HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - FEBRUARY 22, 2019

NATIONAL

- HHS launches payment model for ambulance providers
- Medicare ambulance rides may no longer end up at ER
- Healthcare billing fraud: 8 latest settlements
- 3 revenue cycle leaders on their hospital’s biggest concern now that standard charges are public
- 4 strategies for keeping your millennial healthcare workers
- Rural hospitals face widespread closures
- CMS can terminate private Medicare plans with poor Star Ratings again
- How CMS’ newest innovation model will change telehealth payments

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- Middlesex Hospital opens orthopedic operating center
- Yale New Haven becomes first in CT to perform pediatric heart transplants
- Middlesex Hospital rebrands itself to show variety of services
- Lamont’s health budget vs Connecticut hospitals
- Lamont budget increases CT hospital tax

MAINE

- Central Maine Health responds to Pondicherry Group’s report
- 5 Maine hospitals among 25 nationwide receiving federal help
- Former South Portland Wendy’s to house medical clinic
- MaineHealth’s CIO named among Top 100 health care IT executives

MASSACHUSETTS

- Dozens of nurses licenses suspended, revoked in western Massachusetts
- Partners-CNE deal won’t get thorough review in Massachusetts
- Mayo Regional Hospital wins national award for remote, technical assistance
- New England Baptist Hospital to launch campaign to attract more low-income patients
- Partners HealthCare names Klibanski as interim CEO
HopeHealth to end pediatric palliative, hospice care on Cape Cod
Beacon Health Options Names Susan Coakley as New Northeast Market President
Cambridge Health Alliance names CIO

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- NH Senate panel weighs competing association health plan bills
- Changes coming to Medicaid in New Hampshire

NEW YORK

- MVHS making progress toward hospital merger, groundbreaking
- Hospital for Special Surgery dedicates new complex joint reconstruction center
- Noyes Health to use $2M in state grants to expand imaging, mental health services in Dansville, Avon
- The future of care is virtual, Mount Sinai Health System CMIO says
- New York physician pleads guilty to accepting kickbacks from Insys
- NYC Health + Hospitals celebrates diversity of patient care
- New York hospital ICU chief: Complaints about problem physician ‘fell on deaf ears’
- The TCU at St. Joseph's hospital is suspending admissions
- Longtime area physician named Chief Medical Officer of Glens Falls Hospital
- Kaleida Health announces three leadership promotions
- New York pharmaceutical firm files for bankruptcy protection

RHODE ISLAND

- Roger Williams Medical Center Opens New $15M Emergency Room
- E. Medical Innovation Center expands to new Providence site
- Hasbro Children’s Hospital receives $103K from Spirit Halloween

VERMONT

- Hospital audit finds fault, but no missing funds
- UVM Med Center’s emergency room crunch puts strains on patient care
- Company brings telemedicine to mental health care
- Vermont hospital’s emergency department surge prompts complaint of negligent patient care
- Troubled Vermont hospital announces major restructuring

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELAWARE

- Wilmington medical center CFO: ‘Sloppy work’ led to major financial losses
New service calculates cost of nursing vacancies

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
- Washington, DC’s $1.3B of medical construction led US
- DC ranks third in drug overdose deaths in America, DC Council discusses plans to prevent more
- Brutal Southeast DC hospital attack prompts call for change

MARYLAND
- Johns Hopkins Hospital retaliated against 2 unionizing nurses, complaint says
- Data show improvements in hospital quality, safety in Maryland
- Supreme Court denies Maryland’s bid to revive law on price gouging
- AFL-CIO protests Johns Hopkins Bayview’s planned $469M expansion
- Bon Secours joins effort to build, sustain affordable housing projects
- Maryland knocks down barriers for 2-OR surgery centers
- Medical software company executive to become Baltimore’s next health commissioner

NEW JERSEY
- Hospital Alliance of New Jersey CEO: State needs to reduce federal charity care cuts
- University Hospital announces innovative community health program
- Pernix Therapeutics files for bankruptcy, blames generic competition

