BUY: ICLR PRICE: \$313 TARGET: \$362 UPSIDE: 15%



ICON PLC [NASDAQ: ICLR]

Sector Head: Katherine Bennorth

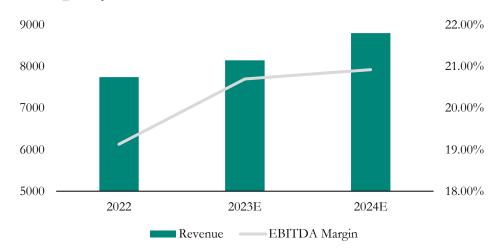
Lead Analyst: Greg Tasalov

Company Overview

Business Description

ICON is a Contract Research Organization (CRO) that provides drug makers and medical device companies a broad range of services for their clinical trials Design **Assist** Analyze **Studies Filings** Data

Company Metrics



Notable Partnerships







- Provided clinical trial services to Pfizer for its COVID-19 vaccine program (Fund bought 2/15/24)
- Manages Eli Lilly's clinical data management business outside the U.S.
- Preferred provider for early phase clinical development for Bristol Myers Squibb

Historical Stock Chart



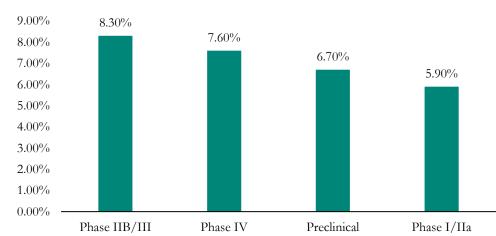
Healthcare Sector | Binghamton Investment Fund

Industry Analysis

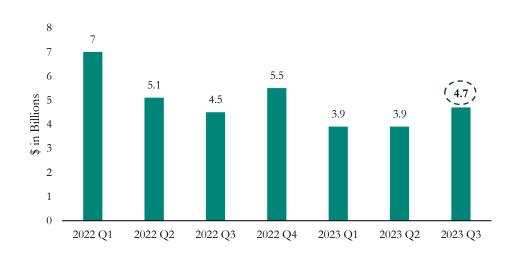
Sizing the Market



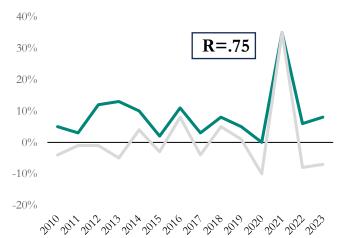
Late-Stage Y/Y Trial Growth



Funding On the Rise



P2/P3 Trial Start & CRO Rev



The rise in latter stage trials, coupled by the strong correlation between P2/P3 trial starts & CRO Revenue, presents a huge tailwind for **CROs**

Investment Thesis

Strong RFP Flow Post-COVID

Despite COVID-19 related revenues falling, ICLR has remained resilient working on numerous trials for Oncology & GLP-1 drug development

Capitalizing on Industry Shift to FSP

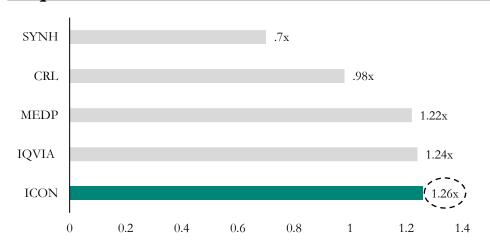
ICLR has the most built-out FSP portfolio in the CRO industry and is in the best position to capitalize on pharmas' need to shift to FSP from Full Service

Significant Exposure to Large Pharma

With SMID pharmas running low on cash and additional funding remaining tight, ICLR strong exposure to large pharmas enables them to remain strong in a cyclical environment

Strong RFP Flow Post Covid-19

Impressive B2B Ratio



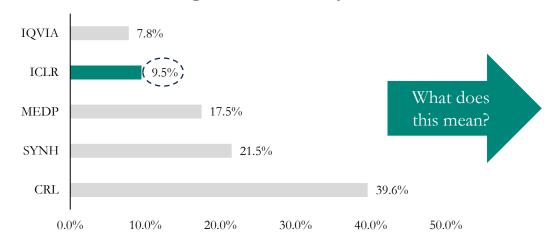
BARDA Overreaction

ICON partnered with BARDA in 3Q23 to test out the effectiveness of new-gen COVID vaccines, causing concern whether BARDA drove strong bookings

