HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - FEBRUARY 15, 2019

NATIONAL

- How hospitals use biometrics to prevent patient ID errors, speed service
- Bonus pay for doctors can boost quality of care
- OCR sets record in 2018 for HIPAA enforcement actions
- Healthgrades names 'America's Best Hospitals' 2019
- Private equity pushes into healthcare: 9 latest deals
- 50 best healthcare supply chains in North America, rated by GHX
- AMA to HHS: HIPAA changes aren't needed for care coordination — 9 notes
- 'Just the beginning': HIMSS attendees react to interoperability proposal
- 10 states with highest, lowest 2017 employer healthcare spending
- HIPAA Needs Clarity Around Patient Data Sharing, AMIA, AHIMA say
- HHS launches payment model for ambulance providers
- Ways & Means panel hears ideas on lowering drug prices

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- Aaron Robinson to be next CEO of South County Health
- Nurse practitioners filling the primary care gap
- Lamont's Relationship With Hospitals Faces First Test
- Westport Center for Health sold for $18.7M
- Report: CT health spending above average
- Norwak Hospital union barely agrees on contract with WCHN
- Middlesex Health to raise minimum wage to $15 an hour

MAINE

- CMH to citizens' group: 'Bridgton Hospital is not for sale'
- Group calls for health care system to give up hospital
- Northern Light Inland Hospital seeks grant proposals
- Group calls on Central Maine Healthcare to sell Bridgton Hospital
5 rural Maine hospitals, including one in bankruptcy, will get expert help to run sustainably

MASSACHUSETTS

- Partners HealthCare hospitals up and running after suffering network issue
- MassHealth will cover telemedicine for behavioral health care
- CEO: Merger bringing new, expanded services to local hospitals
- Atrius Health, BCBS of Massachusetts ink global payment agreement
- Atrius Health decides to go it alone
- Boston-area medical center will anchor housing, office and retail development
- won't conduct rigorous review of Partners' R.I. proposal
- Baystate Health seeks input for Community Health Needs Assessment report
- Massachusetts nurses union vote upheld
- Massachusetts health panel to release findings of nurse staffing study Oct. 3

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- DHMC's recovery-friendly pediatrics program supports parents struggling with addiction
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health and GraniteOne Health announce merger
- Speare Memorial Hospital names Boucher as CFO
- Orthopedic surgeon develops recovery program for outpatient total joint patients
- North Country Healthcare names Thomas Mee as new CEO

NEW YORK

- Glens Falls Hospital designated a stroke center
- James Hospital construction on track
- Majority of Buffalo-area hospitals see drops in emergency room visits
- Biotech launches with $61M in funding to fight cancer relapse
- New York hospital misses grant aimed at eliminating debt ahead of nonprofit conversion
- New York hospital retaliated against 2 physicians for reporting dangerous care, lawsuits claim
- Saratoga Springs residents fear revival of hospital expansion plans
- Auburn Community Hospital CEO responds to lawsuits, state report
- Catholic Health to invest $135 million in new health records system
- New York hospital mishandled complaints about physician, CMS finds
- Ogdensburg's Hospital To Build Children's Mental Health Unit
- How Hospital For Special Surgery Is Transforming Healthcare: Interview With CEO Lou Shapiro
- Auburn hospital CEO calls doctors' allegations 'unproven'
- Nurses across NYC push for mandated staffing law
- Wyoming County Community Health System receives $3.08 million for laboratory upgrades
- Here Are 7 New York Hospitals Ranking Among America's Best
- New York City nurses prepare for day of protest over staffing
- South Nassau Hospital Receives $1.75 Million Gift
- New York State's largest health system publishes first-hand look at the growing opioid crisis
- Glens Falls Hospital names new CMO
- NewYork-Presbyterian surpasses 100K virtual visits: CIO Daniel Barchi reflects

**RHODE ISLAND**

- Rhode Island governor's order seeks to rein in healthcare costs
- won't conduct rigorous review of Partners' R.I. proposal

