HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - NOVEMBER 8, 2019

NATIONAL

- CMS releases final site neutral and other payment rules
- CMS will pay $1.9 billion to hospitals in value-based payments for inpatient care
- A nationwide doctor shortage is looming. Rural areas will take the hardest hit.
- Cybersecurity, telehealth bills likely to stall in Congress, CHIME officials say
- Avoid the bright, shiny objects in health IT: How hospitals can eliminate distractions to strategy
- Final physician payment rule keeps E/M code changes
- Stephen Hahn nominated to be new FDA commissioner
- CMS' final outpatient, physician payment rules for 2020: 9 things to know
- Report: Economic impact of clinical research more than $390 million
- Amazon and JPMorgan to roll out new health insurance plans as part of Haven joint venture
- Telehealth Grant to Support Pharmacy Services in Palliative Care
- CMS finalizes home health payment rule for 2020: 8 things to know
- Hospitals prepare for looming Medicaid DSH cuts
- Patients aren't enthusiastic adopters of clinical tech: 6 obstacles standing in their way
- CMS to pay for total knees in ASCs, boost ASC payment rate 2.6% in 2020: 4 details
- Why a group of hospitals is investing in affordable housing
- Industry Voices—We need to move from patient-centered outcomes to patient-centered values
- CVS just delivered its first prescriptions via drone
- Federal judge voids Trump’s ‘conscience rule’ for health providers
- Physician groups satisfied with improved payment for E/M codes, reduced documentation in new Medicare rule
- Moving beyond the hype: How hospitals are applying AI to daily functions
- Most patients with access to electronic medical records not using it
- 48 healthcare organizations urge Congress to pass legislation to combat drug shortages
- Data breaches cost hospitals $4B annually
- Walmart and Amazon are creating more choice in healthcare without increasing access: 3 notes

NORTHEAST

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

- Hospital wants reconsideration of decision on cardiac lab
- CT hospitals net $422.9M from 'facility fees' in 2018
- Bridgeport Hospital staffer gets national honor
- St. Francis receives grant to support early breast cancer detection efforts
- Bridgeport Hospital joining ‘age-friendly’ initiative

MAINE

- Maine provider alerts 30,000 patients of data breach
- InterMed reports email hack exposing information on 30,000 patients
- Maine Medical Center to build $59M medical office building
- Central Maine Healthcare expands rural care services
- Central Maine Healthcare in critical need of nurses
- Rural Mainers will now get cardiac care without having to make a road trip
- Maine healthcare provider notifies 22,000 patients of data breach

MASSACHUSETTS

- Meditech posts 2% revenue increase for Q3: 4 notes
- Charlie Baker eyes a legacy-defining revamp of Mass. health care
- Years after state-mandated health cost transparency, few Massachusetts residents taking advantage of it
- Three years after approval, North Shore Medical completes consolidation
- Poll Finds Mass. Workers Don't Compare Medical Costs Before Buying

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- New Hampshire children’s center prepares for transition
- Granite Staters get new health insurance tool in time for enrollment
- Up-selling customers on high-tech breast cancer screenings
- New Hampshire facing retiree health care crisis

NEW YORK

- State fines Buffalo nursing home additional $10,000 for medication mistake
- Nursing homes sue state for $250M worth of Medicaid funding cuts
- Newsweek Recognizes 4 NYC Health + Hospitals Post-Acute Care Facilities as “Best Nursing Homes” in NY
- Federal judge voids Trump’s ‘conscience rule’ for health providers
Wellsville hospital parent agrees to $3M settlement with feds for security breaches

New York health system to pay $3M HIPAA settlement

Montefiore Medicine names Philip Ozuah new CEO

To End Surprise Medical Bills, New York Tried Arbitration. Health Care Costs Went Up

Mount Sinai launches app for personalized wellness guidance

Why NewYork-Presbyterian launched its new Hauser Institute for Health Innovation

Massena voters overwhelmingly approve transfer of hospital assets to St. Lawrence Health System

