

For Ortho and Neuro Hospital

May 27, 2025

| | | Rating Action |
|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| 18.82 | CARE B+; Stable | Assigned |
| 5.00 | CARE A4 | Assigned |
| | | |

Details of instruments/facilities in Annexure-1.

Rationale and key rating drivers

The ratings assigned to the bank facilities of For Ortho and Neuro Hospital (FONH) are constrained by small scale of operations, leveraged capital structure, weak debt coverage indicators and partnership nature of constitution. The ratings, however, derive strength from experienced partners and healthy profitability.

Rating sensitivities: Factors likely to lead to rating actions

Positive factors

- Increase in scale of operations over ₹20.00 crore.
- Improvement in capital structure marked by overall gearing below 4.00x.

Negative factors

- Any further deterioration in the capital structure, on the back of withdrawal of capital by the promoters.
- Drop in occupancy levels of the hospital below 70% on a sustained basis.

Analytical approach: Standalone

Outlook: Stable

CARE Ratings Limited (CARE Ratings) believes that FONH will maintain stable operational performance benefitting from the extensive experience of promoters in Orthopaedics.

Detailed description of key rating drivers:

Key weaknesses

Small, yet improving scale of operations on the back of improved occupancy

FONH's operations have remained modest, with revenue around ₹15.00 crore. Operating in the highly competitive Chennai market, FONH focuses primarily on the Orthopaedics segment, which accounts for over 90% of its revenue. Despite this, the hospital has achieved a CAGR of approximately 10% over the past five years, ending FY24 with a revenue of ₹11.07 crore (PY: ₹8.93 crore). In FY25, FONH generated around ₹15.00 crore, driven by increased inpatient numbers and higher occupancy rates.

Weak capital structure

The capital structure of the firm marked by overall gearing stood weak at 27.44x on March 31, 2024, against 5.55x as on March 31, 2023, due to withdrawal of capital by the partners.

Fragmented industry

The healthcare sector is characterized by significant fragmentation, with a few dominant players in the organized segment and numerous smaller entities in the unorganized segment, leading to intense competition. Consequently, key differentiators such as the variety of services provided, service quality, the reputation of medical professionals, and the success rate in handling complex cases will be essential for attracting patients and boosting occupancy rates.

Partnership nature of business constitution with inherent risk of withdrawal of capital

FONH is a partnership nature of business wherein the inherent risk of withdrawal of capital by the partner at the time of their personal contingencies resulting in erosion of capital base leading to adverse effect on capital structure.

¹Complete definition of ratings assigned are available at <u>www.careratings.com</u> and other CARE Ratings Limited's publications.



Key strengths

Vast experience of the promoter in the industry

FONH is under the leadership of Dr. P. Elangovan, M.S., Mch Orth., who serves as Managing Partner and Chief Orthopaedic Consultant. He graduated from the esteemed Govt. Royapettah Hospital, a premier center for Accident and Trauma, in 1998 and completed his Mch Orth. in 2015. Dr. Elangovan brings a wealth of expertise in orthopaedic trauma and joint replacement.

Healthy profitability margins

FONH's operating profitability has been healthy albeit being volatile, with the profit before interest, lease rentals, depreciation, and taxation (PBILDT) margin ranging from 40% to 51% over the past three years, ending in FY24. The margin remained strong at 40.04% in FY24, although it declined from 50.89% in FY23, primarily due to increased employee and power costs.

Liquidity: Stretched

Liquidity is stretched marked tightly matched accruals against repayment of term loans in FY25 with cash and bank balance of $\gtrless0.04$ crore as on March 31, 2024. The unencumbered cash and bank balance stood at around $\gtrless0.1$ crore as of March 31, 2024. The working capital limits, amounting to Rs. 5.00 crore have been heavily utilized at over 90% for the past 12 months ended April 2025.

Assumptions/Covenants: Not applicable

Environment, social, and governance (ESG) risks: Not applicable

Applicable criteria

Definition of Default Liquidity Analysis of Non-financial sector entities Rating Outlook and Rating Watch Hospital Financial Ratios – Non financial Sector Services Sector Short Term Instruments

About the company and industry

Industry classification

| Macroeconomic indicator | Sector | Industry | Basic industry |
|-------------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Healthcare | Healthcare | Healthcare Services | Hospital |

FONH, located in Chennai, was incorporated on April 01, 2013. The 25-bed hospital offers orthopaedics, neurology, trauma, faciomaxillary, and plastic surgery, with integrated 24/7 trauma care services. The medical team comprises over 20 doctors, supported by 30 nurses, 35 paramedical staff, and 40 non-medical staff. Additionally, it features a dedicated physiotherapy department. The hospital is managed by partners Dr. P. Elangovan and Satish Kumar.

| Brief Financials (₹ crore) | March 31, 2023 (A) | March 31, 2024 (A) | March 31, 2025 (UA) |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Total operating income | 8.93 | 11.07 | 15.00 |
| PBILDT | 4.56 | 4.43 | NA |
| PAT | 1.63 | 1.82 | NA |
| Overall gearing (times) | 4.28 | 31.08 | NA |
| Interest coverage (times) | 1.68 | 1.84 | NA |

A: Audited UA: Unaudited NA: Not available; Note: these are latest available financial results

