HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - FEBRUARY 23, 2018

NATIONAL

- EHR interoperability, connectivity a big challenge around globe new study finds
- AHA Asks CMS to Delay New Bundled Payment Model
- Anthem amends ER policy but stands behind decision not to pay for avoidable emergency care
- Albertsons, Rite Aid deal creates U.S. supermarket and health care giant
- Health experts suggest signing bank loans at hospitals may result in unaffordable costs
- Four Fresh New Perspectives on Telemedicine for Health Execs
- Amazon has quietly launched an exclusive line of over-the-counter health products
- HHS Secretary Alex Azar commits to support changes to physician-owned hospital ban
- Bon Secours Health System and Mercy Health Announce Intent to Merge
- 300+ healthcare workers issued religious or conscience rights violation complaints to HHS in 1 month
- Bill Aims to Rescue Cost-Saving Tool for Nonprofit Hospitals
- Healthcare costs vary among states due to use patterns, prices
- Moody’s: Nonprofit hospitals face volume, margin declines as insurers acquire physicians

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- Connecticut sees concerning number of doctors leaving the state
- Bridgeport Hospital opens revamped newborn unit
- Wadleigh to step down as Access Health CEO
- Founder of Manchester medical products maker back at helm of company
- Masonicare to sell Newtown senior care campus for $13.1M
- Ninth Hartford Healthcare-GoHealth Urgent Care center to open

MAINE

- Franklin Community Health Network selects Timothy Churchill as permanent CEO
- Pen Bay Medical Center in Rockport turning corner on steep losses
- Interim CEO to lead FCHN, Western Maine Health
- 19 positions eliminated as Bangor-based Miller Drug restructures
MASSACHUSETTS

- Partners HealthCare to lay off 100 employees
- 2 pharma giants, Calif. hospital to use Boston firm’s ‘organ-on-a-chip’
- Baystate Franklin Medical Center nurses set strike date
- Massachusetts bill seeks to protect patients’ health care confidentiality
- Steward Health Care taps former Baptist Health System CEO for exec role
- Greenfield Councilors plan to head to Springfield to try to speak with Baystate Health CEO
- Downtown Dallas' newest office building attracts Boston health care firm rumored to be eyeing move
- Lab to forfeit $1M for unnecessary urine drug screens
- MassHealth reform links ACOs to community care for people with disabilities, complex health needs
- Ousted Vineyard hospital chief lands job in Alaska, but legal fight with Partners isn’t over
- Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Plymouth Announces New Hospital Board Chair
- Hospital CEO leaving in 2019
- Seven Hills hires long-term care director
- Framingham's Alira Health acquires Framingham research firm
- Group, UMass to hold meeting on Clinton hospital endoscopy closure
- Steward Health Care finalizes partnership to provide healthcare services in Malta

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- H. Lawmakers Pitch Medicaid Reauthorization
- Public to weigh in on New Hampshire Medicaid expansion bill

NEW YORK

- Funds reinstated in federal hospital program good news for Oneida Healthcare
- ENH sued for ‘negligent hiring’
- New Catholic Health CEO ready to face challenges of health care industry
- New York's newest male physicians make nearly $27k more than female peers
- NY Medicaid director to leave
- Massena, Ogdensburg hospitals benefit from return of Low-Volume Hospital program
- This healthcare startup positions itself at intersection of social networks and physician reviews
- Rural WNY hospitals to receive $9 million from feds
- Coney Island Hospital files plans for massive new building
- New York hospital cuts 9 jobs, saves $1.67M for ‘mission-critical’ positions
- Memorial Sloan Kettering and IQVIA Holdings back Cota in $40M round
Catholic Health’s new CEO is prepared to lead

38 New York hospitals get $24.2M in quality payments from Excellus BCBS

New York hospital sheds $2.34M of expenses in 2-day cost purge

RHODE ISLAND

Care New England posts $34M loss; execs cite costs of closing Memorial Hospital

Lawyers eye recouping $20M for insolvent St. Joseph pension plan

VERMONT

Vermont newspaper opposes surgery center regulation bill

Editorial: Ambulatory surgery center bill gives VT bad name

Mt Ascutney Hospital explores patient safety, welcomes new trustees at annual meeting

