovative approaches that create value for our company" when asked about working with UHY member firms.

"Working with UHY Dawgen has been rewarding," he says. "UHY Dawgen demonstrates thorough understanding of corporate financing and provides sound financial advisory services that are uniquely tailored for our company. In the process, they have significantly contributed to the growth of our business and the maximisation of our value."