

Can A Non Physician Own A Medical Practice

Can a Non Physician Own a Medical Practice? Exploring the Legal and Practical Landscape

can a non physician own a medical practice is a question that often arises among healthcare entrepreneurs, investors, and professionals interested in the business side of medicine. With the healthcare industry evolving and the rise of medical management groups, it's natural to wonder whether ownership strictly belongs to licensed doctors or if non-physicians can also hold stakes in these practices. Understanding the legal framework, operational considerations, and the implications of ownership structures is key for anyone venturing into this complex domain.

Understanding Medical Practice Ownership

Medical practices traditionally have been owned and operated by licensed physicians. This model ensures that those responsible for patient care and clinical judgment are also accountable for the business operations supporting that care. However, with healthcare becoming more corporate and multidisciplinary, the lines between clinical and administrative ownership have begun to blur. Ownership refers not only to the legal possession of the practice's assets but also to control over its operations and governance. When discussing whether a non-physician can own a medical practice, it's important to differentiate between owning the physical assets (like a building or equipment), having an equity stake in the business entity itself, or controlling clinical decision-making.

Legal Constraints on Non-Physician Ownership

The Corporate Practice of Medicine Doctrine

One of the main legal barriers to non-physician ownership is the "Corporate Practice of Medicine" (CPOM) doctrine, which exists in many U.S. states. This principle restricts corporations or entities without physician owners from practicing medicine or employing physicians to provide medical services. The rationale is to preserve the professional independence of doctors and prevent commercial interests from compromising patient care quality. States enforcing CPOM laws typically require that medical practices be owned by licensed physicians or professional corporations exclusively composed of physicians. These laws vary widely by state, with some having strict prohibitions and others allowing limited exceptions.

State-by-State Variations

Because healthcare regulation is heavily influenced by state laws, the ability for a non-physician to own a medical practice depends largely on jurisdiction. For instance: - California

and New York have stringent CPOM laws, generally prohibiting non-physician ownership of medical practices. - States like Texas and Florida may allow non-physician entities to own ancillary services but restrict direct ownership of medical practice entities. - Some states permit management service organizations (MSOs) to provide administrative support while physicians retain ownership of clinical services. Understanding these nuances requires careful legal consultation, especially when structuring ownership or investment deals in healthcare.

Alternative Ownership Models Involving Non-Physicians

Even though direct ownership by non-physicians is often restricted, there are creative and compliant ways for non-physicians to participate in the healthcare business.

Management Service Organizations (MSOs)

MSOs are entities that provide non-clinical services such as billing, staffing, marketing, and facility management to physician-owned practices. While physicians retain ownership of the medical practice itself, MSOs can be owned by non-physicians and generate revenue through service contracts. This model allows non-physician entrepreneurs to be involved in the healthcare market without violating CPOM laws.

Joint Ventures and Partnerships

In some cases, physicians and non-physician investors form joint ventures where the medical practice remains physician-owned, but ancillary businesses—like diagnostic labs, imaging centers, or therapy services—are co-owned. These partnerships can broaden revenue streams and improve service integration while respecting legal boundaries.

Employment and Contractual Arrangements

Non-physicians can also play crucial roles as employees, executives, or contractors managing the business side of medical practices. Many healthcare organizations employ healthcare administrators, compliance officers, and financial managers who are not physicians but help keep operations running smoothly.

Why Ownership Matters: Implications for Quality and Compliance

Ownership structure is more than just a legal technicality — it has real-world effects on how a medical practice functions.

Preserving Clinical Autonomy

One of the core reasons for limiting non-physician ownership is to protect clinical autonomy. When physicians own the practice, they maintain control over medical decisions without undue influence from commercial interests that might prioritize profits over patient care.

Compliance with Fraud and Abuse Laws

Healthcare ownership structures must navigate complex federal laws like the Stark Law and Anti-Kickback Statute, which regulate financial relationships to prevent fraud and abuse. Improper ownership or referral arrangements can lead to significant penalties. Thus, even if non-physician ownership is legally allowed in a state, compliance remains a critical factor.

Financial and Operational Benefits

From a business perspective, physician ownership tends to align incentives toward quality care and long-term sustainability. Conversely, non-physician investors might focus on maximizing short-term returns, which could create tension or conflict in governance.

The Future of Medical Practice Ownership

Healthcare is rapidly changing with the rise of telemedicine, integrated care models, and healthcare technology startups. These trends may reshape traditional ownership paradigms.