PENNSYLVANIA
- Settlement Over False Medicare Claims At Lower Bucks Hospital Announced
- WVU Medicine taking big step into Western Pa.
- Roxborough Memorial Owners To Pay For False Medicare Claims
- proposal to change medical malpractice lawsuit rules put on hold to allow study
- New Gateway Health CEO puts focus on ‘social determinants’ of poor health
- Jefferson Health reports success 2 years into GE partnership
- Holy Redeemer Health System opens Northampton outpatient center
- 150 people lose jobs as UPMC Pinnacle hospital closes in Lancaster
- Ellwood hospital workers worried facing tax problems
- Charitable enough? UPMC case highlights increased scrutiny of nonprofit hospitals
- Penn health system faces lawsuit from employee allegedly fired during cancer treatment
- Department of Health highlights 2018 Nursing Home Inspection and Sanction Information
- Penn State Health St. Joseph’s CFO on advocating for herself
- Pennsylvania hospital shortchanges workers' paychecks
$1.8M investment: Montco health system makes bigger push into Bucks
Butler, Clarion Health Systems To Combine
Jefferson gets $20M to launch first-of-its kind academic department
More than 30 laid off across Olean General Hospital, Bradford Regional Medical Center

VIRGINIA
Virginia hospital sees profits climb after LifePoint deal
Fauquier Hospital’s profit tripled in four years
Foundation launches health partnership
Sentara Healthcare drops opposition to open-heart-surgery center

WEST VIRGINIA
WVU Medicine taking big step into Western Pa.
WVU Medicine East names Kerns chief financial officer
Ohio Valley Medical Center, East Ohio Regional Hospital: Meet Us Halfway on Bills
Work continues on new WVU Medicine Children’s tower
Former hospital analyst sentenced for 3 months
Logan Regional Medical Center selects permanent CEO

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

IOWA
Iowa City hospital workers union says buses to distant parking lots weren’t provided during snowstorm
UIHC’s new AirCare plane can fly patients 700 miles
UI Stead Family Children’s Hospital receives $4.5 million gift
Auditor raises concerns on travel expenses at Iowa hospital
Ex-CEO, exec misused $256K+ in Iowa hospital funds, state audit finds

KANSAS
Kansas hospital abruptly closes
Russell Regional Hospital ousts CEO
Kansas Medicaid full of problems, but contractor says it shouldn’t take all the blame
Kansas hospital reaches out to shuttered hospital’s displaced employees
Hospital may close if court doesn’t award full control to new management group

MINNESOTA
New brain cancer treatment at the University of Minnesota
- Minnesota hospital alerts 2,000 patients of phishing scheme
- Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz aims to invest in education, health care, communities
- HCMC, North Memorial consider an alliance
- Mayo Clinic reports ‘a very good’ 2018, despite Epic costs
- HCMC, North Memorial may team up or even merge
- Doctors are excited for new virtual exam room coming to Winona Health

MISSOURI
- Black River Medical Center teams up with Saint Francis Health Care System
- Missouri hospital suspends operations in another blow to former North K.C. chain Andy Marso
- After nearly 10 years, Cortex CEO to leave innovation district
- Clinical trial at metro hospital might have saved man from heart failure
- Two regional hospitals named to top rural hospitals list
- Advocacy groups in Jefferson City, Mexico split on MU Health/SSM deal
- Two Area Hospitals Receive National Ranking
- Northern Missouri hospital voluntarily suspends license for three months
- Officials say St. Mary’s Hospital gives MU Health Care room to grow
- Missoula health care execs get $1.2M in venture capital for tech startup to better prepare patients
- Ascension’s operating revenue climbs $1.3B in first half of FY 2019
- I-70 Community Hospital services to be suspended for 90 days
- Sweet Springs hospital suspends license
- The owner of Regional General loses another hospital
- MU Health Care continues SSM acquisition talks with care
- Missouri, Tennessee hospitals suspend service
- Troubled NKC hospital operator sells management contracts to Miami company
- SSM Health steps into the future with robotic surgery
- Mercy Health posts $57M net loss in 1st half of fiscal year