Guidance of 1.2-1.3 B2B for 2024 with larger bookings than BARDA in 3Q

Contract will hit revenue line during 2H24, management reaffirms COVID revenues of 3%-4% to 2028

Low Burn Rate Signifies Stability



As ICLR's backlog shifts more towards oncology and long-term focused trials as opposed to COVID – which realizes revenue much faster – there is more stability for their future outlook

By having the 2nd biggest backlog in the industry with a low burn rate, ICLR is well positioned for the next decade while also having the opportunity to capitalize on the emergence of GLP-1 drug studies

Healthcare Sector | Binghamton Investment Fund

Industry Shift to FSP

Functional Service Provider vs. Full Service

FSP

Pharmaceutical companies pick and choose which services to outsource

Full Service

Contract Research Organizations have full control and cover all facets of clinical trial

FSP Demand on the Rise

80%

Percent of sponsors increased FSP utilization in 2022

13%

Annual growth rate in FSP usage by large pharma

3-4

Number of preferred FSP providers sponsors are likely to retain

New Era



IRA requires pharmas that raise drug prices faster than the rate of inflation to pay Medicare a rebate, strongly disincentivizing R&D spending



With fast-burning projects post pandemic, pharmas are looking to cut down costs as top line is uncertain and funding remains cyclical

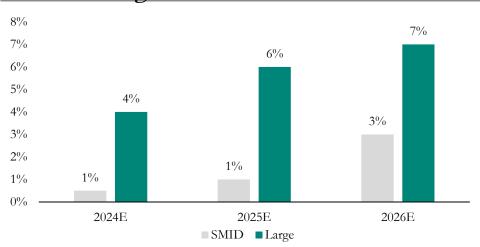
Dominant Market Share



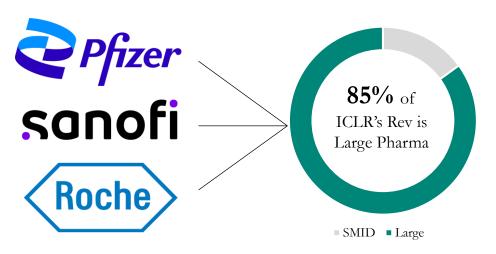
ICLR covers over a quarter of the Functional Service Provider market, more than any other competitor in the industry

Large Pharma Experience

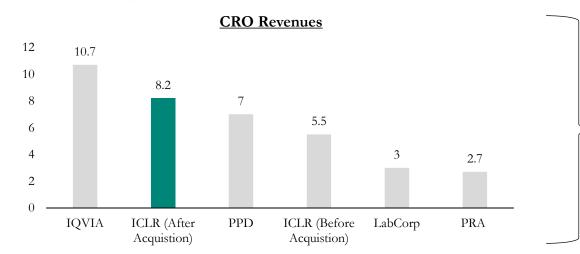
SMID vs Large Pharma R&D Growth



Strong Large Pharma Presence



PRAH Acquisition Not Fully Realized



PRA acquisition made ICLR the 2nd biggest CRO in industry and integration period is only 75% complete

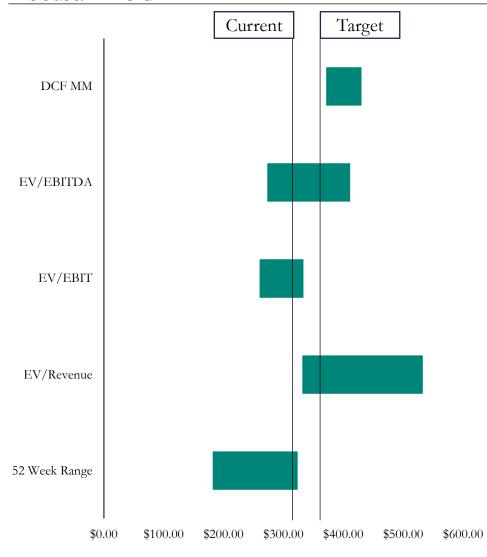
Acquisition has helped with partnership discussions as mgmt points to a higher negotiation power

ICLR will gain broader range of expertise, capabilities, and global exposure which will attract customers and win market share

