

HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - MAY 4, 2018

NATIONAL

- There's an acute nursing shortage, but schools are rejecting thousands of applicants
- Joint Commission wants increased focus on workplace violence in healthcare
- Health IT Trade Groups Push CMS for MIPS 90-Day Reporting Period
- FDA chief moves to promote artificial intelligence in health care
- Expert tips for incentivizing physicians to embrace value-based care
- Where are the 49 Leapfrog straight-'A' hospitals?
- Where are the 22 Leapfrog 'F' hospitals?
- CMS will Make Medicare Advantage Data Available to Researchers
- As states consider taxing opioids, drugmakers push back
- All 50 states now have data breach notification laws
- Why hospitals are leveraging AI to drive operational intelligence
- HHS Asks Supreme Court to Hear \$4B DSH Payments Case
- Moody's: For-profit hospitals' outlook stable but value-based care investments are needed
- HHS Secretary: We need to drive 'broader change' in health price transparency
- 4 found guilty in insider trading case linked to CMS
- Healthcare job growth continues; hospitals add 8k jobs in April

NORTHEAST

(Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont)

CONNECTICUT

- CT Rehab Center Pays \$1.3 Million For False Claims: U.S. Atty
- Connecticut hospitals bill more than \$1B in facility fees
- Amid mega-mergers, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care sees role for independent, regional insurers
- East Hartford behavioral health provider accused of violating the Connecticut False Claims Act
- Appel Back in CT as New VP, CDO at Greenwich Hospital
- Connecticut Home Care Agency Merges with Two Others Out-of-State
- CVS: Aetna deal on pace

MAINE

- Bangor-area health system partners with Mass General
- Has Maine found a bipartisan solution to easing health care costs?
- NMMC distinguished with top honor
- Healthcare activists sue Maine's HHS over idled Medicaid expansion
- Pair denies taking kickbacks, overbilling MaineCare in alleged health care fraud
- Mid Coast Hospital is first in Maine to prescribe Suboxone in ER

MASSACHUSETTS

- Boston-Based American Well Acquires Virginia Telehealth Startup
- Bangor-area health system partners with Mass General
- 2 nurses sue Boston hospital alleging racial discrimination
- Ballot initiative would cost hospitals \$1b a year, industry-backed study says
- Massachusetts nurses protest over staffing levels and health coverage
- Massachusetts hospital lays off 29 administrative employees
- UMass Center in Springfield receives \$722,000 equipment investment
- Nurse-patient ratio limits would cost Massachusetts +\$1.3B
- Hospital group, Bay State Wind to negotiate long-term deal
- Nurse staffing ratios: What is the 2018 Massachusetts ballot question all about?
- Beth Israel Deaconess launches technology innovation center
- Two Mass. biotechs file to go public, while a third yanks IPO plans

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- So far, so good: Hospital's affiliation has provided a needed financial buffer in tough times
- York Hospital needs voters' help for 20-bed acute rehab unit
- Temporary Closing of APD Emergency Room Under Review
- NH House passes Medicaid expansion by large margin
- What's new in health care
- How Southern New Hampshire Medical Center is cutting ICU admissions

NEW YORK

- Morris joins Brooks-TLC Senior Leadership team
- State investigating CCS Oncology as employees miss paychecks
- Why health tech may be NY's most important new industry
- Northwell Health nurse arrested for allegedly stealing \$34k worth of medical devices from ICU
- Saratoga health care communications firm partners with investors

- This Troy health care company now serves millions of patients across the country
- Roswell Park plans another \$1 million investment for radiology services
- Orleans Community Health names Mark Cye permanent CEO

RHODE ISLAND

- Stricter review of hospital takeovers debated at R.I. hearing
- State to restore hospital charity care fund, Medicaid enrollment growing faster than projected

VERMONT

- Construction set to begin on Colchester surgery center
- BCBSVT Expands Telemedicine Services

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

(Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia)

DELAWARE

- Big Pharma must face lawsuit over opioids in Delaware, judge rules
- Highmark offers employer groups new digital platform for managing health
- Suit against drugmakers over opioids remanded to state court