**VERMONT**

- Central Vermont Medical Center fined for hazardous waste violations
- Hospitals and physicians object to price transparency bill
- Vermont health agency voted one of best places to work
- Vermont senate proposes bill to license, regulate independent ASCs
- Audit faults financial management at troubled Springfield hospital
- Vermont hospital fined $20K for hazardous waste violations
- Audit finds no criminal wrongdoing at troubled Vermont hospital
- Financial audit of troubled Springfield hospital system finds lack of transparency

**MID-ATLANTIC / EAST**

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

**DELWARE**

- Peninsula Regional Medical Center earns top hospital honors
- Delaware's lawsuit against Big Pharma moves forward despite judge dismissing some claims
- $900K grant to Christiana Care will advance stem cell research

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

- How prepared is the DC region for emergencies, outbreaks?
- Providence cuts causing ‘dramatic increase’ in MedStar Washington Hospital Center volume

**MARYLAND**

- UMB, Partners Launch Mobile Health Program in Baltimore
- Health groups support twist on health insurance mandate in Maryland
Hospital accreditation agency seeks review of shooting outside University of Maryland Medical Center

Here Are 9 Maryland Hospitals Ranking Among America’s Best

NEW JERSEY

Morristown Medical Center To Open Women’s Heart Resource Center

Big push to make Medicaid in New Jersey more effective and efficient

South Jersey biotech firm raises $2.2M

New Jersey Eases Nurse Licensing Laws Amid CNA Shortage in Nursing Homes

New Jersey judge temporarily prevents St. Luke’s from kicking out Coordinated Health doctors

New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute Launches Medicaid Policy Center

Atlantic Health System’s Morristown Medical Center Only Hospital in New Jersey to Achieve America’s 50 Best Hospitals Award™ from Healthgrades

Virtua names chief philanthropy officer

Cooper University Health Care appoints co-CEOs

PENNSYLVANIA

AG’s lawsuit against UPMC may not have clear path to resolution

New President of Penn Highlands Clearfield is Planning for the Future

The rise and fall of Skyline Healthcare in Pennsylvania

Merger’s meaning: Becoming part of Philly’s Jefferson Health is paying off for former Kennedy system

Philly council nixes pharma gift ban, sales rep rules

Westmoreland Manor administrator out, replacement named

Giant Pennsylvania hospital system’s charity status is challenged

Babel Health Names New Chief Financial Officer

Veteran CFO from Philadelphia takes same role at Gundersen

Pennsylvania hospital service workers OK labor deal with raises

Penn State St. Joseph opens hybrid cardiac catheterization lab

Penn Nursing introduces first-ever director of innovation

New Jersey judge temporarily prevents St. Luke’s from kicking out Coordinated Health doctors

Moody’s downgrades Montco health system’s debt rating

18 Philadelphia-area medical centers make the grade as ‘best hospitals’

Penn Medicine changes design for $1.5 billion Pavilion to optimize patient room layouts

AHN opens Monroeville cancer center

Heritage Valley Health System
Pennsylvania hospital accused of firing technician in cancer treatment

Geisinger physicians develop patient safety program to end preventable deaths

**VIRGINIA**

- Children’s Hospital of Richmond at VCU to complete Children’s Pavilion
- VCU Health System plans to build $350 million children’s hospital
- Med Beat: One-third of Virginia’s hospitals operated in the red in 2017

**WEST VIRGINIA**

- WVU Medicine embracing new tools and methods to improve heart health
- WV DHHR Bureau of Public Health announces new leader
- Belmont Community Hospital closing its doors after 105 years
- WVU Medicine gives virtual tour of children's hospital tower

**CENTRAL**

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

**IOWA**

- Primary Health Care opens new clinic
- Iowa City hospital workers union says buses to distant parking lots weren’t provided during snowstorm
- Trinity Health announces operations restructuring plans

**KANSAS**

- Kansas hospital makes new partnership to bring spine surgeons to area
- Report finds Kansas’ nursing home inspections faulty
- Kansas hospital CEO backs health insurance bill
- Doctors in Kansas, Missouri get light punishments for patterns of illegal behavior
- Hospital shows $1.2 million improvement