OGON

Valuation

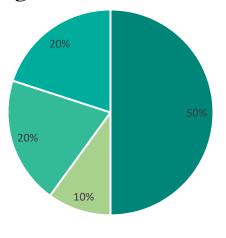
Football Field



Sensitivity Analysis

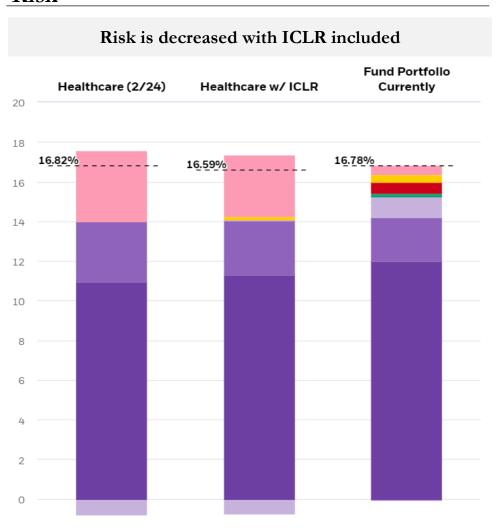
	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00	21.00
8.34%	386.00	405.02	424.04	443.05	462.07
8.84%	374.92	393.42	411.92	430.42	448.92
9.34%	364.19	382.19	400.19	418.19	436.19
9.84%	353.80	371.31	388.82	406.33	423.85
10.34%	343.72	360.77	377.81	394.85	411.89

Valuation Weights

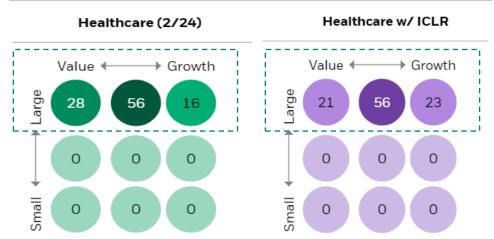


Portfolio Assessment

Risk



Growth/Value Assessment



Return Prospects

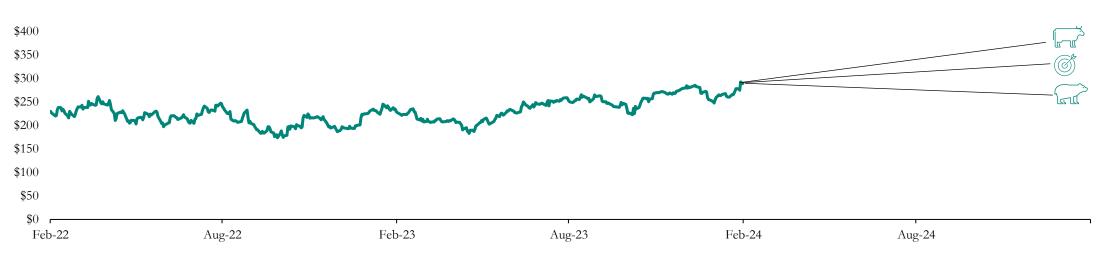
Sector performs better LT with Icon included

Portfolio	Performance Type	Last Month	Last Quarter	Year To Date	1-Year	3 Year	5 Year
	.,,,,						
Healthcare (2/24)	Gross of an advisory fee	-0.42%	7.76%	-0.42%	2.30%	14.57%	14.68%
Healthcare w/ ICLR	Gross of an advisory fee	-0.61%	7.66%	-0.61%	4.03%	15.07%	15.28%

Healthcare Sector | Binghamton Investment Fund

Bear Base Bull

Bear vs Bull



Scenario Analyses

Bear Case: \$276

- RFP flow declines, weakening backlog and top line growth
- Demand for FSP projects begins to cool and full-service regains its popularity
- Large Pharma can't capitalize on its economies of scale and projects stall within the oncology and GLP-1 markets

Base Case: \$362

- ICLR is able to maintain a strong B2B ratio of 1.2x-1.3x
- Growth in FSP projects continue as Pharmas continue prioritizing cost-cutting initiatives
- ICLR continues winning most contracts from Large Pharmas who have more cash on hand and receive funding easier than SMID pharmas

Bull Case: \$381

- Continued demand in oncology and GLP-1 market as oral weight loss drug remains priority
- FSP becomes the majority of contracts offered within the CRO market
- ICLR continues to scale after its acquisition of PRAH to overtake IQVIA and gain further expertise and negotiating power over all CROs

BUY: ICLR PRICE: \$313

TARGET: \$362

UPSIDE: 15%

Thank You!

Questions?