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- C. implements 'Right Care, Right Now' line to free up emergency rooms and better patient outcomes
- DC non-profit 'changed my life' by providing quality healthcare in Ward 8
- Interactive Map: DC, Maryland Hospitals Make Strides in Safety Rankings
- Gregory Argyros is MedStar Washington Hospital Center's new president

MARYLAND

- Chesapeake Bayhawks pitch scaled-back plan for Crownsville Hospital Center site
- New Baltimore initiative hopes to more closely involve hospitals in fight against opioid epidemic
- Baltimore hospitals to play a bigger role in opioid epidemic under city initiative
- University of Maryland Medical System names 4 new executives
- Janssen Biotech signs deal to buy Maryland immunotherapy company

NEW JERSEY

- Hackensack Meridian's \$265M outpatient facility nears completion
- Murphy Administration Provides \$636 Million in Funding for New Jersey's Hospitals
- Bayshore Medical Center Names Frank Citara as Chief Operating Officer
- New Jersey healthcare leaders explore alliances on state policy issues
- Hackensack Meridian will pick up whole cost for new medical school

- Telemedicine partnership reduces skilled nursing visits by 60%
- Saint Barnabas NJ's Only Hospital to Achieve Straight 'A's for 13 Years
- Doctor Board Can Be Sued Separately From Hospital, NJ Federal Judge Rules
- New Jersey workers to get paid sick leave later this year
- Riverside Medical affiliates with ProHEALTH Dental
- Leapfrog safety scores: 22 NJ hospitals get 'A' grades, while one flunks

PENNSYLVANIA

- 'Small-format hospital' could open in Harmar next year
- Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center building \$18M 'greener' utility plant
- Here's Why Independence and Comcast Are Launching a Health Care Venture Together
- Pennsylvania hospitals block nurses from returning to work after strike
- More than 100 to lose jobs as hospital group pulls out of Research Medical Center
- Geisinger announces free patient transportation designed to reduce "no shows"
- Barnabas Health System Expands
- Penn State Hershey apologizes to 2,100 dropped patients
- Geisinger buys 22 acres to build acute care hospital in eastern Lycoming County
- Emergency room wait times vary widely at Western Pennsylvania hospitals
- Allegheny Health Network reports profitable first quarter
- Eagleville Hospital to pay \$520,000 to settle class action suit over overtime pay; Attorneys to get \$200K
- Aligning Clinical Efforts: 2 Pennsylvania Health Systems Collaborate
- More changes in store for 2 HCR ManorCare nursing homes in Lancaster County
- Mercy LIFE set to open in former Sacred Heart Hospital in Norristown
- Report: Geisinger Wyoming Valley leads county in volume of cancer surgeries
- HUP performs more cancer surgeries than any other Philadelphia hospitals
- Conemaugh Memorial hospital gets mixed reviews in reports
- Need cancer surgery in Pennsylvania? New online tool can help with the decision
- UPMC Pinnacle branches into home medical equipment
- Independence Health Group completes TPA deal
- UPMC's operating income up, net income dips in Q1

VIRGINIA

- Boston-Based American Well Acquires Virginia Telehealth Startup
- Decision Maker: Jody Bishop with Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital

- E-health partnership eases some healthcare burdens for one employer
- How University of Virginia cuts opioid use by 74% with surgery recovery program
- Getting to Know: Jeff Tomlin with Medarva Healthcare's Stony Point Surgery Center
- Augusta Health CEO: Anthem is trying to strong-arm independent physicians

WEST VIRGINIA

- CAMC reports modest gains in nursing hiring, retention efforts
- Surgical services center reopens after \$3 million in upgrades, new surgeons
- Report Finds Opioid Crisis Costs West Virginia 8.7 Billion
- Cabell Huntington completes acquisition of St. Mary's after nearly 4 years

CENTRAL

(Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota)

IOWA

- Genesis Health Systems eliminates 48 positions
- Mercy's open-heart program completes 44 surgeries in first 5 months
- Morrison's hospital plans to expand
- Iowa faces critical doctor shortage, only expected to get worse
- Legislature unanimously backs opioid policy bill
- Havens named CEO of Grinnell Regional Medical Center
- Genesis Health System to close clinic July 31 to reduce expenses