Analysis: Three Long Island hospitals receive top A rating for quality, safety

RHODE ISLAND

New Program Targets Maternal Depression In Rhode Island

Health Payers Tap Telehealth to Boost Pediatric Psychiatry Access

‘Bright Night for Little Stars’ raises $514K for Women & Infants Hospital

VERMONT

UVM Health Network to deploy first phase of $150M Epic EHR

Five projects from across Vermont selected in the second round of the Innovation Fund

Chief regulator urges OneCare to tell a better story

Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center hosts ribbon cutting of private nursing suite for mothers and babies

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELWARE

Judge nixes sealing request in hospital whistleblower suit

State health plan shows progress in community collaborations

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Status update: Here’s where the region’s hospital projects stand

Howard University floats concept to move its hospital

CMS launches first behavioral health pilot in DC

MARYLAND

University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center Awarded $26,000 Grant for Transportation Initiative

LifeBridge to halt most inpatient services at Bon Secours

LifeBridge Health Finalizes Acquisition Of Bon Secours
University of Maryland Medical System taps new CEO following tumultuous year

Chris, Jill Davis donate $3M to University of Maryland Children's Hospital

Maryland Hospital Safety Grades Released For Fall 2019

AG reports $2.5M saved in FY19 health care disputes

Former Maryland hospital COO dies

University of Maryland Medical System taps Dr. Mohan Suntha as CEO

Shore Regional Health gives fiscal year recap

NEW JERSEY

New Emergency Department Breaks Ground in New Jersey

Hackensack Meridian Health Mountainside Medical Center Announces Affiliation with John Theurer Cancer Center in Hackensack

Valley Hospital Begins Construction on New $800M Hospital in Paramus

Magee Rehabilitation expands at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital

NJ Hospitals Roll Out Phase 1 of Effort to Reduce Prescribing Opioids in ER

New NJ Hospital Safety Ratings Released: 2 Get 'D' Grade

PENNSYLVANIA

How Penn Medicine is analyzing data to improve patient experience

Pa. revokes Hahnemann University Hospital’s state license

Why UPMC is opening 5 hospitals in China

Pennsylvania’s hospitals are fighting for nurses’ safety

Geisinger launches clinical, imaging data tool for health records interoperability

Center City health care tech firm acquired by Dallas company

Pennsylvanians are getting older but there will be fewer doctors to care for them | Opinion

Senate advances bill to reauthorize Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council

UPMC hospitals denied bid for tax exemption status

4 health systems expanding overseas

Allegheny Health Network Reveals New Emergency Department At Jefferson Hospital

A health system hidden in the heart of Pennsylvania is offering free tuition to its medical students to fix one of the biggest problems in healthcare

VIRGINIA

Virginia's Medicaid costs down $212M this year with expansion, but projected to rise $674M in 2-year budget

UVA Medical Center CEO Shares Lesson on Leadership
Inova is adding doctors to its Merrifield campus. Here are its new tenants.

WEST VIRGINIA
- WVU Medicine CEO believes partnership will keep care in Barnesville
- Another West Virginia hospital in danger of closing
- Fowler to chair West Virginia Hospital Association Board
- Physician group claims West Virginia hospital owes $590K for ED services
- Roane General Hospital Expanding To Survive

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

IOWA
- University of Iowa looking to buy more North Liberty land
- Iowa DHS explains plan to combat waiting times for mental health patients
- Report: Nearly One In Ten Iowa Babies Are Born Premature

KANSAS
- Health care provider for children with autism agrees to pay $300,000 to settle claims allegation
- $46K Raised For William Newton Hospital Expansion; Auxiliary Named Healthcare Hero
- Community hospital teams up with Children’s Mercy Hospital to help NICU babies
- Five Topeka organizations awarded over $100K by Kansas Health Foundation

MINNESOTA
- Moose Lake Hospital joins Essentia Health
- Telehealth helps Mayo Clinic neonatologists better treat newborns in emergencies
- Ex-director stole nearly $30,000 from Minnesota nursing home that closed amid financial troubles, charges say
- Minn. Hospital Association wins Campaign of the Year for provider tax project
- Health care spending was up sharply in Minnesota last year