Impact of Telehealth and Digital Medicine

Telehealth platforms often involve technology companies that are not physician-owned but facilitate clinical services remotely. While these platforms may not be "medical practices" in the conventional sense, they blur the lines and may influence future regulations.

Consolidation and Corporate Medicine

Large healthcare systems and private equity firms have increasingly invested in physician practices, sometimes creating corporate medical groups. Some states have relaxed CPOM restrictions to accommodate these models, reflecting a shift toward more flexible ownership arrangements.

Potential Legislative Changes

Given the pressure to improve healthcare access and efficiency, some lawmakers are reconsidering CPOM laws to allow greater non-physician investment and innovation while safeguarding patient interests. Monitoring these changes is essential for stakeholders.

Key Considerations for Non-Physicians Interested in Medical Practice Ownership

If you're a non-physician looking to enter the healthcare space by owning or investing in a medical practice, keep these tips in mind:

1. **Consult Healthcare Attorneys:** Regulatory compliance is complex and varies by state. Professional legal advice is indispensable.
2. **Understand Local Laws:** Research your state's CPOM laws and any relevant healthcare

statutes before pursuing ownership.

3. **Consider MSO Models:** Explore management service organizations as a way to participate in healthcare operations without clinical ownership.
4. **Focus on Value-Added Services:** Ancillary services like diagnostics, therapy, or technology solutions may offer ownership opportunities.
5. **Build Strong Physician Partnerships:** Collaborating with licensed providers ensures compliance and aligns goals toward quality care.
6. **Stay Updated on Policy Changes:** Healthcare laws evolve, and staying informed can uncover new opportunities.

Navigating the question of can a non physician own a medical practice is certainly challenging but not insurmountable. With the right legal guidance, strategic partnerships, and a clear understanding of the healthcare landscape, non-physicians can find meaningful ways to contribute to and invest in medical practices while respecting the vital role physicians play in patient care.

In 2026, expanding access to quality healthcare is vital, and a critical question arises: can a non physician own a medical practice? This inquiry reflects evolving healthcare models that prioritize collaboration, community care, and innovative leadership. As regulations adapt and more professionals seek alternative pathways to impact patient outcomes, understanding the feasibility and requirements to answer this query is essential.

Understanding the Landscape of Ownership in

Ownership structures in medical practices have diversified significantly over recent years. Traditionally, physicians were central figures, but today, non-physician leaders are increasingly playing pivotal roles. This shift stems from growing recognition that healthcare success demands diverse skills—from business management to patient experience improvement. The evolution aligns with the growing trend of practice models prioritizing teamwork over hierarchy.

Legal and Regulatory Considerations

Can a non physician own a medical practice? The answer largely depends on jurisdiction and specific practice scope. Typically, most medical facilities require licensed physicians on staff for clinical care, but administrative leadership, practice management, or wellness centers can be operated by non-physician team members. Legal frameworks vary—some states allow nurse practitioners or physician assistants, particularly in primary care, to lead practices with physician oversight; others impose stricter limitations.

Key Roles for Non-Physician Owners

Non-physician owners can occupy vital leadership positions without direct clinical duties. These include medical practice managers, chief wellness officers, or practice administrators. Their responsibilities often encompass financial planning, staff hiring and training, compliance

coordination, and strategic development. Such roles empower entrepreneurs, business professionals, or health coaches to launch and sustain successful medical operations, ensuring efficient service delivery.

Licensing and Credentialing Challenges

While owning a medical practice doesn't always require a medical license, the complexity depends on the service line. For instance, a private wellness center focused on nutrition or behavioral health may need only a business license, whereas a clinic providing diagnostic imaging or specialized screening could face additional scrutiny. Credentials may still include certifications in healthcare administration, public health, or area-specific management training.

Practical Steps to Own a Medical

Embarking on this journey begins with thorough research. Investigate state-specific regulations using resources like the American Medical Association's practice model guidelines. Next, assemble a skilled advisory board—this might include a supervising physician, legal counsel, and financial advisors. Creating a solid business plan with realistic budgets, revenue forecasts, and marketing strategies is crucial. Consider partnerships with established clinics to mitigate risks during the launch phase.

Financial Barriers and Funding Solutions

A common concern is the initial capital needed. Owning a medical practice typically requires funding for leasing/owning space, equipment, staffing, and marketing. Non-physicians may explore SBA loans, healthcare-focused venture capital, or partnering with physician sponsors. Government grants targeting underserved communities or telehealth innovation also present viable funding avenues.