KANSAS

- Sam Huenergardt to assume CEO post at Shawnee Mission Health
- Under fire in Nebraska and Kansas, Skyline Health Care's SD operations appear in order
- More than 100 to lose jobs as hospital group pulls out of Research Medical Center
- Kansas Spine Hospital patient information may be victims in security breach
- KU Health System buys Great Bend Regional Hospital
- Garmin Health partners with the University of Kansas Medical Center

MINNESOTA

- Union says Mayo retaliated against striking employees in new NLRB charges
- Redwood Area Hospital joining Carris Health, getting new campus
- Nurse practitioner growth changes patient care in Minnesota
- Minnesota Hospital Association Supports Opioid Drug Guidelines
- Mayo Clinic CIO Christopher Ross on breaking the \$1 billion EHR and IT modernization rollout barrier

- HealthEast merger weighs on Fairview financial results
- Allina Health reports higher income on labor savings
- Amid regulator concern, smaller Regions Hospital plan suggested
- State questions need for Regions Hospital expansion

MISSOURI

- Luke's expands local footprint with purchase of Des Peres Hospital
- CCMH hires Chief Executive Officer
- More Missourians facing hefty air ambulance bills
- More than 100 to lose jobs as hospital group pulls out of Research Medical Center
- Healthcare, taxes and term limits up for debate in last weeks of Missouri legislature
- Every state but Missouri has opioid drug tracking. Why are senators against it?
- Cardinal Ritter Senior Services names new CEO
- Tenet completes divestiture of 143-bed St. Louis hospital
- Ascension forms 'global supply chain' joint venture with Australia's Ramsay
- CEO, CFO of Missouri hospital resign over inappropriate reimbursements
- Ascension CEO Anthony Tersigni among contenders for top VA spot

NEBRASKA

- Under fire in Nebraska and Kansas, Skyline Health Care's SD operations appear in order
- Computer with patient info, checks stolen from Nebraska practice
- Central Nebraska Medical Clinic Celebrates Grand Opening of New Location
- UNMC experts, IT firm work to help cancer patients get right treatment at right time

NORTH DAKOTA

- CCMH searches for a new CEO after resignation
- Two more N.D. tribes file lawsuits against opioid industry

SOUTH DAKOTA

- South Dakota tribes want control of reservation hospital
- New therapy at Rapid City Regional Hospital will help patients undergo treatment
- Under fire in Nebraska and Kansas, Skyline Health Care's SD operations appear in order
- Sanford Health Brings Genomic Medicine, Research to Ireland
- Rapid City hospital improperly disposes of waste amid fines
- Administrator named for South Dakota Human Services Center
- Skyline Healthcare Collapsing in South Dakota, Could Dissolve Soon

- Several South Dakota nursing homes placed into receivership
- Foundational: Region's hospital foundations play vital health care role

MIDWEST

(Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin)

ILLINOIS

- Two new healthcare fraud cases top \$2 million in alleged illegal activity
- Investigators find federal hospital violations at Mercy Springfield — again
- McDonough District Hospital CEO to step down
- University of Chicago's new trauma center opens, with cautious optimism
- Doctor indicted for stealing \$1 million in healthcare payments
- Group rates local hospitals; state spokesman says consumers shouldn't rely on 1 rating
- Bill aims to address nursing shortage in Illinois
- McDonough District Hospital CEO to step down

INDIANA

- Vincent rethinks how to deliver care; struggling parent cuts costs
- Hendricks Regional Health names Dennis Ressler CFO, taps 3 others to exec roles
- Vibra Healthcare to purchase Southern Indiana Rehab Hospital
- Inside St. Vincent's Neighborhood Hospital
- Lutheran Health Cuts Ribbon on Wabash Facility
- Joe ending birthing services
- After year of turmoil, Lutheran decline evident
- Indiana Hospital Pricing Updated, Part Of Transparency Effort
- How IU Health sets its systemwide price estimator tool apart
- State's rank on health care up
- Lilly, Fairbanks Launch Neighborhood Diabetes Program
- State, Community Health Launch Opioid Program
- Doctor: Opioid Program Will Build on Pilot Successes
- Evansville Med Center to Receive New Name
- IU Health net income dips 23%