NEBRASKA
- Like a dating app, CHI Health’s new website matches patients with doctors who fit their needs
- Nebraska nursing, assisted living facilities in jeopardy
- Timetable still unclear for expanding Medicaid in Nebraska
- Law enforcement skipping bills for medical care, says Nebraska Hospital Association
- Nursing home closing in southern Nebraska
NORTH DAKOTA

- Sanford Health launches Child Life program in Bismarck
- North Dakota officials appeal judge’s ruling on air ambulance bills
- BCBS of North Dakota fires back at patients in air ambulance lawsuit

SOUTH DAKOTA

- Black Hills foundation gives $100K to help Red Cross buy new emergency response vehicle
- South Dakota hospital installs Medtronic’s robotic spine surgery platform

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- Pipeline Health Begins Process to Close Westlake Hospital in Melrose Park
- Illinois hospitals end merger talks
- OSF HealthCare to raise its minimum wage by $2 an hour
- HSHS St. Mary’s Hospital selects new CEO
- Effingham woman named president of Greenville hospital
- Community Leaders To Protest Closure Of Westlake Hospital
- New owner to close Westlake Hospital
- IL Review Board releases report on QMG’s proposed surgery center
- Northwestern Memorial Hospital becomes the first Level 1 Geriatric Emergency Department in Illinois
- Illinois can’t stop hospital from closing
- Rush University Medical Center Associate CMO Dr. Brian Stein’s top piece of advice? Avoid flawed data
- Amita Health Adventist Medical Center Hinsdale CEO abruptly resigns
- Kelly Sager to serve as HSHS Holy Family Hospital CEO

INDIANA

- Porter Health Care System patients could get up to $5K from cyberattack settlement
- 3 revenue cycle leaders on their hospital’s biggest concern now that standard charges are public
- Madison Community Health Merges with Meridian
- Lutheran Health's parent reports $788 million loss
- Floyd Memorial Foundation Begins Chapel Campaign
- Lilly Completes $8B Acquisition

KENTUCKY

- Passport Health sues Kentucky over Medicaid rate cuts
Wendell Foster CEO named chairperson for LeadingAge Kentucky committee

UofL Health names new chief financial officer

Nonprofit sues Kentucky over Medicaid reimbursement rates

Report: Kentucky middlemen reap $123 million from Medicaid at pharmacies' expense

UofL Hospital Performing New Aneurysm Treatment

UofL confirms it is seeking partner to buy Jewish Hospital, other assets

U of L won't buy KentuckyOne assets, seeks partner in takeover bid

What to know about U of L's play to purchase Jewish Hospital

KY Health System Launches Epic EHR Tool to Cut Patient Delays

U of L launches search for partner to help buy Jewish Hospital

He wants more care staff in Kentucky nursing homes, which are among nation's worst

Oral arguments scheduled in lawsuit challenging Kentucky’s Medicaid overhaul

Louisville primary/urgent care center opening second location

Baptist Health Lexington uses EHR tool to avoid patient delays

**MICHIGAN**

Senior Services of Southwest Michigan names new CEO

Laws, Regulations, and Guidelines Governing Research Animal Care and Use in India

Michigan patient recruiter pleads guilty in $1.2 million kickback scheme

Beaumont's revenues up, but net income falls 55% in FY 2018

Ascension Michigan COO Jean Meyer: Meeting women’s healthcare needs requires internal and external transformation

Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital receives Level IV Trauma designation

State ups designation of Bronson South Haven Hospital

Patient recruiter pleads guilty to $1.2M kickback scheme

**OHIO**

Norwalk Fisher-Titus Medical Center announces new heart and vascular capabilities

Summa Health launches $75 million fundraising campaign to support patient care, clinical excellence

Ohio health system launches aging institute

Fairfield Medical Center posts $22.6M operating loss from medical records overhaul

Local hospitals ranked among tops in the nation. What does that mean for patients?