MISSOURI
- New pediatric specialty center opens in South County
- Former rural Missouri hospital CEO pleads guilty to conspiracy to commit healthcare fraud
- Ex-CEO of rural Missouri hospital pleads guilty to conspiracy
- Telemedicine's future? It's primary care, says NY insurer in KC
- New hospital opens at Barnes-Jewish West County
Missouri Hospital Association tracking programs aimed at reversing opioid epidemic

NEBRASKA

- Nebraska senators question HHS official about Medicaid expansion
- Report: progress stalls for Nebraska children's uninsured rates
- Blue Cross offering new individual health plan

NORTH DAKOTA

- MeritCare-Sanford merger unleashed 'transformational change' for region's health care 10 years ago
- Sanford Health launches effort to keep new nurses
- To battle shortage, North Dakota launches program that will pay health care facilities to attract nurses
- Rural areas in North Dakota struggle to find health care providers

SOUTH DAKOTA

- How Sanford Health is retaining younger nurses
- Losing rookie nurses is expensive. Here's Sanford Health's plan to make sure they stay
- 4 health systems expanding overseas
- South Dakota One Health looks at connections between animals, people

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- SIH Memorial Hospital plans to save more lives as Level II trauma center
- Evanston Nursing Home Fined $25,000 Over Failures: IDPH
- To resolve fraud investigation, Outcome Health agrees to pay $70 million
- Illinois leaders demand answers about ambulance diversion by hospitals: 'Something has to be done.'
- Esperanza Health Increases Staff of Nurse Practitioners
- Cook County Health CEO Calls on Other Hospitals to Increase Charity Care
- No plans to close Chicago's Weiss Memorial, Pipeline Health CEO says
- Advocate Aurora Health pledges $50M to help Wisconsin, Illinois communities
- Workers at Mount Sinai Hospital, one of Chicago's largest Level I trauma centers, plan to strike Nov. 11
- Uptown hospital gets more than $25 million in upgrades
- Mount Sinai Hospital workers announce strike date after negotiations stall

INDIANA
IU Health set to open new $9M robotic supply warehouse

Litigation prompts Indiana to drop Medicaid work requirement for now

Fishers startup to use funding to bring device to market

Goshen Health to celebrate groundbreaking on tower

Hancock Regional Hospital to open pain management clinic

Franciscan Health joins Apple Health Records

Franciscan ACO high-quality performance results in $14.4 million savings

$25.8M Beacon Granger Hospital opens

Carmel-based OB Practice Joins Pennsylvania Group

Beacon Health Opens New Granger Hospital

KENTUCKY

Groundbreaking $4M grant will transform Kentucky’s healthcare startup ecosystem

U of L reveals more details about KentuckyOne Health purchase

Baptist Health to acquire struggling Kentucky hospital after lawsuit dropped

U of L will be part of the new hub for healthcare innovations in Kentucky

The legal challenge stalling a $360M hospital takeover deal has been settled

Baptist Health's $361M hospital purchase clears major hurdle

University Completes Acquisition of KentuckyOne Assets

Kentucky Gov.-elect Andy Beshear plans to immediately rescind Trump Medicaid work requirements, 'saving health care for 95,000’

MICHIGAN

Meet The President: New Munson Medical Center Leader On What Drew Him To The Job And What He Brings To The Table

EMU and St. Joseph Mercy to open new health care center on campus

McLaren Health Care reduces lab tests per patient per day by 5.6%, saving $383,000

New COO brings commitment to service to McLaren Greater Lansing

Michigan repays student loans for medical professionals who treat opioid use

Michigan bill would curb pre-approval rules in health care

See which Mid-Michigan hospitals improved in latest Leapfrog scores

Federal program that punishes hospitals may not improve patient outcomes

New Healthcare Facility Opens at Eastern Michigan University

Upper Michigan hospitals get high patient safety scores for Fall 2019

OHIO
Cincinnati Children’s rolls out mobile care center

University Hospitals’ CEO Tom Zenty to leave legacy of growth, local impact when he retires

Former executive of Cleveland Clinic spinoff defrauded system of $2.7M

Mercy Health – St. Charles Hospital receives sixth accreditation for inpatient rehab