KENTUCKY

- KentuckyOne, private equity firm close to deal on Jewish Hospital, other Louisville assets, U of L leader says
- Only one Louisville-area hospital gets 'A' grade in new ratings

- Kentucky OKs Telehealth, Coverage Parity for Medicaid Members
- UofL pediatric emergency medicine chief named to leadership initiative
- Latest Moves Increase Humana's Clout in Home Health, Hospice
- Louisville-area hospital to be acquired by Pennsylvania company
- Humana emerges as big winner in bid for Medicaid contracts
- Citing patient safety, CMS threatened to stop paying local nursing home
- Hardin Memorial Health, Baptist Health enter \$361.4 million purchase agreement
- Baptist Health to Buy Hardin Memorial Health
- Home Health: New Law Will Allow More Kentuckians To Visit Doctors Remotely
- Apellis posts bigger-than-expected 1Q loss
- Baptist Healthcare continues turnaround with positive 2Q results
- Humana kicks value-based care up a notch with new program that pays for patient experience, safety and outcomes
- Humana already developing strategy for Kindred At Home
- Kindred CEO's compensation ballooned in 2017

MICHIGAN

- Connecting researchers to the specimens they need for medical research
- UPDATE: Hospital responds to strike authorization vote
- Betty Chu installed as president of Michigan State Medical Society
- UPHS Marquette to open \$300M replacement hospital in 2019
- WSU, DMC say partnership over
- Tenet, Detroit Medical Center to sever ties with 300 physicians
- Munson Healthcare Grayling Hospital CEO to retire
- Sparrow Carson Hospital to close inpatient obstetrics unit, resulting in layoffs

OHIO

- CMH system names new CEO
- Medical board disciplines physicians for violations
- Good Samaritan Hospital redevelopment gains momentum
- 3 years for home health owner who inflated hours and claimed to care for SNF residents and the dead in \$2.2M Medicaid fraud
- Saber Healthcare teams with TeleCare Partners on elderly patient initiative
- Ohio asks feds for OK on Medicaid work requirements
- Court order states Lakewood Hospital can't be demolished for time being
- Jury awards \$28M+ to 77-year-old former Cleveland Clinic physician alleging age discrimination led to firing

- Despite recent troubles, HCR ManorCare has a rich history
- ProMedica Health System to become \$7B company with planned HCR ManorCare acquisition
- Details released from the investigation into University Hospitals fertility failure
- How this Ohio safety-net system tapped into EHRs, health IT to improve vaccination rates
- Mercy Health plans to fill 250 jobs
- Ohio's Medicaid Expansion Has Not Relieved Its Opioid Crisis
- Mercy Health hires COO for statewide doctor group
- Another 79 Philips Healthcare employees to lose jobs in Cleveland area
- Hospitals cry foul over Medicaid work requirements
- Cardinal Health takes big tax hit on Cordis business, despite federal tax law
- 2 St. Elizabeth hospitals land highest honor for nursing excellence
- Mount Carmel East to complete \$310M makeover in June

WISCONSIN

- Aurora Health Care building on Milwaukee's south side sold for \$6 million
- Vergos in as St. Agnes Hospital President
- Streetwise roundup: Marshfield Clinic hyperbaric facility for specialty care opens May 7
- New Aspirus Scholars class wants to tackle rural physician shortage
- Ascension CEO Tersigni a candidate for VA secretary
- Ascension Wisconsin says "We are not – and never were – closing St. Joe's"
- Prevea, St. Nicholas break ground on new building for specialists in Sheboygan
- Local organizations working to tackle shortage of health care workers
- Wisconsin ranks 10th in nation on hospital safety
- UW-Eau Claire and Marshfield Clinic Partner for Nursing Program
- 8 things to know about CEO Mark Herzog and his 17-year career with Holy Family Memorial
- Nobody Applies to More than Half of Long-Term Care Jobs in Wisconsin
- Somna Therapeutics gets approval to sell medical device over the counter