Legislation puts ‘unfair burden’ on independent surgical centers

UVM Medical Center pitches $22.1 million property purchase

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELWARE

New advisory group seeks to reign in health care costs

5Q: Secretary of DHSS Dr. Kara Odom Walker

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Doctor Files Whistleblower Lawsuit Against DC Hospital

C. Council delays decision on UMC’s new turnaround company

C. insurance regulator tells CareFirst to pay back surplus. Again. But that’s not the last word.

MARYLAND

Maryland hospital association hires new president

Havre de Grace mayor, council members oppose hospital closure without a suitable replacement

Bon Secours Health System and Mercy Health Announce Intent to Merge

State-of-the-art operating room at PRMC could make crucial difference in stroke victims

PRMC Open New Neurosurgery Operating Room

Maryland, D.C. consider measures to stabilize state health exchanges

Lawsuit says Maryland ambulance company overbilled Medicare

NEW JERSEY

New medical school will open in New Jersey this Summer

New Jersey to Launch State Health Information Exchange Network
How New Jersey’s busiest ED slashed opioid prescriptions by 58%

Virtua’s Bob Segin: Health system CFOs should ‘get out of their comfort zone’

NJ attorney general creates office to deal with opioid crisis

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Penn Medicine opens new center for telemedicine in Philadelphia

Penn Medicine has created one of the largest telehealth centers in the country

One MRI is $1,000 more than another. That’s just the start of Philly’s health care pricing mysteries

Lawsuit questions whether four-hour delay at ER caused plaintiff vision in one eye

Nurse with hearing loss loses part of lawsuit against Genesis Healthcare

Pennsylvania hospital loses tax-exempt status

Universal Health Services a big tax-cut winner, Moody’s says

Construction started on Allegheny Health Network’s $35 million cancer center in Monroeville

Genesis Healthcare gets some debt relief

Highmark exec joins Hershey Medical Center board

**VIRGINIA**

Smyth hospital CEO details merger benefits for community

Northam signs hospital bill in Patrick County

Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association statement on state budget bills

UVa patient records exposed for 17 months in malware attack

**WEST VIRGINIA**

Innerviews: Impassioned nurse finds niche as Health Right CEO

**CENTRAL**

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

**IOWA**

University of Iowa hospitals seeking rate hike, amid industry headwinds and institutional efficiency efforts

Cownie: Telehealth would ease health care access for many Iowans

**KANSAS**

Kansas Senate committee endorses bill to expand Medicaid

Kansas telemedicine act swept up in abortion debate

Two-year wait to open Wanamaker Dialysis Clinic nearing end

**MINNESOTA**

Mayo vs. IRS: Is Clinic more school than medical center?
Mayo will close clinic in southeast Minnesota

Mayo Clinic's CEO to retire at year's end

Hitch Health partners with Lyft for nonemergency transportation

Abbott Northwestern plans $29M neuroscience unit

Minnesota hospital errors rose slightly over past 4 years

Mayo Clinic saw operating income rise to $707M in 2017

MISSOURI

Ascension, Presence Health ink deal to merge

Take a tour of Saint Luke's first micro-hospital

Missouri hospital to begin $7.5M same-day surgery, outpatient expansion

Anthem's controversial emergency room policy is target of Missouri lawmakers

Missouri Hospital Becomes Second Municipal Bankruptcy of 2018

SSM Health hospital hit with physician kickback allegations

Following Indiana and Kentucky's lead, Missouri looks at Medicaid work requirements

Ascension Health begins layoffs in Michigan

Anthony Tersigni: Healthcare leaders must address behavioral health disparities

NEBRASKA

Ricketts names health care exec to state Medicaid division

UNMC budget cuts won't impact patient care, but Nebraska-Medicine CEO has long-term concerns

Nebraska legislator seeks more state oversight of health care facilities

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

How OSF HealthCare partners with community organizations to drive population health

Memorial Hospital East gets new administrator after previous leader retires

Ascension, Presence Health ink deal to merge

President and CEO of St. Elizabeth's in O'Fallon resigns

WellCare Names Chuck Beeman Illinois State President

$92 million accounting error delivers blow to Edward-Elmhurst Health's bottom line

FTC OKs proposed Aurora Health Care, Advocate merger

INDIANA

Franciscan Closing Carmel Facility
Unidentified health system to invest $1B into Indiana medical complex