**MINNESOTA**

- The evolving world of healthcare: Trend toward freestanding facilities continues
- Minnesota-based St. Luke’s longtime CEO retires
- Essentia purchasing former Younkers store
- Regional interdependence: Health care labor force crosses county lines
- As it searches for new leader, HCMC faces huge challenges
- Minnesota Senate panel approves cameras to watch nursing home residents

**MISSOURI**

- Ambulance district administrator reflects on Audrain hospital department closure
Fayetteville-based health group plans to merge with Missouri firm

IMPACT Strategies building cancer center in St. Louis market

Springfield legislator wants more transparency on health care costs

Report: Missouri could save billions with Medicaid overhaul

New group formed to help Nevada hospital

Doctors in Kansas, Missouri get light punishments for patterns of illegal behavior

More Turmoil Envelops North Kansas City Company That Took Over Rural Hospitals

Talks slow on sale of SSM hospital to University of Missouri

CoxHealth’s net income falls 40% in FY18

NEBRASKA

Nurses sue CHI Health alleging hospital violates law with on-call pay rate

CEO Calhoun enjoys the ‘good foundation’ of Kearney Regional Medical Center

Local hospital recognized for outstanding hip & knee replacements

Nebraska hospital notifies 7,000 patients of phishing attack

Tri Valley Health System selects interim CEO

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

OSF reviving heart-transplant program at Peoria hospital

House unanimously OKs plan to ensure Chicago hospital access for sick Region children

CEO of UnityPoint Health in Central Illinois to retire in June

OSF Healthcare expanding partnership with another provider

UnityPoint Health CEO Debbie Simon announces retirement

Blessing Health System proposes joint venture, QMG passes

Illinois hospitals end merger talks

INDIANA

Porter Starke Services: CEO Matt Burden strives for a healthier region

Jasper Memorial Hospital named top 100 rural hospital

House unanimously OKs plan to ensure Chicago hospital access for sick Region children

IU Health Foundation Exceeds Fundraising Goal

Health Center Coming to Shelbyville

Hoosier Hospitals Make Top 100 Lists
Community Hospital overbilled Medicare more than $22M, federal audit claims

KENTUCKY
- The evolving world of healthcare: Trend toward freestanding facilities continues
- BlueMountain still part of KentuckyOne sale, interim CEO says
- Kentucky ambulance service owner sentenced for health care fraud
- In-demand career field: Healthcare opportunities growing fast in Central Kentucky
- Kentucky pain doctor, Derby horse owner sued by former patient
- Former Norton Children's president Kmetz gets a new job
- UofL Health names new chief financial officer

MICHIGAN
- Lakeland Health by the numbers - and beyond
- Michigan's dangerous home health aide shortage
- Trinity Health begins major restructuring around its move to standardized billing system
- Munson Medical Center president to resign
- Spectrum Health offers lung cancer treatment advancements
- New medical building proposed in Livonia once A123 Systems HQ moves to Novi
- Spectrum Health appoints COO for 2 hospitals

OHIO
- Firelands CEO discusses hospital's strengths and challenges
- New health care facility will open
- Ohio university, health system partner to address nursing shortage
- Active shooter drill causes chaos at Aultman Alliance Community Hospital
- New wrongful-death lawsuit filed against Columbus hospital
- University Hospitals, Kent State University address nursing shortage with financial aid
- Mercy Health-Youngstown eyes outpatient growth
- Miami Valley Hospital, Atrium Medical Center earn national recognition
- Salem Regional Medical Invests in Cancer Care
- Nationwide Children’s Hospital taps new leader
- Area hospitals recognized for clinical excellence.
- Akron Children’s Celebrates Milestone
- Ohio hospital uses AI tool to cut readmissions by 20%
- Belmont Community Hospital closing its doors after 105 years
• Summa Health among top five percent of U.S. hospitals, according to Healthgrades health care rating service
• Akron Children’s Hospital to begin offering cardiac care in Marietta
• Ohio hospital to close after 105 years
• Unionized Cleveland Clinic workers speak out after learning minimum wage increase doesn’t apply to them
• Fisher-Titus selects CIO