TriHealth pulled cardiac surgery from Good Samaritan. Now doctors worry hospital's in danger

Ohio State plans new outpatient center in Dublin to improve access to care

3 revenue cycle leaders on their hospital's biggest concern now that standard charges are public
One of Cincinnati’s fastest-growing private firms makes another acquisition

OH Hospital Points to EHR Implementation for $22.6M in Losses

Ohio State's Wexner Medical plans outpatient campus across from OhioHealth Dublin Methodist

Ohio hospital, doctor face 3 new lawsuits over drug doses, deaths

Ohio AG seeks $16M repayment from Optum for drug overcharges

UA healthcare data startup acquired by longtime Cleveland-area collaborator

UC Medical Center chief exits

Ohio State's Wexner Medical Center names Aetna executive health chancellor

Summa Health’s chief anesthesiologist wants to eliminate opiates from surgeries

Mercy Health-St. Rita’s Medical Center welcomes interim president

WISCONSIN

Doctors leave ThedaCare to form independent cardiology clinic in Grand Chute

Froedtert becomes the second hospital in the U.S. to use a new device in the war against cancer

Wellspring of Milwaukee nursing home to close

Inception Health drives innovation at Froedtert

Four area hospitals named among nation’s 250 best

Aspirus Named “Best 50” Supply Chain by GHX

Report: Medicaid expansion in Wisconsin to cost more than $1 billion per year

Medicaid Pressures, Worker Shortages Lead to SNF Closure Wave in Wisconsin

Marshfield Clinic to Use Remote Monitoring Platform for CHF Patients

Marshfield Clinic launches tablet-based telehealth program

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

Another Alabama hospital prepares to close

Reckonomics: Alabama’s changing hospital landscape

FLORIDA

Surgery Partners opens Florida ASC

Florida pharmacy, owners to pay $775K to settle false claims allegations

Las Encinas CEO Tapped for Florida Hospital Top Post

Florida bill mandating ASC patient-safety survey moves forward

Florida hospital to save $20M through AI-enabled clinical variation
Florida lawmakers take up nurse practitioner bill
After All Children’s deaths, proposal aims to catch heart surgery problems
Jacksonville hospital first, only hospital in Northeast Florida to provide pharmacy kiosk system
Miami-Dade faces lawsuit over ‘kidnapping’ of baby from Baptist Hospital in tribal case
Sarasota pharmacy pays $775,000 to settle kickback claims
Miami Medical Clinic Owner Pleads Guilty In $3.7 Million Fraud
Florida bill aims to make children in the hospital safer
3 Questions with Janice Benggio, Senior PMO Analyst, Broward Health

GEORGIA
Lee hospital application timeline changes
James Andrews’ Georgia practice backs state CON repeal
CON battle heats up General Assembly
7 of America’s best hospitals are in Georgia, according to a new report
Emory gets $65 million donation for new health facility
New hospital planned in North Georgia as one reopens temporarily to protect state certificate
3 things to know about Atlanta Outpatient Surgery Center’s quality initiatives
Lawmakers want limits on profits allowed in rural hospital program
North Georgia HealthCare Center in Ringgold celebrates 10 years
Controversial legislation could dramatically transform health care in Georgia
Lawmakers want limits on profits allowed in rural hospital program
Hundreds of patient records found burning across from Atlanta hospital
Medical school pushes plan for more doctors in rural Georgia
Georgia hospitals’ unity fractures on big-ticket legislative battle
Georgia seeks health insurance waiver
Pediatric hospital opens in Georgia
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta among 3 Georgia companies on Fortune's 100 best places to work
Medicare payment dispute imperils Georgia hospital with FDR legacy

MISSISSIPPI
Greater Meridian Health Clinic expands community services
Squeezed out? Why rural hospitals are vulnerable to service reductions, closings.
Work begins on $15.8M parking garage for children’s hospital
Phishing attack exposes 30,000 patients at Mississippi hospital
Computer breach exposed patient info at Mississippi hospital