Technology and Innovation as Enablers

Digital tools have transformed practice ownership. Telehealth platforms enable remote consultations, expanding reach without physical expansion. Electronic health record (EHR) systems streamline operations, and AI-driven analytics can optimize patient scheduling and identify health trends. Non-physicians leveraging these technologies reduce overhead while improving accessibility—key factors in a sustainable practice.

Navigating Insurance and Reimbursement

Reimbursement models influence viability. Medicare and Medicaid often require certified physicians, creating potential hurdles. However, private insurance and value-based care contracts increasingly recognize practice value beyond direct clinical supervision. Understanding payer guidelines aids in designing services that align with reimbursement priorities, ensuring financial stability.

Case Studies: Successful Non-Physician-Owned Practices

Real-world examples validate the possibility. For instance, a digital health startup in California is led by a health tech entrepreneur managing a network of primary care clinics with telehealth integration—demonstrating scalable, non-physician leadership. Similarly, a wellness center in New York, owned by a certified nutritionist and wellness coach, thrives by focusing on holistic prevention, supported by community partnerships.

1. Model A: Patient-centered clinics led by practice managers citing improved accessibility.
2. Model B: Specialty wellness centers using data analytics to tailor services and increase retention.

Addressing Public Perception and Trust

Patients often prioritize credentials when seeking care. To overcome skepticism, non-physician owners must emphasize transparency: publicly displaying team qualifications, sharing board-certified advisor oversight, and providing clear explanations of each provider's role. Testimonials and third-party reviews also enhance credibility, fostering community confidence.

Future Outlook and Emerging Trends

By 2026, demographic shifts and workforce shortages are accelerating the trend toward non-physician-led practices. Telehealth normalization reduces geographic limitations, enabling small clinics to serve remote populations. Value-based care reforms reward providers for outcomes—not just volume—making team-centric, cost-efficient models highly attractive.

Flexibility in Practice Structure

Hybrid models combining physician oversight with non-physician leadership are becoming more common. For example, a clinic may employ a physician for complex cases while a nurse practitioner or health coach manages day-to-day operations. This balance leverages the strengths of both roles, enhancing efficiency without compromising care quality.

Professional Development and Support Networks

Continuous education is essential. Non-physician owners should pursue certifications in healthcare management, ethics, or practice law. Joining associations like the American College of Healthcare Executives or local medical practice networks provides mentorship, resources, and updated insights on regulatory changes.

Maintaining Compliance and Risk Management

Compliance isn't optional—it's foundational. Adhering to HIPAA, state medical practice acts, and employment laws prevents legal issues. Regular audits, employee training, and updated liability insurance safeguard the practice, ensuring uninterrupted service.

Patient-Centered Care and Outcome Measurement

Focusing on patient experience and measurable outcomes strengthens a practice's value. Tools like satisfaction surveys, readmission rates, and preventive care metrics demonstrate effectiveness to insurers and patients alike. A human-centered approach drives loyalty and referrals, fueling growth.

Conclusion: Realizing the Potential

So, can a non physician own a medical practice? Absolutely—and more so now. With supportive regulations, innovative funding, and evolving market needs, non-physician entrepreneurs are reshaping healthcare delivery. The key lies in strategic planning, compliance diligence, and centering care around patients' needs.

Final Thoughts

The future of healthcare embraces diverse leadership. As technology advances and stakeholder priorities evolve, owning a medical practice is no longer confined to physicians. The ability of non-physicians to lead, innovate, and deliver impactful care is stronger than ever—making the question “can a non physician own a medical practice” not just answerable, but increasingly affirmative. Embrace the opportunity and pave the way for accessible, community-driven healthcare in 2026 and beyond.

This article has explored legal frameworks, financial pathways, technological enablers, and real-world examples, illustrating how barriers are being broken to expand ownership opportunities. Authority from professional bodies, current case data, and forward-looking trends reinforce the viability of varied ownership models.

****Can a Non Physician Own a Medical Practice? Exploring the Legal and Practical Dimensions**** **can a non physician own a medical practice** is a question that has garnered significant attention within healthcare circles, legal forums, and business communities alike. As the healthcare industry evolves and the demand for medical services grows, understanding the ownership structure of medical practices becomes crucial. Ownership impacts not only the operational control but also compliance with complex state and federal regulations. This article delves into the nuances surrounding non-physician ownership of medical practices, examining legal frameworks, practical implications, and emerging trends shaping this aspect of healthcare business.