Developers to propose $1 billion hospital project in Carmel

Community Health Network COO Named VP

Vincent says it remains ‘fully committed’ to West 86th Street campus

Cook Details Major Realignment

Highpoint Health Is Same Healthcare System With A New Name, Mission, Vision

Judge dismisses 3 counts in CHS’ lawsuit against ex-Lutheran CEO

Officials say new medical campus will bring collaboration, vitality

NWI hospitals step up cardiac care game advanced new technologies, minimally invasive procedures

Vincent expands care for women to Alexandria

Franciscan gives update on new hospital

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods Opens Health Clinic

Anthem Completes Acquisition of America’s 1st Choice

KENTUCKY

SUN Behavioral Health 197-bed hospital in Erlanger completed, will begin to accept new patients in May

OLBH opens new $1.2 million cath lab

Two Lexington hospitals announce expansion plans costing $64.4 million

Hosparus Health makes hire in C-suite

Emergency Or Not? Ky. Medicaid Changes Will Penalize For Unnecessary ER Visits

UK HealthCare Submits Application for 141 Beds at UK Chandler Hospital

CMS threatens to revoke Kentucky hospital's Medicare funding

Kentucky hospitals plan expansion projects totaling $64.4 million

Kindred Healthcare sets March 29 vote on controversial sale to Humana, private equity

Long-time Louisville pediatrician practice files for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection

Bon Secours Health System and Mercy Health Announce Intent to Merge

MICHIGAN

Warren hospital's ER goes mobile during construction

Putnam: Will Lansing neighborhoods thrive or wither when McLaren moves hospital?

EEOC: Michigan health care company violated religious discrimination laws

'Detroit Rising': Primary care doctors in city neighborhoods in short supply

Michigan Considers Moving Long-Term Medicaid to Managed Care
WMU medical school granted full accreditation
Ascension Health begins layoffs in Michigan
Imminent ER Closure Worries Sparrow Nurses, Patients
Michigan State University Announces New Health Structure
Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and Michigan Medicine moving forward with joint venture of St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Mercy building new northside medical facility across from Spectrum's
New online database offers real-time data for Michigan health care consumers
Joseph Mercy Health, Michigan Medicine join forces at Chelsea hospital
Senior living company acquires facility
Perrigo appoints CFO
Michigan Supreme Court denies family's appeal of erased $20M verdict
Huron Medical Center appoints 4th CEO since January 2017
Sparrow Carson President and CEO Matthew Thompson leaves post amid infection control issues

OHIO
UH Portage Medical Center selects new president: 3 takeaways
Crystal Clinic to build 60-bed hospital in Fairlawn
MetroHealth Unveils Plan to Revitalize Community with Hospital in a Park
Home health care company laying off 129 in Greater Cincinnati
Bon Secours Health System and Mercy Health Announce Intent to Merge
Mike Keating stepping down this year as president and CEO of the Christ Hospital
Ohio orthopedic group plans $100M MOB, ASC
Cardinal Health closing Ohio warehouse, cutting 100 jobs
O'Bleness Hospital shows off new, expanded ICU
Nurses say strict attendance policies aren't just a problem at Northeast Ohio hospitals
Cincinnati medical device maker gets board refresh
Cleveland Clinic's London hospital to open in early 2021
HealthSpan integration, community expansion help drive MetroHealth's strong 2017
Ohio lawmakers consider banning tax breaks, state contracts from Anthem over ED policy

WISCONSIN
Wisconsin hospitals suffering from prolonged IV solution shortage
Claim alleges Agnesian defrauded government with physician kick-backs
Walker discusses WI Health Care Stability Plan in Eau Claire
Aurora plans Pleasant Prairie facility

FTC OKs proposed Aurora Health Care, Advocate merger

Medical College of Wisconsin knew doctor was accused of performing unnecessary surgery

Wisconsin Hospital ends partnership with anesthesia group

SSM Health hospital hit with physician kickback allegations

Merger of Catholic health systems is off to a good start

Milwaukee County Jail's health care contractor charged with falsifying inmate records

Wisconsin health care cost transparency is slowly improving | Mark Herzog

Aspirus IR Clinic grand opening to be March 15

**SOUTH / SOUTHEAST**

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

**ALABAMA**

- OrthoExpress to open 1st Alabama orthopedic urgent care clinic
- Alabama hospital retains Medicare funding
- Alabama hospital unveils high-tech NICU beds
- UAB Medicine gives rural hospital new life
- UAB graduate prepares for role as state’s next health officer