Revenue Build



ICON PLC (NASDAQ: ICLR)											
Revenue Build (in millions of USD)	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023E	FY 2024E	FY 2025E	FY 2026E	FY 2027E	FY 2028E	FY 2029E	FY 2030E
Total Revenue	2,797.3	5,480.8	7,741.4	8,160.8	8,675.7	9,346.1	9,992.0	10,598.1	11,149.0	11,670.7	12,155.1
% Growth		95.9%	41.2%	5.4%	6.3%	7.7%	6.9%	6.1%	5.2%	4.7%	4.2%
Revenue by Client											
Top Client	337.9	441.2	683.5	738.2	808.3	901.3	991.4	1,075.7	1,151.0	1,220.0	1,281.0
% Growth		30.6%	54.9%	8.0%	9.5%	11.5%	10.0%	8.5%	7.0%	6.0%	5.0%
% of Total Revenue		8.0%	8.8%	9.0%	9.3%	9.6%	9.9%	10.1%	10.3%	10.5%	10.5%
Clients 2-5	754.9	1,291.9	1,506.1	1,626.6	1,781.1	1,985.9	2,184.5	2,370.2	2,536.1	2,688.3	2,822.7
% Growth		71.1%	16.6%	8.0%	9.5%	11.5%	10.0%	8.5%	7.0%	6.0%	5.0%
% of Total Revenue		23.6%	19.5%	19.9%	20.5%	21.2%	21.9%	22.4%	22.7%	23.0%	23.2%
Clients 6-10	350.9	752.3	1,112.6	1,179.4	1,261.9	1,369.2	1,471.9	1,567.5	1,653.7	1,736.4	1,814.6
% Growth		114.4%	47.9%	6.0%	7.0%	8.5%	7.5%	6.5%	5.5%	5.0%	4.5%
% of Total Revenue		13.7%	14.4%	14.5%	14.5%	14.6%	14.7%	14.8%	14.8%	14.9%	14.9%
Clients 11-25	501.6	1,077.1	1,585.7	1,649.1	1,723.3	1,818.1	1,909.0	1,994.9	2,074.7	2,152.5	2,227.9
% Growth		114.7%	47.2%	4.0%	4.5%	5.5%	5.0%	4.5%	4.0%	3.8%	3.5%
% of Total Revenue		19.7%	20.5%	20.2%	19.9%	19.5%	19.1%	18.8%	18.6%	18.4%	18.3%
Other	852.0	1,918.3	2,853.4	2,967.5	3,101.1	3,271.6	3,435.2	3,589.8	3,733.4	3,873.4	4,009.0
% Growth		125.2%	48.7%	4.0%	4.5%	5.5%	5.0%	4.5%	4.0%	3.8%	3.5%
% of Total Revenue		35.0%	36.9%	36.4%	35.7%	35.0%	34.4%	33.9%	33.5%	33.2%	33.0%

Income Statement



ICON PLC (NASDAQ: ICLR)											
Income Statement (in millions of USD)	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023E	FY 2024E	FY 2025E	FY 2026E	FY 2027E	FY 2028E	FY 2029E	FY 2030E
Revenues	2,797.3	5,480.8	7,741.4	8,160.8	8,675.7	9,346.1	9,992.0	10,598.1	11,149.0	11,670.7	12,155.1
Sales Growth		95.93%	41.25%	5.5%	6.5%	8.0%	7.0%	6.0%	5.0%	4.0%	3.0%
Costs and expenses:											
Direct Costs	1,979.9	3,972.6	5,527.0	5,753.4	6,107.7	6,570.3	7,014.4	7,429.3	7,804.3	8,169.5	8,508.6
As a % of Sales	70.78%	72.48%	71.40%	70.5%	70.4%	70.3%	70.2%	70.1%	70.0%	70.0%	70.0%
Gross Profit	817.4	1,508.2	2,214.4	2,407.4	2,568.0	2,775.8	2,977.6	3,168.8	3,344.7	3,501.2	3,646.5
Gross Margin	29.2%	27.5%	28.6%								
Sales, general and administrative expenses	342.4	585.3	778.8	767.1	798.2	859.8	909.3	964.4	1,003.4	1,050.4	1,094.0
Depreciation & Amortization	66.1	315.0	569.5	580.2	576.9	532.7	499.6	423.9	334.5	291.8	238.2
Transaction & Integration Related	(0.8)	198.2	39.7	-	-	-	-	=	-	-	-
Restructuring	18.1	31.1	31.1	51.4	24.0	24.0	-	-	-	-	-
Total costs and expenses	425.8	1,129.6	1,419.1	1,398.7	1,399.1	1,416.6	1,408.9	1,388.4	1,337.9	1,342.1	1,332.2
EBIT	391.6	378.6	795.3	1,008.7	1,168.9	1,359.2	1,568.7	1,780.5	2,006.8	2,159.1	2,314.3
EBIT Margin	14.0%	6.9%	10.3%	12.4%	13.5%	14.5%	15.7%	16.8%	18.0%	18.5%	19.0%
Interest income	2.7	0.6	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest expense	(13.0)	(182.4)	(229.7)	(310.0)	(210.0)	(137.0)	(150.0)	(175.0)	(175.0)	(175.0)	(175.0)
Income before income tax expense	381.3	196.8	567.9	698.7	958.9	1,222.2	1,418.7	1,605.5	1,831.8	1,984.1	2,139.3
Income Tax Expense	(47.9)	(41.3)	(59.4)	(115.3)	(158.2)	(201.7)	(234.1)	(264.9)	(302.2)	(327.4)	(353.0)
Tax Rate	12.6%	21.0%	10.5%	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%
Income before share of earnings for equity method investments	333.4	155.5	508.5	583.4	800.7	1,020.6	1,184.7	1,340.6	1,529.6	1,656.7	1,786.3
Share of equity method investments	(0.4)	(2.2)	(3.1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Income	333.0	153.3	505.4	583.4	800.7	1,020.6	1,184.7	1,340.6	1,529.6	1,656.7	1,786.3
Net Income attributable to noncontrolling interest	(0.6)	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Income attributable to group	332.4	153.3	505.4	583.4	800.7	1,020.6	1,184.7	1,340.6	1,529.6	1,656.7	1,786.3