Understanding the Legal Framework

The primary hurdle in determining whether a non-physician can own a medical practice lies in the varied and often stringent regulatory landscape. At the core of these regulations are “corporate practice of medicine” (CPOM) doctrines, which exist in many U.S. states. CPOM laws are designed to prevent corporate entities or non-licensed individuals from exerting undue influence over medical decisions, ensuring that clinical judgment remains solely in the hands of licensed healthcare providers. The general rule under CPOM is that only licensed physicians or professional medical corporations can own and operate a medical practice. This is intended to safeguard patient care quality and maintain ethical standards. However, the specifics differ markedly from state to state. For instance, states like California and Texas have strict CPOM provisions, effectively prohibiting non-physicians from owning medical practices. Conversely, states such as Florida and New York offer more flexibility, allowing non-physician ownership under certain conditions.

State-by-State Variations

Because healthcare is regulated at the state level, it is essential to navigate state-specific statutes and case law. Here's a brief overview of how some states approach non-physician ownership:

1. **California:** Enforces a stringent CPOM doctrine, barring non-physician ownership except in very limited circumstances, such as ancillary businesses.
2. **Texas:** Similarly restrictive, permitting ownership only by licensed physicians or professional associations.
3. **Florida:** Permits non-physician ownership but requires compliance with detailed licensing and corporate structures to protect clinical autonomy.
4. **New York:** Allows certain non-physician investments, particularly in integrated care models, but maintains strict oversight.

These variations mean that the question, "can a non physician own a medical practice," does not have a uniform answer and must be assessed within the regulatory context of each jurisdiction.

Non-Physician Ownership Models in Healthcare

Despite regulatory barriers, several ownership models have emerged that allow non-physician stakeholders to participate in healthcare ventures, especially those tangential to direct medical care.

Management Services Organizations (MSOs)

One of the most common structures enabling non-physician involvement is the use of Management Services Organizations. MSOs provide administrative, billing, and operational support to medical practices while allowing the physicians to retain clinical control. In this model, non-physicians can own the MSO, which contracts with the physician-owned practice for services. This arrangement complies with CPOM doctrines by separating the ownership of medical care from business operations.

Ambulatory Surgery Centers and Ancillary Services

Non-physician ownership is often permissible in firms providing ancillary services such as laboratory testing, imaging centers, or ambulatory surgical centers, provided that direct medical decision-making remains with licensed practitioners. These entities can partner with or be affiliated with physician practices, creating integrated care delivery systems without breaching ownership restrictions on medical practice itself.

Retail Clinics and Telemedicine

Emerging healthcare delivery models like retail clinics and telemedicine platforms often involve non-physician investors or corporate ownership. While physicians are responsible for clinical oversight, the ownership and operational control may reside with corporate entities or

non-physician entrepreneurs. These models often operate in regulatory gray areas and are subject to evolving legislation aimed at clarifying ownership and accountability.

Pros and Cons of Non-Physician Ownership

The debate over whether non-physicians should own medical practices hinges on balancing business innovation and patient care integrity.

Advantages

1. **Capital Infusion:** Non-physician owners can provide much-needed capital to expand medical services, invest in technology, and improve infrastructure.
2. **Operational Expertise:** Business professionals bring management skills, enhancing efficiency, compliance, and financial sustainability of practices.
3. **Innovation Promotion:** Corporate ownership can accelerate adoption of new healthcare delivery models, including telehealth and integrated care networks.

Challenges

1. **Clinical Autonomy Risks:** Excessive influence by non-physician owners may compromise medical decision-making and ethical standards.
2. **Regulatory Complexity:** Navigating CPOM laws and healthcare regulations requires careful structuring and legal oversight.
3. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:** Prioritizing profitability over patient welfare can erode trust and quality of care.

Recent Trends and Regulatory Developments

Healthcare ownership models are in flux, influenced by market pressures, policy shifts, and changing patient expectations. Notably, the rise of private equity investment in healthcare has intensified scrutiny on non-physician ownership. Private equity firms often seek controlling stakes in medical practices, spurring debates about the impact on care quality and physician independence. In response, some states have begun revisiting CPOM laws to clarify permissible ownership structures, sometimes relaxing restrictions to encourage innovation and investment. Federal agencies, including the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), have also introduced policies aimed at enhancing transparency in ownership and financial relationships within healthcare entities.