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: Not applicable

Rating history for last three years: Annexure-2

Detailed explanation of covenants of rated instrument / facility: Annexure-3



Complexity level of instruments rated: Annexure-4

Lender details: Annexure-5

Annexure-1: Details of instruments/facilities

| Name of the Instrument | ISIN | Date of Issuance (DD-MM- YYYY) | Coupon Rate (%) | Maturity Date (DD- MM-YYYY) | Size of the Issue (₹ crore) | Rating Assigned and Rating Outlook |
|---------------------------|------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Fund-based - LT- | | - | - | 26-09-2039 | 18.82 | CARE B+; |
| Term Loan | | | | 20 05 2055 | 10.02 | Stable |
| Fund-based - ST- | | | | | 5.00 | CARE A4 |
| Bank Overdraft | | - | - | - | 5.00 | CARE A4 |

Annexure-2: Rating history for last three years

| | | | Current Ratin | gs | | Rating | History | |
|---------|--|------|------------------------------------|--------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Sr. No. | Name of the Instrument/Bank Facilities | Туре | Amount Outstanding (₹ crore) | Rating | Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2025- 2026 | Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2024- 2025 | Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2023- 2024 | Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2022- 2023 |
| 1 | Fund-based - LT- Term Loan | LT | 18.82 | CARE B+; Stable | | | | |
| 2 | Fund-based - ST- Bank Overdraft | ST | 5.00 | CARE A4 | | | | |

LT: Long term; ST: Short term

Annexure-3: Detailed explanation of covenants of rated instruments/facilities: Not applicable

Annexure-4: Complexity level of instruments rated

| Sr. No. | Name of the Instrument | Complexity Level |
|---------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Fund-based - LT-Term Loan | Simple |
| 2 | Fund-based - ST-Bank Overdraft | Simple |

Annexure-5: Lender details

To view the lender wise details of bank facilities please click here

Note on complexity levels of rated instruments: CARE Ratings has classified instruments rated by it based on complexity. Investors/market intermediaries/regulators or others are welcome to write to care@careedge.in for clarifications.



Contact us

| Priti Agarwal Senior Director CARE Ratings Limited E-mail: <u>priti.agarwal@careedge.in</u> |
|---|
| CARE Ratings Limited |
| = |
| E-mail: priti.agarwal@careedge.in |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| |
| Sandeep P |
| Director |
| CARE Ratings Limited |
| Phone: +91-44-2850 1002 |
| E-mail: sandeep.prem@careedge.in |
| |
| Vishnu Raghavan R |
| Analyst |
| CARE Ratings Limited |
| E-mail: Vishnu.Raghavan@careedge.in |
| |
| |
| |

About us:

Established in 1993, CARE Ratings is one of the leading credit rating agencies in India. Registered under the Securities and Exchange Board of India, it has been acknowledged as an External Credit Assessment Institution by the Reserve Bank of India. With an equitable position in the Indian capital market, CARE Ratings provides a wide array of credit rating services that help corporates raise capital and enable investors to make informed decisions. With an established track record of rating companies over almost three decades, CARE Ratings follows a robust and transparent rating process that leverages its domain and analytical expertise, backed by the methodologies congruent with the international best practices. CARE Ratings has played a pivotal role in developing bank debt and capital market instruments, including commercial papers, corporate bonds and debentures, and structured credit. For more information: www.careratings.com

Disclaimer:

This disclaimer pertains to the ratings issued and content published by CARE Ratings Limited ("CareEdge Ratings"). Ratings are opinions on the likelihood of timely payment of the obligations under the rated instrument and are not recommendations to sanction, renew, disburse, or recall the concerned bank facilities or to buy, sell, or hold any security. Any opinions expressed herein are in good faith and are subject to change without notice. The rating reflects the opinions as on the date of the rating. A rating does not convey suitability or price for the investor. The rating agency does not conduct an audit on the rated entity or an independent verification of any information it receives and/or relies on for the rating exercise. CareEdge Ratings has based its ratings/outlook on the information obtained from reliable and credible sources. CareEdge Ratings does not, however, guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, or completeness of any information and is not responsible for any errors or omissions and the results obtained from the use of such information. The users of the rating should rely on their own judgment and may take professional advice while using the rating in any way. CareEdge Ratings shall not be liable for any losses that user may incur or any financial liability whatsoever to the user of the rating. The use or access of the rating does not create a client relationship between CARE and the user.

CAREEDGE RATINGS DISCLAIMS WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR OTHER WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS, TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAWS, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, ERROR-FREE, NON-INFRINGEMENT, NON-INTERRUPTION, SATISFACTORY QUALITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR INTENDED USAGE.

Most entities whose bank facilities/instruments are rated by CareEdge Ratings have paid a credit rating fee, based on the amount and type of bank facilities/instruments. CareEdge Ratings or its subsidiaries/associates may also be involved with other commercial transactions with the entity. CareEdge Ratings does not act as a fiduciary by providing the rating. The ratings are intended for use only within the jurisdiction of India. The ratings of CareEdge Ratings do not factor in any rating-related trigger clauses as per the terms of the facilities/instruments, which may involve acceleration of payments in case of rating downgrades. However, if any such clauses are introduced and triggered, the ratings may see volatility and sharp downgrades. CareEdge Ratings has established policies and procedures as required under applicable laws and regulations which are available on its website.

Privacy Policy applies. For Privacy Policy please refer to https://www.careratings.com/privacy_policy_

© 2025, CARE Ratings Limited. All Rights Reserved.

This content is being published for the purpose of dissemination of information. Any use or reference to the contents herein on an "as-is" basis is permitted with due acknowledgement to CARE Ratings. Reproduction or retransmission in whole or in part is prohibited except with prior written consent from CARE Ratings.

For detailed Rationale Report and subscription information,

please visit www.careratings.com