University Hospitals receives $15M for men's healthcare innovation

WVU Medicine CEO believes partnership will keep care in Barnesville

Summit County takes first steps to improve nursing homes

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center selects Shannan Ritchie as COO

Cleveland Clinic performs first ‘purely’ laparoscopic living donor surgery for liver transplant

4 health systems expanding overseas

Ohio Hospital Program Taps Telehealth, mHealth Apps for Men’s Health

Health care center opens clinic on West Side

Improving Children's Health Outside the Hospital

WISCONSIN

- Tom Still: Beyond biotech: Emerging Wisconsin companies become more diverse
- Number of long-term care patients increasing in La Crosse County, while number of CNAs on the decline
- Kyle Nondorf named president of St. Mary's Hospital-Madison
- SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital - Madison names new president
- Beaver Dam Community Hospital changes name following merger
- Telehealth services bill heads to Wisconsin assembly
- Valley health care organizations plan specialty hospital
- Specialty hospital coming to Appleton
- Advocate Aurora Health pledges $50M to help Wisconsin, Illinois communities
- Ascension Medical Group at Sussex Moves to New Location

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- Russell Medical to join UAB Health System
- 81-bed Alabama hospital to join UAB Health System
- March of Dimes gives Alabama “F” when it comes to infant and maternal health

FLORIDA
AdventHealth ready for next step on $100M patient tower project
Hospital system to invest $600M into 3 new 'wellness villages'
Lee Health now sole owner of Bonita Community Health Centers
AdventHealth in need of nurses following national shortage
Florida hospital board recoups an additional $1.3M from CMS tied to pre-HCA lease
Genome Medical expands its telegenetics work into personalized care coordination
Health briefing: AdventHealth opens new pediatric ER in Celebration
Health First to Relocate Cape Canaveral Hospital to Merritt Island, Open Three New Wellness Villages
Cape Canaveral Hospital relocation: Loss of a landmark, hopeful future for healthcare and land
Florida unveils new hospital price comparison website
Tampa health care IT firm acquires Georgia company
New website launched in Florida providing healthcare cost transparency

GEORGIA

Georgia governor unveils Medicaid expansion plan with work requirement
Atrium Health to form 'strategic combination' with another Georgia health-care system
Ex-Georgia hospital CEO convicted of 102 federal charges
Kemp unveils proposals to overhaul Georgia individual health plans
Piedmont Healthcare and CareSource strike deal for 2020
The Children’s Hospital of Georgia is expanding
Tampa health care IT firm acquires Georgia company
North Georgia Walmart health center nation’s first
Georgia health system now live on Epic HER
Georgia health-care organizations propose big new projects
Atlanta’s VA hospital remains partially shut for surgeries - employees

MISSISSIPPI

Physician assistants playing increasingly important role in Mississippi health care
Mississippi hospital launches specialty pharmacy program
Memorial Hospital at Gulfport Announces New Specialty Pharmacy Program
Health care is on the ballot in state elections
Three coast hospitals earn "A" ratings in national safety survey
Pharmacist Sentenced to 10 Years in Health Care Fraud Case
NORTH CAROLINA

- Chaplain at UNC REX Healthcare in Raleigh retiring after 25 years
- BCBS of North Carolina CEO's resignation 'wrong message' on mental health, former congressman says
- New tower at Baptist hospital, new institute in downtown Winston-Salem among plans forming with Atrium Health
- Wake Forest Baptist may bring back 800 outsourced billing jobs
- Skanska to build UNC Hospitals Surgical Tower in North Carolina
- UNC Health Care restructures leadership
- Atrium Health to form 'strategic combination' with another Georgia health-care system
- UNC Health Care Restructures Leadership to Coordinate Clinical Care in Triangle
- New building may lead to more area doctors
- Monitor with health expertise pledges to keep watch on HCA-Mission deal
- Patient killed in tussle with police at North Carolina hospital
- BCBS of North Carolina exec says data-sharing big part of strategy
- CHESS, Northern Regional Hospital partner on value-based care mission
- Wake Forest Baptist, Atrium sign partnership agreement
- Historic Area Hospital to Participate in Modern Patient Care Model
- Public hearing set to consider state loan for Randolph Health
- FTC vetting 'strategic partnership' between WFBH, Atrium Health