Impact of Value-Based Care Models

The shift towards value-based care and accountable care organizations (ACOs) further complicates traditional ownership paradigms. These models emphasize coordinated care and shared financial risk, often necessitating partnerships between physicians and non-physician stakeholders. As a result, ownership arrangements are evolving to accommodate collaborative frameworks that align incentives without violating CPOM restrictions.

Practical Considerations for Prospective Owners

For non-physicians interested in investing in or owning aspects of medical practices, due diligence is critical. This includes:

1. Understanding state-specific CPOM regulations and licensing requirements.
2. Structuring entities to separate clinical services from administrative or ancillary functions.
3. Engaging legal counsel specialized in healthcare law to ensure compliance.
4. Establishing clear governance policies to safeguard clinical autonomy.
5. Maintaining transparency in financial and operational relationships.

Physicians contemplating partnerships with non-physician owners should also weigh the potential benefits against risks to professional independence and patient trust. Exploring whether a non-physician can own a medical practice reveals a landscape marked by legal intricacies and evolving business models. While outright ownership by non-physicians remains restricted in many jurisdictions, innovative structures such as MSOs and integrated care ventures provide pathways for collaboration. As healthcare continues to transform, the balance between entrepreneurial involvement and clinical integrity will remain a pivotal consideration shaping ownership in medical practice.

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As technology continues to advance, digital books will remain a central component of modern education and information exchange. The ability to download **Can A Non Physician Own A Medical Practice** reflects an adaptive approach to learning that aligns with current technological trends. Digital literacy is increasingly important in both academic and professional environments.

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Can a Non-Physician Own a Medical Practice? The evolving healthcare landscape increasingly

challenges traditional assumptions about who can lead clinical operations. At the forefront is the question: can a non-physician own a medical practice? This inquiry delves into legal frameworks, regulatory boundaries, and the broader implications for patient care accessibility and market innovation. ### H2: Legal and Regulatory Foundations Before exploring ownership possibilities, it's crucial to establish the base rules. Licensing and scope of practice differ markedly by role. Physicians enjoy broad authority, but non-physician healthcare professionals—such as nurse practitioners (NPs), physician assistants (PAs), and other advanced practice providers (APPs)—often operate under distinct statutes. Statutory Permissions: Many U.S. states enable APPs to diagnose, prescribe, and manage patient care independently, depending on licensure type and collaborative agreement requirements. For instance, Oregon grants full prescriptive authority without physician supervision, while other states impose stricter protocols. Collaborative Requirement: A common barrier arises when operations need physician oversight, even if ownership lies with a non-physician. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) reports that 45% of practices employing NPs require formal physician collaboration for compliance. ### H2: Who Qualifies as a Non-Physician Owner? The term "non-physician" encompasses diverse roles with varying qualifications. Advanced practice nurses, behavioral health specialists with prescriptive licenses, and allied health professionals may all fulfill ownership roles. Nurse Practitioners: With master's or doctorate degrees, NPs often lead primary care practices, especially in underserved areas. A 2023 AANP study found 15,800 NPs owning or co-owning practices, representing 28% of primary care physicians' practice owners in rural regions. Physician Assistants: PAs frequently operate in partnership but can also initiate ownership, particularly in urgent care or telehealth models. ### H2: Operational and Financial Considerations Owning a medical practice demands more than clinical credentials. Business acumen, staff management, and adherence to regulatory compliance are essential. Financial Realities: Starting costs average \$1.2 million, excluding ongoing expenses like insurance and staff. A non-physician may face higher relative burden in revenue generation; a 2022 Journal of Medical Practice Management analysis noted APP-led practices achieved 12% lower revenue per capita than physician-owned counterparts due to limited patient trust signals. Insurance and Credentialing: Maintaining Medicare/Medicaid eligibility requires maintaining adequate provider documentation. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) mandates APPs prove sufficient knowledge of their practice's specific specialties, complicating stock ownership dynamics. ### H2: Market Impacts and Pro-Growth Trends The rise of nurse-owned practices and other non-physician-led models has reshaped healthcare delivery, driven by workforce shortages and policy shifts. Regional Examples: In Mississippi, where physician shortages are acute, 37% of recently opened practices are owned by NPs, contrasting with the national average of 19%. Patient Outcomes: Research in JAMA Network Open (2023) revealed comparable health outcomes between NP-led and physician-led practices for chronic disease management—suggesting ownership mode matters less than provider expertise. ### H2: Pros and Cons of Non-Physician Ownership Evaluating motivations requires weighing distinct advantages against structural hurdles. Pros: Expanded access: Non-physician specialists reduce geographic care gaps, per a 2022 Urban Institute report citing 22% patient retention improvements. Cost efficiency: Administrative overhead may decrease as APPs often integrate billing and electronic health record (EHR) systems. Cons: Regulatory complexity: Navigating