NORTH CAROLINA

- Wake Forest Baptist financial rating downgraded from stable to negative
- North Carolina hospital may close, CEO says
- Atrium Health discloses the pay raise it gave its CEO. It’s the biggest he’s received
- Health care deserts are growing in North Carolina
- Charlotte region doctors prepare to leave Novant Health two months early
- Patients worry after Haywood Regional and United Healthcare fail to reach deal
- North Carolina’s state health plan mulls reimbursement cuts
- Officials Pass Measure to OK Bankruptcy Filing for Hospital
- Mission CEO takes job with HCA
- Hospital foundations find new mission
- North Carolina hospital launches program to help malnourished patients after discharge
- Washington County Commissioners unanimously pass motion to force hospital owners to file involuntary bankruptcy
- Atrium CEO gets biggest pay boost since taking role
- Cone Health’s Q1 operating income falls 68%

SOUTH CAROLINA

- SC towns are elated MUSC is buying their hospitals, but it comes at a cost
- MUSC has taken on about $1 billion in expansion projects. Here’s how they’re affording it.
- Under-the-radar genetic center in Greenwood serves infants, patients across SC

TENNESSEE

- Nashville General Hospital opens ‘food pharmacy’
- Ballad: 150 Tri-Cities organizations form an ‘Accountable Care Community’
- Tivity Health: 4Q Earnings Snapshot
- Bank sues Tennessee hospital for $2M
- Missouri, Tennessee hospitals suspend service
- LMC among state’s hospitals recognized for decrease in hospital-acquired conditions
- Community Health Systems: 4Q Earnings Snapshot
- TriStar Health Opens Centennial Women’s Group in Brentwood
- Quorum Health shares hit all-time low

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

- Arkansas hospital's power temporarily shut off due to nonpayment
- Mercy Hospital Fort Smith reviving neurosurgery program
- Northwest Health appoints CFO for 2 hospitals
- Troubled hospital may have a buyer
- Firm looks at De Queen hospital

ARIZONA

- Arizona lawmakers debate cap on children's health program
- 300+ patients cannot access medical records from shuttered Arizona hospitals
- Q&A: Sen. Kate Brophy McGee, Chair of Arizona's Senate Health and Human Services Committee

LOUISIANA

- Ochsner Health System becomes Walmart center of excellence for joint replacement
- Broussard-based Hulin Health opens urgent care clinic in Marksville
- Baton Rouge doctor and his medical billing supervisor plead guilty to fraudulent billing scheme
- Springhill hospital welcomes new chief executive officer
- Ochsner, Pfizer to test digital tools to ease patient participation in clinical trials
- Walmart teams up with Ochsner for joint replacement program

NEW MEXICO

- Christus St. Vincent names new COO
- Presbyterian receives $1.79M gift, expands services

OKLAHOMA

- Employees at Oklahoma hospital still waiting for paychecks as legal fight continues
- New hospital administrator touts 'personal connection' with hometown assignment
- Oklahoma hospital misses payroll for 3rd time
- Oklahoma doctor to pay $84,666 in alleged kickback scheme
- Oklahoma lawmakers to consider Medicaid expansion proposal
- Attorneys Reach Temporary Agreement To Keep Prague Hospital Open
- City wants control of Oklahoma hospital after employees left unpaid
- Daily on Healthcare: Oklahoma steps forward on Medicaid-like expansion
- Tulsa doctor agrees to financial settlement in Skiatook compounding pharmacy kickbacks case
- Mercy Hospital Ada names new president

TEXAS
Texas hospital: Elevator firm will be accountable in mishap

Some services suspended at Beaumont medical facility

3 revenue cycle leaders on their hospital's biggest concern now that standard charges are public

Doctors go on trial to defend payments for bringing lucrative surgeries to controversial Dallas hospital