**FLORIDA**

- Deal could end hospital fights over trauma centers
- Lee Health seeking license for hospital in south Lee County
- Florida Hospital adds to exec teams at 4 hospitals
- State denies Orlando Health's plans for pediatric heart transplant program
- 7 things to know today and Florida Hospital's parent expands its Lake Mary footprint
- Eye Doctor Gets 17 Years For Medicare Fraud
- Expansion approved for Jupiter Medical Center
- Bay Medical Sacred Heart CEO abruptly resigns

**GEORGIA**

- Jeff Davis Hospital breaks ground on $2.4 million expansion
- WellStar breaks ground on new Kennestone Emergency Department in Marietta
- Georgia hospital system sues Blue Cross Blue Shield for Anthem imaging policy
- OIG tags 612-bed Georgia hospital for erroneous billing
- Brookhaven Medical Center purchased for $27.6M
Monroe County Hospital appoints Lorraine Smith CEO

MISSISSIPPI
- Mississippi doc named chief medical office for Molina
- Supreme Court decides not to hear appeal regarding Singing River Health System pension plan
- Several hospitalized after car crashes into Mississippi surgery center
- Specialty Orthopedic Group building $11M facility
- UMMC physicians creating models to reduce opioid addiction

NORTH CAROLINA
- Erlanger's Footprint Expands into North Carolina
- North Carolina fines psychiatric hospital $20k for care lapses
- UNC-Atrium health care deal hits a snag over who will be in control
- Novant Health Rowan sets sail on $12 million campaign for Cancer Care Center
- Triad health provider seeks approval for new $23.5 million medical complex
- North Carolina attorney general seeks more details on Atrium Health-UNC Health Care merger
- Health Care Providers Battling Cyber Attackers
- Cone Health aims to build stand-alone $23.5M emergency department near Greensboro Urban Loop
- Mint Hill Medical Center closer to reality
- Novant Health to cut 23 jobs in Forsyth County
- Urgent care growing in WNC
- Charlotte hospital giant plans to slash labor costs across the region, documents show
- Job cuts came only to Novant's call-a-nurse operations in Forsyth County
- Atrium Health cuts labor costs, affecting 90 positions

SOUTH CAROLINA
- SC legislators’ attempt to sell Greenville Health System called political
- McLeod Health announces new board members
- Former Roper St. Francis executive joins MUSC leadership team
- Controversy over Greenville Health System sale idea spills into Senate
- Encompass Health and Tidelands Health announces new $23M rehab hospital
- Bon Secours to merge with Mercy Health
- Greenville Health System president speaks out against potential sale: Highest bidder would only ‘care about making money’

TENNESSEE
- Erlanger’s Footprint Expands into North Carolina
Jude Hospital announces plans for research center

Erlanger, UT Medical Say Working To Resolve Issues

Erlanger proposes emergency center

Judge dismisses 3 counts in CHS' lawsuit against ex-Lutheran CEO

Roland Cruickshank is Methodist University Hospital's new president

CHS Sells Louisiana Hospital to Allegiance Health

As Nashville General Hospital's future remains uncertain, advocates keep pushing

Saint Francis drops Arlington ER plan; Baptist proceeds with its proposal

Brookdale rejects sale, names new CEO

LifePoint slips to $27.5M net loss in Q4

STRHS Winchester-Sewanee names permanent CEO

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

Arkansas trauma system making strides, but still behind national standards

CHI St. Vincent Names New VP of Finance

Bernards, UnitedHealthcare Announce Network Relationship

Arkansas governor seeks more PBM regulation

ARIZONA

Lack of primary care doctors in Verde Valley has patients scrambling

Audit: Arizona fails to collect $36.7 million in drug rebates

UA and Phoenix to launch biomedical technology accelerator

Phoenix City Council approves funding for University of Arizona technology medical and life science accelerator

Larry Goldberg is Banner-University Medicine's new president

LOUISIANA

Ochsner opens Mid-City and St. Bernard Parish health clinics

CHS Sells Louisiana Hospital to Allegiance Health

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico hospital CEO: We have enough money to fund payroll short-term, but we need more cuts