WISCONSIN
• Funding Shortfalls, Worker Shortage Stress Wisconsin Nursing Homes
• Ascension begins $42M medical center in Mount Pleasant
• Veteran CFO from Philadelphia takes same role at Gundersen
• Hospital says Catholic affiliation exempts it from claim under anti-discrimination law
• Ascension hospital claims exemption from anti-discrimination law
• ProHealth posts $42.8M net loss

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST
(Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

ALABAMA
• Alabama to lose another rural hospital
• Huntsville growth spurs growth at Huntsville Hospital
• Alabama hospital to close in March
• Terri Sewell introduces two bills to improve rural access to health care
• Alabama hospital to build $250M orthopedic & spine building

FLORIDA
• 10 arrested in $42M healthcare billing fraud scheme in Florida
• All Children’s says 13 heart surgery patients were hurt by care
• Jury selection starts in $1B Florida Medicare fraud case
• All Children’s Hospital hires new interim president
• Action News Jax Investigates: A safety risk at Jacksonville-area nursing homes
• Major expansion at Baptist Health will feature five-floor Wolfson Children’s Critical Care Tower
• Lee Health launches "one-stop" website
• Another missed payday for employees of Regional General Hospital
• Tampa health care software developer pays $57M fine to settle false claims allegations
• Florida House readies renewed push on hospital regulations
• Oak Hill Hospital, Encompass Health file plans to build rehab units
- Opening statements set in $1B Florida Medicare fraud case
- Florida Hospital Association expresses concerns about proposed legislation
- Health system expands cardiothoracic facility
- Baptist Health, Wolfson Children’s partner for $187M expansion
- Central Florida Regional Hospital opens new ER in Sanford
- Florida hospital owes $35K for supplies, lawsuit contends
- Two top leaders resign from Bayfront Health St. Petersburg
- CEO, CFO of CHS hospital in Florida unexpectedly resign
- Manatee Memorial CEO: Local health care continues to expand, improve

**GEORGIA**
- Get an inside look at the new Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital
- CON repeal bill introduced
- Savannah Children’s Hospital nears reality, on line for 2020 opening
- Northeast Georgia Health System To Open Small Hospital In Dahlonega
- Georgia hospital enters $5M settlement with feds to resolve false claims case
- Buckhead doctor leading state medical group
- Georgia widens scope of CON bill
- Navicent hospital in Peach County wins Georgia patient safety award
- Northside and Gwinnett to merge into metro Atlanta hospital giant
- Georgia hospital to reopen in July
- Georgia bill would allow competition for hospitals’ best customers
- Piedmont Physicians Group opens new pediatric office in Covington
- Georgia’s Health Care Will Look Very Different If Major Bills Pass

**MISSISSIPPI**
- Laurel-based physicians group, neurologist to pay $800K settlement
- Ascentium Healthcare Resources committed to supporting rural healthcare providers in Mississippi
- Brunson to become director of medical association
- Illinois medical equipment maker expanding in Mississippi

**NORTH CAROLINA**
- Carteret Health Care is only North Carolina hospital listed on the Top 100 Rural and Community Hospitals list.
- Triad hospital system opens urgent care centers in Winston-Salem, Clemmons
- SAS and InterSystems modernize North Carolina HIE
WNC 'Optimistically Skeptical' About Finalized Mission Health-HCA Deal
Charlotte health giants roll out new initiative
Cone Health hospitals rank among the nation's top 250
NC's Medicaid privatization could be in for long delays as legal challenges loom
Opinion: Folwell's hospital cost cuts could go too deep
North Carolina hospital misses payroll, might close
Koan Health to Provide Accountable Care Analytics to Atrium Health
Carteret Health Care is only North Carolina hospital listed on the Top 100 Rural and Community Hospitals list.
Update on Novant Health's $166M medical plaza in midtown
Novant Health, Wake Forest Baptist Health partner on Highland Avenue Primary Care in Winston-Salem
Wake Forest Baptist sees operating income sink 54% in Q2
Triangle providers tear into each others' applications for more surgical rooms in Wake County
Washington County hospital in danger of closing; owner is behind in taxes