Balance Statement



ICON PLC (NASDAQ: ICLR)	ES7 0004	EX7 2022
Balance Sheet (in millions of USD)	FY 2021	FY 2022
Current assets:	750.0	200.0
Cash and cash equivalents Available for sale investments	752.2	288.8
	1.7	1.7
Accounts receivable, net	1,342.8	1,731.4
Unbilled Revenue	623.1	957.7
Other Receivables	56.8	63.7
Prepayments and other current assets	114.3	137.1
Income taxes receivable	50.3	48.8
Total current assets	2,941.2	3,229.2
Property and equipment, net	336.4	350.3
Goodwill	9,037.9	8,971.7
Intangible assets	4,710.8	4,278.7
Operating right of use assets	198.1	153.8
Other Receivables	70.6	70.8
Income taxes receivable	18.6	21.4
Deferred Tax Asset	48.4	76.9
Equity Method Investment	2.4	
Investments in equity-long term	22.6	32.6
Total non-current assets	14,445.8	13,956.2
Total assets	17,387.0	17,185.4
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	90.8	81.2
Unearned Revenue	1,324.0	1,507.4
Other liabilities	949.6	1,005.0
Income taxes payable	59.4	41.8
Current bank credit line and loan facilities	55.2	55.2
Total current liabilities	2,479.0	2,690.6
Non-Current bank credit line and loan facilities	5,381.2	4,599.0
Lease Liabilities	159.5	131.6
Non-Current other Liabilities	42.6	38.3
Non-Current Income Taxes Payable	172.1	239.2
Deferred Tax Liability	1,086.0	988.6
Total non-current liabilities	6,841.4	5,996.7
Total liabilities	9,320.4	8,687.3
Shareholders' equity:		
Common stock	6.6	6.6
Additional paid-in capital	6,733.9	6,840.3
Other undenominated capital	1.1	1.2
A 1: 10:1 C 1 1 T	(90.9)	(171.5)
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income		
Retained Earnings	1,416.1	1,821.4