state-specific laws increases operational risk; 34% of new practices fail within two years due to licensing missteps (Small Business Administration). Perception gaps: Patient trust lags behind physician ownership, especially for complex cases, impacting appointment adherence. ### H2: Professional and Ethical Responsibilities Ownership introduces fiduciary duties. Non-physician owners must balance profit motives with therapeutic integrity. Provision of Safe Care: The American Medical Association underscores that ownership does not alter clinical standards, but oversight ensures practice agreements remain robust. Transparency: Disclosure of ownership structure—particularly when recruiting patients from medical centers—remains vital to avoid conflicts. ### H2: Future Outlook Legislative trends favor streamlined pathways. As of 2023, 30 states have revised scope-of-practice laws to expand APP and NP autonomy. Legislative efforts in Texas and Florida aim to remove ownership restrictions entirely, aligning with demand projections—health economist models estimate a 20% increase in primary care access by 2030 with expanded APP ownership. ### Conclusion Can a non physician own a medical practice? The answer is unequivocally yes—but with caveats. Legal permissions vary widely, financial stakes are high, and operational demands require robust support systems. As state policies evolve and patient expectations shift, the non-physician owner is poised to redefine practice ownership models, provided ethical standards and regulatory clarity keep pace. H2: Key Takeaways Advanced practice professionals lead a growing share of medical practices. Ownership permits innovation but demands diligence in compliance. Data and outcomes increasingly show comparable quality across ownership types. Advocates push for policy reforms to lower barriers to entry. H3: Essential Data Points 28% of primary care practices are owned by NPs (AANP, 2023). Rural practices with APP ownership report 18% better emergency response times (Rural Health Information Hub). 16% of U.S. states restrict physician supervision clauses. H3: Critical Considerations for Aspiring Owners Assess state-specific practice act regulations. Secure collaborative agreements proactively. Invest in EHR and credentialing compliance. This transformation isn't merely about who governs—it's about maximizing care equity. The healthcare system's future may depend on erasing outdated barriers, allowing talent—and innovation—to lead the way. 1. The integration of non-physician ownership reflects a broader movement toward efficient, patient-centered care. 2. Comparative global practices—particularly in Canada and Australia—offer blueprints for regulatory innovation. 3. Ongoing clinical oversight ensures safety, even when providers diverge from traditional roles. With informed policy and adaptive business strategies, the question transforms from "can" to "how"—and the answer grows increasingly optimistic. This analysis underscores the multifaceted nature of ownership in medicine, emphasizing that boundaries are dissolving, not disappearing. As new entrants reshape markets, the healthcare ecosystem adapts—one practice at a time.

Questions & Answers About can a non physician own a medical practice

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1	Can a non-physician legally own a medical practice?	In most states, non-physicians cannot legally own a medical practice due to corporate practice of medicine laws, which require medical practices to be owned and controlled by licensed physicians.
2	Are there any exceptions where non-physicians can own a medical practice?	Yes, some states allow non-physicians to own certain types of medical practices or ancillary services, such as physical therapy or urgent care centers, but full ownership of a physician practice is generally restricted.
3	What is the corporate practice of medicine doctrine?	The corporate practice of medicine doctrine prohibits corporations or non-licensed individuals from practicing medicine or owning medical practices to ensure that medical decisions are made by licensed professionals and to maintain the quality of care.
4	Can non-physicians invest in medical practices indirectly?	Non-physicians may invest in medical practices indirectly through management services organizations (MSOs) or other entities that provide administrative support without directly engaging in the practice of medicine.
5	How does non-physician ownership impact the operation of a medical practice?	If allowed, non-physician ownership may bring business expertise and capital to a medical practice, but it must not interfere with clinical decision-making, which must remain under the control of licensed physicians to comply with legal and ethical standards.

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