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San Francisco Hospital sold to Sistema de Salud Metropolitano

By : TAINA ROSA
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Option to purchase Pavia's three hospitals signed; Pavia backs out of Santurce's San Carlos deal

San Francisco Hospital in Río Piedras has been sold to Eduardo Artau, owner of Sistema de Salud Metropolitano, for an undisclosed amount, sources in the local hospital industry confirmed. "The deal was inked on Monday night," they revealed.

Rumors about Artau also being one of the investors buying Pavia Health's Perea, Hato Rey and hospitals continue, even though sources at SSM have emphatically denied this. CARIBBEAN BUSINESS learned from a different source, though, that the option to purchase the Pavia hospitals was signed last Thursday.

Regarding Pavia, various other sources said its owners have decided not to purchase San Carlos Hospital in Santurce whose operations unit has been in the bankruptcy court.

San Francisco Hospital was founded in 1968 and has 160 beds. MedHoldings Inc. had owned the hospital since July 1, 2004, when it purchased it from Universal Health Services for an undisclosed amount. Before MedHoldings acquired it, San Francisco Hospital was known as the Caribbean Pediatric & Surgery Hospital.

Sistema de Salud Metropolitano operates Hospital Metropolitano in San Juan, Tito Mattei Hospital in Yauco, San Germán's former Diagnostic & Treatment Center, Hospital Metropolitano in Cabo Rojo and two hospitals in Arecibo: Hospital Susoni and Cayetano Coll y Toste. The conglomerate also has 10 satellite clinics known as Metro Clínicas.

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