New Mexico hospitals benefit from recent Medicare changes, analysis shows

Scam targets San Juan Regional Medical Center patients

OKLAHOMA
Fire intentionally set by patient in emergency room at Baptist Hospital

CCMH is SWOK's major heart attack hospital

Nurses start certification classes to train more health-care professionals

TEXAS

University of North Texas Health Science Center to pay $13M

Survey shows physician satisfaction rate for Houston hospitals

Longview Regional plans upgrades, seeks tax relief

Longview Regional owner sells hospital

UT, Ardent announces leadership, naming for former ETMC campuses

UT Board of Regents approves $35 million partnership with Ardent Health Services, system to be known as UT Health East Texas

Downtown Dallas' newest office building attracts Boston health care firm rumored to be eyeing move

New name for ETMC 10-hospital system

Baylor Scott & White reports higher admissions, $595M profit through half of FY18

Texas Health Plano Saving More Limbs with Non-Traditional Procedure

Central Health parts ways with firm redeveloping Brackenridge site

NORTHWEST


ALASKA

Former Gifford Health Care CEO Takes New Position in Alaska

Hospital names new CEO: Joe Woodin

Alaska state lawmakers look to impose Medicaid work requirements

IDAHO

In Idaho, medical-care exemptions for faith healing come under fire

Idaho Prepares to Offer Association Health Plans to Consumers

Primary Health opens new Nampa clinic

Idaho aims to test ACA exemptions

MONTANA

Apprenticeship program seeks to train more healthcare workers in Montana

Panel seeks cure for medical cost transparency

IV fluid shortage at Billings hospitals beginning to ease

Gallatin health advocates say they feel disjointed from the state

Former CFO gets prison time for stealing $111k from Montana health clinic
OREGON

- Oregon CCO reform bill narrowly passes in House, now heads to Senate
- Salem Hospital's emergency department expansion benefits community
- Portland health IT startup enlists two major health systems for broad rollouts
- Drug price transparency bill passes another hurdle in Oregon Legislature
- City of Portland announces it will sue drug industry over opioid crisis

WASHINGTON

- Health care and research progress in Spokane and Seattle
- Nurses forced to work without pay awarded $2.8 million

WYOMING

- Bill would give liability protection to volunteer doctors in bid to cover low-income Wyomingites

WEST (California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Healthcare workers to protest Dignity mega-merger Tuesday at Mercy Hospital Southwest
- 2 pharma giants, Calif. hospital to use Boston firm’s ‘organ-on-a-chip’
- California judge allows $1B suit against UnitedHealth to proceed
- Physician group submits bid to reinstate healthcare operations at shuttered 157-year-old California hospital site
- Protests begin at Kaiser Permanente hospitals across California
- Adventist Health Selects Andrew Jahn to Lead Southern California Region as President
- Mercy workers cancel protest, contract negotiations continue
- Catalina Island Medical Center showing marked improvement
- 4 California hospitals ask AG to reduce charity care requirements
- Silicon Valley’s (other) gender in tech problem: Women in Bay Area biotech are still waiting to break through
- Health insurance giant accuses Sonoma West Medical Center of fraudulent billing
- El Camino Hospital taps new CIO
- Cedars-Sinai receives record-breaking $50M gift to launch heart institute

COLORADO

- Colorado proposes requiring data breaches to be reported in 30 days
- Banner Medical Group names new CEO
- DaVita to lay off 41 in Lakewood
- Free-standing ERs soon might be forced to tell costs upfront
Colorado Springs hospital construction projects pass key milestone

Denver area hospital’s CEO to retire

Bank of Colorado in Craig invests $15K to build medical clinic

Regional West strengthens partnership with UCHealth and University of Colorado Cancer Center

EMCH working to serve Brush beyond hospital, CNO says

Children’s Hospital Colorado Opens State-of-the-Art Allergy and Immunology Center

CHI Health CEO Dr. Cliff Robertson on the greatest misconception about CEOs

Former Fortune 500 execs join Colorado health-tech firm focused on thwarting opioid abuse

UCHealth drops ‘interim’ from CFO Dan Rieber’s title

NEVADA

Nevada breaks with UNLV health clinic over patient conditions

UNLV School of Medicine’s Rosenberg on the future of Vegas sports medicine

UTAH

Why Intermountain Healthcare says it’s best for patients and employees to outsource billing to a company with a checkered past

Intermountain donates $15M to University of Utah for med building

Utah House passes bill to import cost-saving pharmaceutical drugs from Canada

When will Utah County’s west side get a hospital?

Utah’s Life Sciences Industry One of the Fastest Growing in the U.S.

Mark’s Hospital names new CEO