Cash Flow Statement



ICON PLC (NASDAQ: ICLR)			
Statement of Cash Flows (in millions of USD)	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	333.0	153.2	505.3
Adjustments to reconcile net income:			
Depreciation & Amoritzation	66.1	315.0	569.5
Impairment of long lived assets	5.4	20.0	28.8
Reduction in carrying value of operating right-of-use assets	28.5	45.3	45.2
Loss on equity method investments	0.4	2.2	3.1
Amortization of financing costs and debt discount	0.5	12.9	17.7
Stock Compensation Expense	26.3	133.8	70.5
Loss on extinguishment of debt	-	14.4	-
Loss on issuance of debt	-	59.5	-
Deferred tax (benefit)/expense	0.9	(60.8)	(125.0)
Unrealized foreign exchange (gain)/loss	6.0	(6.1)	(13.0)
Other non-cash items	(7.9)	4.5	11.3
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable, net	(175.0)		(420.7)
Unbilled revenue	(5.7)	` ′	
Unearned Revenue	291.8	(69.1)	
Other Net Assets	(2.2)		10.1
Net cash provided by operating activities	568.1	828.9	563.1
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of PP&E	(40.9)		
Purchase of subsidiary undertakings (net of cash required)	(47.9)		
Investment in equity method investments	(2.5)		
Loan to equity method investment	47.0	(10.0)	
Sale of available for sale investments Purchase of available for sale investments	47.9	0.5	0.5
Proceeds from investments in equity - long term	0.1	(0.5)	(0.5)
Purchase of investments in equity - long term	(3.3)		
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(46.6)		
Cash flows from financing activities:	(40.0)	(0,024.4)	(145.9)
Financing Costs	(1.6)	(30.3)	
Drawdown of credit lines and facilities	350.0	5,905.1	75.0
Repayment of credit line and facilities	(350.0)	1	
Purchase of noncontrolling interest	(43.9)		(075.0)
Proceeds from the exercise of equity compensation	13.2	118.6	35.8
Share issue costs	(0.1)		
Repurchase of ordinary shares	(175.0)		(100.0)
Share repurchase costs	(0.1)		(0.2)
Settlement of cash flow hedge	(0.9)		
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(208.4)		(864.6)
Effect of changes in exchange rates on cash	6.9	(7.7)	` ,
Net (decrease)/increase in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	320.0	(88.5)	
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash—beginning of period	520.3	840.3	752.2
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash—end of period	840.3	751.8	288.1

WACC

ICON PLC (NASDAQ: ICLR)	
Weighted Average Cost of Capital	
Market Value of Debt	4,599.0
Weight of Debt	15.0%
Pre-Tax Cost of Debt	5.60%
Tax Rate	21.00%
Tax Effected Cost of Debt	4.42%
Market Value of Equity	26,009.7
Weight of Equity	85.0%
Risk-free rate	4.13%
Equity Risk Premium	9.2%
Beta	1.20
Cost of Equity	10.21%
Weighted Average Cost of Capital	9.34%

DCON

DCF

ICON PLC (NASDAQ: ICLR) Discounted Cash Flow (in millions of USD)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023E	FY 2024E	FY 2025E	FY 2026E	FY 2027E	FY 2028E	FY 2029E	FY 2030E
Revenue	5,480.8	7,741.4	8,160.8	8,675.7	9,346.1	9,992.0	10,598.1	11,149.0	11,670.7	12,155.1
EBIT	378.6	795.3	1,008.7	1,168.9	1,359.2	1,568.7	1,780.5	2,006.8	2,159.1	2,314.3
NOPAT	337.3	735.9	893.4	1,010.7	1,157.6	1,334.7	1,515.6	1,704.6	1,831.7	1,961.3
Plus: D & A	(315.0)	(569.5)	580.2	576.9	532.7	499.6	423.9	334.5	291.8	238.2
Less: CapEx	(40.9)	(93.8)	(142.2)	(146.9)	(164.8)	(177.6)	(199.8)	(212.0)	(223.0)	(233.4)
Less: Change in NWC	-	516.8	(110.1)	(27.6)	(6.4)	(31.6)	(47.1)	(41.5)	(36.5)	(15.0)
FCFF	(18.6)	(444.2)	1,441.5	1,468.3	1,531.9	1,688.2	1,786.8	1,868.6	1,937.0	1,981.2
Terminal Value (growth rate) Terminal Value (multiple)										28,975.90
reminar value (murupie)										
PV of Cash Flows			1,318.4	1,228.2	1,172.0	1,181.3	1,143.5	1,093.7	1,036.9	970.0
Discount factor (years)			1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0

DCON

DCF (MM)

Terminal Multiple Method	
Terminal EBITDA	2,552.6
EV/EBITDA	19.1
Terminal Value	48,644.9
PV of Terminal Value	28,472.7
Enterprise Value	37,616.7
Less: Debt	4599.0
Add: Cash	288.8
Equity Value	33,306.5
Diluted Shares Outstanding	83.0
Price Per Share	401.3
Upside	28.1%