SOUTH CAROLINA

- New CEO raises wages at Prisma Health hospitals
- 55 ambulatory health care services businesses in South Carolina have between 100 and 249 employees in 2016
- SC hospital system Prisma further centralizing leadership in Upstate as two operations join
- Most Midlands hospitals safety grades are Cs, but two stand out in new report card
- Gala recognizes 40 years of service for Health Care Partners of South Carolina
- Prisma Health Selects MDLIVE as Preferred Virtual Healthcare Partner to Deliver Streamlined Digital Health Services Across South Carolina
- March of Dimes: South Carolina earns "D-" on preterm birth report, worse than last year

TENNESSEE

- Vanderbilt Children's names interim president
- Tennessee hospital to reopen in January
- Nashville health care startup inks deal with Chick-fil-A
On the brink of collapse, a rural Tennessee hospital searches for hope

Nashville General Hospital loses three board members, mayor to choose replacements

Tennessee Initiative Working to Expand Palliative Care

Nashville General loses 3 board members

LifePoint, LHC Group expand joint venture

**SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST**

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

**ARKANSAS**

- Nursing home loses bid to arbitrate class-action suit after failing to prove agreements were legally authorized
- Insurer's stake in firm stirs concern in Arkansas
- Arkansas hospital operator agrees to terminate management deal
- First robotic-assisted spine surgery performed at Baptist Health
- New interactive map highlights social determinants of health in Little Rock School District
- UAMS receives accreditation for Nurse Anesthesia Program

**ARIZONA**

- Arizona health centers sue Medicaid over reimbursement dispute
- PMB breaks ground for new 55,000-square-foot St. Mary's Medical Pavilion in Tucson, Ariz.
- U of Arizona Health Sciences to offer course in developing, commercializing medical treatment
- ASU, Phoenix Children’s Hospital team up for pediatric-focused acute care program
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona acquires Steward Health Choice Arizona
- LHC Group and LifePoint Health expand joint venture partnership in three states

**LOUISIANA**

- Featured Exec: Warner Thomas, President and CEO at Ochsner Health System
- Louisiana hospital partners with jail to provide telemedicine services
- Medical marijuana in Louisiana: Questions about cost arise
- New Orleans VA Medical Center Breaks Ground for the First Fisher House in Louisiana
- Premature birth rates in Louisiana are among the worst in U.S., report says

**NEW MEXICO**

- New program seeks to lure nurses in New Mexico rural areas
- Legislation Seeks to Decrease Rural Maternal Deaths
Lovelace hospital names new C-suite hire

UNM Hospital Breaks Ground Tuesday for Nene and Jamie Koch Movement Disorders Center

OKLAHOMA

El Reno, SSM Health break ground on new hospital
Tenet agrees to settle Oklahoma hospital kickback case for $66 million
Oklahoma hospital failed to make 'in-kind' payments instead of property taxes, lawsuit says
Lawmakers want to regulate midwives in Oklahoma
March of Dimes Report Card: Texas, Oklahoma get “D” grades for maternal, infant health
Capitol Insider: Oklahoma Health Care Authority’s New CEO On Medicaid And More

TEXAS

ORMC gets new pathology group
Agency: Nursing home advocates needed across Northeast Texas
UTH Health, Amazon Partner to Use Machine Learning for Medical Research
4 health systems expanding overseas
Tenet agrees to pay $66M to resolve kickback lawsuit
Tenet Healthcare reports $232M loss following $4.2B debt refinancing
Tenet posts 3rd consecutive quarter of volume growth
Centene, UnitedHealth big winners in $10B Texas Medicaid contracts
Trump nominates Texas oncologist Stephen Hahn to lead FDA
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas Awards More Than $1.6 million To Fight Chronic Kidney Disease and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
San Antonio hospital, 2 clinics and operator enter bankruptcy
Kelsey-Seybold rejoins BCBS 3 years after abrupt split
Former Humana exec lands at hospital company
McKinney hospitals implement programs to fight opioid crisis
Texas hospital to waive unpaid bills for 14 injured in mass shooting
San Antonio receives "F" grade for preterm births, healthcare access, report shows
California-based company Astura Medical announces move to new Irving HQ