SOUTH CAROLINA
Hilton Head doctors charge more than Charleston, Columbia for some services, data show
Health providers battle for bid to build new York County hospital
Hilton Head residents concerned about lack of doctors, specialists. Here’s what officials are doing

TENNESSEE
Meet Meri Armour, President of Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital
Middle Tennessee pharmacies ordered to stop dispensing opioids after deaths, overdoses
Erlanger and radiology company reach agreement after physician backlash, contract hearing
Surgery Partners names new COO
Agreement between Erlanger and its radiology provider still in limbo
Mary's Legacy mobile clinic celebrates 5 years
Brentwood outpatient clinic company goes public
Nashville General Hospital opens food pharmacy
Knoxville NICU CEO on transports: "There's risk in everything we do but you can mitigate that risk"
Tennessee nursing home company to pay $9.7 million to settle Medicaid claims
Baptist Memorial Hospital demonstrates telemedicine solutions for rural Tennessee
Methodist Le Bonheur Germantown Hospital names president
Jude Children's Research wins Microsoft Health Innovation Award for cloud: 5 notes

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST
ARKANSAS
- Fayetteville-based health group plans to merge with Missouri firm
- CFO Ben Barylske Moves to St. Bernards
- Arkansas practice with 2 surgery centers joins Dental Care Alliance
- Arkansas hospitals back healthcare startup accelerator program to begin in June
- Bernards Healthcare taps new CFO

ARIZONA
- Shortage of home-care workers in US, Arizona called a 'growing crisis'
- Banner Health CFO Dennis Laraway on ACO success, expanding strategic footprint
- Here Are 9 Arizona Hospitals Ranking Among America's Best
- Two more bills related to Hacienda HealthCare rape introduced in Arizona Legislature
- Arizona bioscience executives named leaders of statewide committee
- Arizona Lawmakers Look to Expand Telemedicine Definition, Coverage

LOUISIANA
- LCMC Health opens new health center amid $400M expansion, surgery center projects
- Louisiana's Medicaid expansion reaches 500K, still growing
- West Jefferson Hospital in partnership talks with Acadian Ambulance
- Ochsner LSU Health to increase minimum wage to $12 per hour
- Whittington named chief executive officer of Hood Memorial Hospital

NEW MEXICO
- Legislature begins vetting Medicaid buy-in bill
- New Mexico reverses course on Medicaid charges for patients
- Mimbres Memorial Hospital announces new CEO to lead Deming, NM health care facility

OKLAHOMA
- Nurses make strong case for deregulation
- Mary's CEO named to "Most Admired" list
- Federal court hearing on Prague's hospital lawsuit postponed
- Plan of Correction from Memorial Hospital of Texas County Not Approved
- Supervision v. collaboration: Bill on anesthetist-doctor relationship passes committee
- Leaders in Oklahoma town head to court fighting to keep rural hospital open
- Nurse Practitioners Urge Oklahoma Lawmakers To Increase Health Care Access
- Oklahoma hospital's Medicare funding at risk after state rejects correction plan
- Hillcrest Medical Center appoints CFO

**TEXAS**

- Woman files $1M lawsuit for elevator accident at North Texas hospital
- Texas hospital seeks $9.1M in lawsuit after gas explosion
- Magazine picks local hospital as best in region to have a baby
- Medical City McKinney introduces pediatric orthopedic services
- Job cuts at Children's Health among more than 630 new layoffs in Dallas-Fort Worth
- Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital selects interim CEO
- Texas' surprise-bill mediation program has massive backlog
- Here Are 5 Texas Hospitals Ranked Among America's Best
- Baylor Scott & White's net income falls 55%

**NORTHWEST**

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

**ALASKA**

- Earthquake damage to Alaska health lab is hindering testing for potentially fatal diseases
- Legislators try for the 3rd year to repeal Alaska CON laws
- Alaska’s backlog of Medicaid applications numbers nearly 16K
- PMC has end-of-year goal for new hospital plan
- Dunleavy budget includes $225 million cut to Alaska’s state share of Medicaid

**IDAHO**

- Luke’s benefited Idaho communities in 2018
- 181 jobs to be cut at Saint Alphonsus hospital system in the Treasure Valley
- Bill that could void Idaho Medicaid expansion to get hearing
- Saint Al's to move 181 local jobs out of state
- Idaho Supreme Court rejects challenge to state’s Medicaid expansion