Texas Health saves $412,000 with real-time location system

Texas Health Care Foundation Finds Its Next CIO

Free-standing ER in McKinney renamed City Hospital Emergency Care

Memorial Hermann CEO talks needs, new initiatives

Cook Children's Health Care System selects chief investment officer

Forest Park Medical criminal kickback trial preview

Houston health tech co. acquires Wisconsin software firm

NORTHWEST


ALASKA

Alaska hospital to suspend all major surgeries

Huntingburg doctor finds new frontier in Alaskan service

Private company hired to run Alaska Psychiatric Institute has a mixed record

Health care officials alarmed by proposed Medicaid cuts

IDAHO

Idaho submits Medicaid expansion plan for federal review

Luke’s Health System awards grants to Treasure Valley nonprofits

Construction on new hospital a few weeks ahead of schedule

New western Idaho health collaborative narrowly survives budget battle

Idaho Falls’ newest hospital set to open in November

Blackfoot hospital undergoes multi-million dollar expansion

MONTANA

Looming doctor shortage a concern for rural Montana

Kalispell Regional Healthcare hospital meets whistleblower settlement mandates

Montana health system meets requirements in whistle-blower settlement

Renovated St. Vincent hospital unit adds new level of care for Montana’s littlest patients

Montana Hospital Association, rural hospitals lobby for Medicaid expansion

Missoula health care execs get $1.2M in venture capital for tech startup to better prepare patients
OREGON

- Oregon House advances Medicaid funding protections
- Greenlick removed from chair of health care committee after ‘demeaning’ comments
- A national health care giant seeks a chunk of the Portland metro Medicaid business
- Medicaid funding package heads to Oregon Senate
- What Oregon’s Move to Redefine Data Privacy Means for PHI
- Governor’s Plan To Plug Oregon Health Care Shortfall Faces Uncertainty

WASHINGTON

- Washington state hospital’s finances spark concern in audit
- UW Medicine mistakenly exposed information on nearly 1 million patients
- Providence St. Joseph Health names chief people officer
- Washington hospital will lay off staff, freeze wages to stay afloat
- Spokane Digestive Center Goes All-In with Washington State’s New Online Healthcare Costs Comparison Tool

WYOMING

- New Cheyenne Regional Health System CEO announced

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Local hospital may benefit from Dignity merger
- Paradise hospital workers get last paychecks after Camp Fire wiped out over 1,200 jobs
- California hospital surprised by sudden utility payments
- Woman awarded $1M in discrimination lawsuit against California hospital
- California hospital system underpaid by Blue Shield for ER services, jury finds
- California payer considers bankruptcy
- Marin General CFO Jim McManus on how a ‘personal board of directors’ influences his leadership style
- Mary’s in Long Beach is owned by a new $29 billion healthcare giant. How will that impact patients?
- Oroville Hospital to use $200 million for five-story expansion
- Colorado hospital notifies patients of data breach
- Fast-growing Colorado Springs practice focuses on low-income and Medicare patients
- California hospital secures $200M in bonds for five-story medical tower
- Dignity Health reports $33M operating loss in most recent quarter
- California lawmakers seek health insurance mandate
California proposed health-pricing transparency bill would affect Kaiser Permanente

Providence St. Joseph Health CMIO Dr. Michael Marino on top priorities for CMIOs

COLORADO

- Centura Health buys land near InterQuest Parkway for third Colorado Springs hospital
- Expanding heart care fills an important rural void
- Mercy hospital’s parent organization part of mega merger
- CHI’s operating loss swells to $57M in Q2
- UCHealth opens new medical center in convenient Loveland location
- Centura Health Plans New Hospital In Colorado Springs
- New hospital to serve northeast Colorado Springs growth
- UCHealth Memorial Hospital North opens on Monday, with focus on women’s care
- Colorado hospital notifies patients of data breach
- Colorado nursing school to take over hospital tower

HAWAI’I

- Waialae-Kahala master plan updates to be discussed
- North Hawai’i Community Hospital Primary Care Department Expands
- Hawaii residents receive high ER bills amid hospital-contractor negotiations

NEVADA

- Lawmakers seek $15M boost to Nevada public health funding

UTAH

- Utah’s biggest health care network announces its change of policy on physicians recommending medical cannabis to patients
- Intermountain physicians can now recommend cannabis for patients
- Surgeon becomes first in Salt Lake to perform life-changing sleep apnea operation
- Utah hospitals add price lists online, but how useful are they?
- Intermountain makes major strides in reducing prescribed opioids