NORTHWEST


ALASKA
Wrangell hospital takes home-grown hiring approach
Fairbanks experiencing behavioral health crisis according to hospital behavioral health director
To reduce staff turnover, Wrangell hospital takes home-grown hiring approach
Alaska hospital taps community to train CNAs, cut staff turnover
In Alaska, Telehealth is Popular With Those Who Have Already Used It

IDAHO
Saint Al's employee agrees to plead guilty to stealing funds, including donations
Power County Hospital hoping voters approve $2.95M bond to finish work
St. Luke’s CEO to retire, new leader named for large health system
About 35,000 Idahoans Sign up for Medicaid Under Expansion

MONTANA
5 Montana hospitals settle employee insurance lawsuit
Glendive Medical Center recognized for improvement in patient care
Bozeman Health partners with local child care startup
Hospitals reach proposed $7 million deal with employees
5 Montana hospitals settle lawsuit alleging they swapped $26M from insurer for inflated employee premiums

OREGON
How and why this rural hospital CEO taps into public’s ‘buy local’ sensibility
Oregon children's hospital designated a level 1 children's surgery center
Randall Children's Hospital wins prestigious designation
OHA Director: Medical care is only a small part of overall health
Judge lifts extra oversight of Oregon State Hospital
Mercy Medical Center uses art to comfort patients
Portland patient wanders out of Providence hospital room, later found dead in basement, lawsuit says

WASHINGTON
Health care provider supports career growth and development for Puget Sound workforce
State has $2M for health projects
Washington hospital to move forward with expansion as payment cuts loom
Washington Health Alliance report finds downward trend in health care spending waste
Washington hospital cited for 22 care deficiencies after state audit
ZOOM+Care Brings Mental Health Services to the Seattle Area

WYOMING

- Ex-CMO sues Wyoming hospital for $38M, says he was forced to resign for reporting substandard care
- Wyoming lawmakers to consider Medicaid expansion again
- Laramie hospital sued by former top medical officer
- Wyoming Medical Center’s bad debt losses jump 50% since 2015

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Lawsuit filed over California dialysis clinic law on costs
- California nursing home residents told to find new homes
- Dr. Carrie L. Byington takes the reins at UC Health
- California Nursing Home Patients Had Minutes to Flee Fire
- Column: California blocks a hospital merger amid concerns about religious limits on care
- California hospital adds 7 neurosurgeons to curb patient leakage
- California hospital installs $30M Cerner HER

COLORADO

- Delta County Memorial Hospital names interim CEO
- West Springs Hospital to reopen walk-in center
- Children’s Hospital Colorado uses telehealth to diagnose fetal heart disease
- DaVita HealthCare: 3Q Earnings Snapshot
- New Colorado law protects adverse health care incident resolution process
- 2019 Colorado State of Reform: Driving Value out of Colorado’s Health Care System, Art Jones, MD

HAWAII

- Kaiser billing-practices suit against Queen’s dismissed
- Kaiser can’t stop Hawaii health system from balance billing
- CEO of Molokai’s only health center not stepping down despite residents’ demands

NEVADA

- UNLV medical school receives provisional accreditation
- Residents in rural Nevada battle longer emergency response times
Comprehensive Cancer Centers may relocate HQ to downtown Las Vegas
UNR Med and Carson Tahoe Health form partnership
Nevada Health Centers embarks on next phase of renovations

UTAH
20,000 Utah Valley Eye Center patients may have had information hacked after HIPAA breach
Intermountain CEO Dr. Marc Harrison to undergo cancer treatment
Artemis Health Wins Top Workplaces Award From Salt Lake Tribune
Huntsmans Give $150M To Start Mental Health Institute
Physician assistant program at Utah Valley denied accreditation, future unclear