**MONTANA**

- Montana Nurses Association Withdraws Complaint Against KRH
- Montana hospitals agree to pay fee to continue Medicaid expansion
- Montana survey finds deficiencies in care at state hospital
- Bozeman ICU getting a facelift
- Review finds faults with Montana State Hospital in Warm Springs
OREGON

- Former Health Share of Oregon CEO lands new gig
- Wyden files 3 bills to shed light on rising drug prices and rebates and cap costs
- Moda, 2 other major Oregon insurers seek bigger slice of $5B Medicaid pie
- CareOregon signals intent to seek five-year Medicaid contracts

WASHINGTON

- Twistle Brings Surgery Patients and Care Teams Closer Together at Providence St. Joseph Health
- Providence St. Joseph Health acquires Seattle blockchain startup Lumedic
- Providence St. Joseph Health launches for-profit company

WYOMING

- Jackson hospital buys land for affordable employee housing
- Wyoming hospital to open retail pharmacy
- Powell Valley Healthcare to open new retail pharmacy
- Cheyenne Regional Health System names CEO

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Los Angeles nursing home to settle patient dumping claims
- UCI Medical Center, 4 Other SoCal Hospitals Fined for Patient Safety Violations Leading to 3 Deaths, 2 Injuries
- Big outpatient center for children opens in Modesto. Here’s what you need to know.
- PD Editorial: California needs more doctors
- ‘Moneymaker’ physician threatens to leave after California hospital abruptly fires CEO
- California nurses threaten daylong strike
- Verity issues layoff notice for Silicon Valley health clinic workers
- San Diego Genetics Company to Pay Nearly $2 Million for False Medicare Claims
- John Muir Health CEO Elected 2019 Board Chair of California Hospital Association
- Stronger laws for nurse-to-patient ratios are back on the table
- California hospital wins order from court telling strikers to quiet down
- California leads in Healthgrades’ best hospitals for 2019
- California fines 5 hospitals $250K+ for patient safety issues
- California county proceeding with purchase of hospitals despite state’s opposition
- Adventist Health to lay off 1,300+, keep wildfire-damaged hospital closed
- Tulare City Council lends $9M to medical center
- Woman awarded $1M in discrimination lawsuit against California hospital

**COLORADO**
- Francis, Memorial North expansions opening in February
- State agency targets redundant hospital projects at time of higher costs, profits
- UCHealth Expands With 11-Story Tower
- Vail Health implements nurse residency program
- Colorado hospitals taking steps to limit opioid use
- Colorado lawmakers introduce surprise-billing legislation
- Cancer center legislation introduced following FOX31 investigation
- Colorado Acute Long Term Hospital Earns Wound Care Certification
- Better pharmacy access sought for rural Colorado residents
- Seven Colorado hospitals rank top in nation
- Deeper dive: Analysis finds Colorado hospitals shifted more costs to commercial insurers
- DaVita HealthCare: 4Q Earnings Snapshot
- Poudre Valley Hospital power couple retiring after 101 combined years
- Valley View Hospital CEO to retire

**HAWAII**
- Bill funding 2 new ambulances for Big Isle shelved
- Straub Medical Center receives $4M gift toward heart care

**NEVADA**
- Two Las Vegas hospitals conduct deadly disease outbreak drills
- Las Vegas health care provider sentenced for Medicaid fraud
- Local medical center named one of America’s 250 Best Hospital
- MountainView Hospital Opens Level III NICU

**UTAH**
- Survey says more than half of Utahns experience healthcare affordability burdens
- Intermountain, R1 RCM to open Salt Lake tech center in May
- Intermountain: Whistle-blower provisions of False Claims Act are unconstitutional
- Utah reduces voter-backed Medicaid expansion in rare move
- Congratulations, it’s a unicorn! Utah health tech company reaches $1B valuation
- Unlicensed medical providers accessed Utah prescription drug database, audit shows
- Director of nursing at Huntsman Cancer Hospital skis to work