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

(Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

ALABAMA

- Encompass Health reports results for first quarter 2018 and updates full-year 2018 guidance
- Alabama skilled nursing facilities sold
- Massive upscale development proposed for former Birmingham hospital campus

- [Alabama HIE Joins SHIEC to Improve Rural Health Data Access](#)
- [PharmaPoint brings services to Silicon Valley Hospital](#)

FLORIDA

- [Citrus Memorial Hospital starts residency program; brings more doctors to community](#)
- [Judge to Halifax: No bonds to finance hospital](#)
- [Bay Medical hires new CEO](#)
- [Politico: How one Florida physician may be holding up \\$16B Cerner-VA EHR contract](#)
- [Florida surgery center director accused of stealing hospital supplies, selling on eBay](#)
- [Naples hospital sacrifices efficiency for security](#)
- [Hospital District Board: MRMC deal still under wraps](#)
- [Baptist Health expanding in Northeast Florida](#)
- [Winter Garden commission hears update, challenges of Florida Hospital](#)
- [Jackson Memorial Hospital submits permit to construct \\$174M facility](#)
- [Vincent's hospitals are limiting the use of opioids in orthopedic care](#)
- [Health plans are now challenging Florida's medicaid contracts](#)
- [Malware may have compromised some Florida Hospital patient information](#)
- [Former Calhoun Liberty hospital CEO indicted in \\$1 million scheme](#)

GEORGIA

- [Lee hospital 'war' escalates with latest developments](#)
- [Reach Health acquired by California-based telehealth platform](#)
- [Piedmont Columbus Regional and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta announce official affiliation](#)
- [Georgia Senate committee stops CON repeal bill](#)
- [Georgia Southern alumnus named administrator of new micro hospital](#)
- [Georgia rural hospital income tax credit enhanced with governor's signature](#)
- [Memorial Health lays off 85 workers; recruiting more than 200 patient care positions](#)
- [Groups work to improve access to health care, mental health services](#)

MISSISSIPPI

- [Mississippi hospital changes ER pricing policy after newspaper's probe into child's expensive visit](#)
- [SRHS promotes from within, names former Chief Operating Officer Lee Bond as next CEO](#)
- [Mississippi hospital plans to lay off up to 100 employees](#)
- [University hospital to drop top Mississippi private insurer](#)

NORTH CAROLINA

- Long-time Atrium Health executive plans to leave hospital system
- New DHHS Map Puts Communities' Needs in Sharp Relief
- Environmental violations addressed at Broughton Hospital
- John Sampson to lead Duke's physician practice of over 1,500 members
- Atrium Health releases 90 physicians looking to break away
- UNC Health Care System Optimizes Centralized Pharmacy Operations
- UNC Health uses Epic to pull in other EHR data to create better comprehensive patient view
- Thousands of N.C. doctors are over-prescribing opioids, breaking a new state law
- Former Greenville health care CEO going to prison, ordered to pay back nearly \$6 million
- HCA Healthcare/Mission merger to result in a new foundation
- Hoekstra to become president of High Point Regional Hospital in September
- Cape Fear Valley Health moves to Epic and calls it a CHR, not EHR
- LMC to build state-of-the-art surgery center
- Wake Forest Baptist replacing helicopter fleet
- With minimal demand, Womack sends pediatric patients to Cape Fear Valley
- Atrium Health's rehab program connects cardiac patients 'on the go' to medical team
- Mission Health-HCA adds to vigorous pace of health system M&A in 2018, with deals expected to grow larger
- Onslow Memorial Hospital battles against finances for high safety rating
- Healthcare fraud case leads to 13-year sentence

SOUTH CAROLINA

- Former CEO of Aiken Regional Medical Centers going to hospital in Florence
- Why the Greenville Health System compromise faces trouble
- Trident Medical Center eyes James Island for freestanding ER location