Comps

Comparable Companies Analysis	Ticker	Share Price	Shares Outstanding	Market Cap	Debt	Cash	Enterprise Value	Revenue	EBITDA	EBIT	EPS	Revenue	EBITDA	EBIT	EPS
ICON PLC	ICLR	313.37	83.0	26,009.7	4,599.0	288.8	30,319.9	8,160.8	1,588.9	1,008.7	7.03	9,346.1	1,892.0	1,359.2	12.30
IQVIA	IQV	247.33	190.6	47,141.1	13,122.0	1,332.0	58,931.1	14,855.0	3,329.0	2,163.0	7.19	16,761.8	4,139.7	3,134.2	12.68
Charles Rivers Laboratories	CRL	246.90	51.3	12,666.0	3,147.5	233.9	15,579.6	4,215.8	1,053.4	742.2	10.98	4,558.1	1,193.8	961.2	12.41
Medpace Holdings	MEDP	393.69	33.7	13,267.4	208.1	28.3	13,447.2	1,781.5	378.3	325.9	8.54	2,501.3	473.3	440.4	12.67
Fortrea Inc	FTRE	36.99	88.8	3,284.7	1,678.1	114.3	4,848.5	3,111.6	271.1	166.0	1.31	3,327.0	366.0	333.0	1.79
Thermo Fisher	TMO	560.49	386.0	216,349.1	35,200.0	8,524.0	243,025.1	44,915.0	11,906.0	8,525.0	17.64				
								EV/Revenue	Ev/EBITDA	EV/EBIT	P/E	EV/Revenue	Ev/EBITDA	EV/EBIT	P/E
ICON PLC	ICLR							3.7x	19.15	30.1x	44.6x	3.2x	16.02	x 22.3x	25.5x
IQVIA	IQV							4.0x	17.72	27.2x	34.4x	3.5x	14.2	x 18.8x	19.5x
Charles Rivers Laboratories	CRL							3.7x	14.82	21.0x	22.5x	3.4x	13.1:	x 16.2x	19.9x
Medpace Holdings	MEDP							7.5x	35.53	41.3x	46.1x	5.4x	28.4	x 30.5x	31.1x
Thermo Fisher	TMO							5.4x	20.42	x 28.5x	31.8x				
Min								3.7x	14.82	21.0x	22.5x	3.4x	13.1:	x 16.2x	19.5x
Q1								3.9x	17.02	25.7x	29.5x	3.5x	13.6	x 17.5x	19.7x
Med								4.7x	19.13	27.9x	33.1x	3.5x	14.2:	x 18.8x	19.9x
Q3								5.9x	24.25	31.7x	37.3x	4.4x	21.3:	x 24.7x	25.5x
Max								7.5x	35.53	41.3x	46.1x	5.4x	28.4	x 30.5x	31.1x
Mean								5.2x	22.13	x 29.5x	33.7x	4.1x	18.6	x 21.8x	23.5x

Comps 2

Comps Output	E	V Debt	Cash	Е	quity	Shares	Per Share	
Revenue	8,160.8							
Min	3.7x	30,158.3	4,599.0	288.8	25,848.1	83.0		311.42
Q1	3.9x	31,820.5	4,599.0	288.8	27,510.3	83.0		331.45
Med	4.7x	38,265.4	4,599.0	288.8	33,955.2	83.0		409.10
Q3	5.9x	48,517.0	4,599.0	288.8	44,206.8	83.0		532.61
Max	7.5x	61,599.4	4,599.0	288.8	57,289.2	83.0		690.23
EBITDA	1,588.9							
Min	14.8x	23,499.8	4,599.0	288.8	19,189.6	83.0		231.20
Q1	17.0x	26,970.6	4,599.0	288.8	22,660.4	83.0		273.02
Med	19.1x	30,280.3	4,599.0	288.8	25,970.1	83.0		312.89
Q3	24.2x	38,444.8	4,599.0	288.8	34,134.6	83.0		411.26
Max	35.5x	56,480.1	4,599.0	288.8	52,169.9	83.0		628.55
EBIT	1,008.7							
Min	21.0x	21,173.4	4,599.0	288.8	16,863.2	83.0		203.17
Q1	25.7x	25,904.7	4,599.0	288.8	21,594.5	83.0		260.17
Med	27.9x	28,118.4	4,599.0	288.8	23,808.2	83.0		286.85
Q3	31.7x	31,971.2	4,599.0	288.8	27,661.0	83.0		333.27
Max	41.3x	41,620.0	4,599.0	288.8	37,309.8	83.0		449.52