TENNESSEE

- Cristina Thomas Named Chief Information Officer at Pella Regional
- Tennova's Powell hospital gets more options to treat heart conditions as Physicians Regional shrinks
- A new report grades Middle Tennessee hospitals for safety
- Epic EHR Implementation Hurt Earnings at Erlanger Health System
- Vanderbilt and Williamson Medical Center to open new clinic
- Tennessee Women's Care aligns with Saint Thomas
- Leapfrog report: Fewer than one-third of Tennessee hospitals scored As in safety measures
- CHS beats expectations with cost cuts despite volume slump

- HCA revenues, admissions up in Q1
- HCA sees quarterly profit nearly double to \$1.1B
- Struggling Franklin-Based CHS Shows A Few Signs Of Stabilization
- Facility changes name to Macon Community Hospital
- Nashville health care group names new CEO
- Memphis medical marvels assemble for ambitious crossover event
- CHS' net loss narrows to \$25M as company pursues \$2B hospital divestiture plan
- HCA to spend \$300M on employee benefits with focus on attracting nurses

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

(Arkansas, Arizona, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas)

ARKANSAS

- Arkansas Children's Hospital Expands Alliance of Nurseries
- UAMS Temporarily Suspends Cardiac Transplant Program
- Fulton County Hospital taps new CEO

ARIZONA

- Hospitals in Tucson, Southwest Looking to Lure Patients from Mexico
- Arizona hospitals work to lure 'medical tourists' from Mexico
- Banner Health has \$1.7B worth of construction projects in the works
- Creditors seek to force 2 Arizona hospitals into bankruptcy
- Banner-UA partnership wins \$60M NIH award — largest in Arizona history
- Carondelet Health Network appoints new market CEO
- Phoenix Children's Hospital realized \$1M in cost savings with the help of clinical documentation technology

LOUISIANA

- Louisiana hospital announces layoffs to 770 employees amid state budget cuts
- Louisiana hospital sends layoff notices amid deep cut threat
- Louisiana House passes budget with deep cuts to healthcare that could shutter hospitals
- Louisiana surgical hospital purchases spine robot
- Louisiana appeals court agrees doctor not negligent in botched surgery
- New work requirements, restrictions proposed for agency heads could impact Louisiana health secretary
- High-tech health help available in Baton Rouge
- Ochsner, state could seal N. La. hospital deal within a month
- Louisiana House kills bill that might have stopped health secretary from practicing medicine

- See inside UMC's new \$2M Burn Trauma Center

OKLAHOMA

- Oklahoma City community pharmacy sees steady growth despite competition from national chains
- Mike Mullins with St. John: 'I believe in uplifting those around me'
- A red-letter day for Oklahoma cancer patients
- Surgery Center of Oklahoma joins Health Beyond Insurance's provider network

TEXAS

- With Cost-Cutting Underway, Tenet Healthcare Posts First-Quarter Profit
- Luxury Women's Hospital Opens In Dallas
- How Midland Memorial Hospital is improving patient handoffs to curb medical errors
- How One Hospital Improved Patient Handoffs for the Long Term
- Chargemaster 'Unreliable': Top Texas Court Orders Hospital to Disclose Reimbursement
- Texas aims to lure cancer startups with \$3 million grants
- Only half of Austin-area hospitals are in excellent health, according to new report
- UnitedHealthcare accuses Texas labs of \$44M fraud scheme
- National nurse shortage reaches to Crossroads
- Tenet Pays \$630M for Larger Stake in United Surgical Partners
- Providence top El Paso executive promoted to Tenet hospital chain's chief nursing officer
- Momentum builds for a much needed mental and primary health clinic in southern Dallas
- Data reveals the safest hospitals in Houston
- Uniquely West Texas: Lubbock Heart & Surgical Hospital
- Texas health department fires employee for HIPAA violations, then mails her a box of 100 clients' private information
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas Becomes the Latest To Target Non-Emergency ER Visits
- Houston Northwest Medical Center to pursue Level II trauma center status
- Hospital CEO steps down
- Conifer Health Solutions names Todd Wyatt as new chief financial officer
- Tenet completes divestiture of 143-bed St. Louis hospital
- Humana divests 2 business lines to Texas insurer
- North Texas Medical Center CEO, chief nurse unexpectedly resign
- Tenet, Detroit Medical Center to sever ties with 300 physicians
- Class action certified in Methodist Dallas Medical Center meal break case
- Appellate Lawyer of the Week: Houston Attorney Wins Big Decision Forcing Hospitals to Disclose Insurance Reimbursement Rates

- Texas ruling on \$11,000 ER bill may have long-lasting effects, experts say
- Supreme court ruling aids uninsured Texans in disputing high hospital bills
- Children's Health promotes 6 executives

NORTHWEST

(Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming)

ALASKA

- Here's how growth in the health care industry is playing out in Alaska's commercial real estate market
- Senate passes Medicaid work requirement bill

IDAHO

- Doctor shortage impacted by limited residency slots
- Idaho indigent care program seeing spike in costs, cases
- Saint Al's sues Idaho prison contractor over \$14M in medical bills
- Gooding hospital seeks to dissolve district for expansion and services
- Couple awarded \$7.96 million in jury verdict against Mountain View Hospital's RediCare

MONTANA

- Missoula's Community Medical Center eliminates 16 employees' jobs, citing Medicaid cuts
- Bozeman Health expands stroke telehealth program to Big Sky
- Mineral Community Hospital CEO resigns
- Gallatin County family's fight over air ambulance bill continues

OREGON

- Aetna and Zoom+Care announce new accountable care collaboration in Oregon
- The Best Hospitals In Oregon Graded: Report
- State starts listening process for Oregon Health Plan
- Oregon Health Plan spending grows faster than expected
- OHA's Allen announces agency reorganization

WASHINGTON

- Providence St. Joseph Health Showcases One of U.S.'s Largest Telehealth Systems at ATA18
- Providence St. Joseph Health Takes Telehealth Across the Enterprise
- Court allows Pasco nurses to sue hospital as group
- 58-bed hospital wing opens in Covington
- Summit Pacific Medical Center names James Hansen CFO

WYOMING

- Hoping to bring back hospice and home health
- Wyoming Medical Center plans to turn Mountain View Regional into an east campus, retain facility's employees
- A Day as a Doctor at Wyoming Medical Center
- Wyoming Medical Center receives C on safety report; Jackson hospital earns state's only A
- Hospital Survey Not So Telling

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Ransomware attack against California provider breaches data of 85,000 patients
- Adventist Health Sonora To Cut Ribbon On Health Pavilion And Cancer Institute
- Kaweah Delta to launch new health records system
- Kaiser workers to protest at hospitals across California
- Napa Valley's 2 hospitals, Queen of the Valley and St. Helena, joining forces as part of a regional alliance
- 24k U of California hospital, college workers to strike May 7-9
- Adventist to form joint venture with St. Joseph to manage nine Northern California hospitals
- Adventist Health Sonora gets failing grade on national assessment
- NLRB: California hospital's dress code policy violates NLRB rules
- California hospital to close by mid-June, lay off 200 employees
- Children's Hospital Los Angeles names inaugural chief innovation officer
- Providence St. Joseph Health's chief information security officer to depart

COLORADO

- Three women at NCMC in Greeley are at forefront of their male-dominated field
- Orthopedic, sports medicine docs to join Community Hospital team
- Flies in operating rooms. A bone fragment on a surgical tool. Colorado hospitals under scrutiny for lapses
- Boulder Community Health cuts about 25 employees in cost reduction
- Longmont United Hospital hires Johnson as chief executive
- UCHHealth identified by IBM Watson as one of nation's top health systems
- DaVita reports significant first-quarter earnings boost
- Construction begins on skilled-nursing facility in Greeley

HAWAII

- New HMSA president, CEO visits Kauai
- Leapfrog: Hawaii No. 1 state with highest proportion of "A"-grade hospitals

NEVADA

- Two new healthcare fraud cases top \$2 million in alleged illegal activity
- Las Vegas treatment clinic may close amid funding dispute
- Las Vegas surgical group settles \$1.5 million for potential false procedures
- Nye County, hospital district removed from state watch list

UTAH

- Utah considers Medicaid expansion proposals
- The Leapfrog Group Recognizes Three MountainStar Hospitals for Exceptional Patient Safety
- How Intermountain researchers are helping smaller hospitals cut antibiotic use