

DECEMBER 21, 2018

HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - DECEMBER 21, 2018

NATIONAL

- Federal judge rules Obama's health care overhaul unconstitutional
- Amazon explored buying at-home medical test company
- Amy Abernethy to join FDA as principal deputy commissioner
- 4 biggest Anti-Kickback settlements involving hospitals in 2018
- 12 latest healthcare industry lawsuits, settlements
- Will interstate compacts turn into national licensure?
- What doctors need to know about MACRA's new patient relationship codes
- State-by-state breakdown of 93 rural hospital closures
- HHS appeals risk adjustment court decision
- HHS Issues RFI for HIPAA Improvements, Care Coordination
- Farm Bill Includes Telemedicine Funding for Opioid Abuse Treatment
- Section 1557 Lawsuit Over Transgender And Abortion Protections Will Proceed
- Farm bill would allow rural hospitals to refinance debt
- Drug costs put squeeze on skilled nursing facilities
- Hospitalwide innovation through medication management: 4 ways hospitals are accomplishing it
- Judge requests CVS, Aetna keep some operations separate during antitrust review
- CMS probes potential conflicts of interest for accrediting groups

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- Health services access groups in Connecticut, Maine merging
- Stamford Hospital Fined \$55,000 For Operating Blood Draw Facility Without Approval
- Cigna closes \$67B Express Scripts purchase
- CT Children's to build dialysis center

MAINE

- Mills picks former Obama health care reform leader to run DHHS
- Portland Planning Board OKs 3rd and final phase of Maine Med expansion



- Health services access groups in Connecticut, Maine merging
- Mayo Regional Hospital launches integrated health record system
- Mercy Hospital takes another step toward relocation to Fore River Parkway

MASSACHUSETTS

- MassHealth taps vendors to provide technical assistance to new ACOs
- Morton Hospital closes maternity unit permanently
- State won't review Dana-Farber's Foxborough satellite facility
- Hospital to adopt new security measures after data breach
- Massachusetts workers at Steward Health Care hospital OK union
- Novartis loses another executive to biotech
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute hires James Terwilliger as COO

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Digging Into the DHMC Expansion
- New Hampshire health coverage sign-ups lag deadline nears
- New Hampshire physician assistant guilty of Insys opioid kickback scheme

NEW YORK

- A new kind of medicine makes its way to Albany
- New York nurses unionize after state orders investigation of alleged threats at hospital
- Catholic Health recruits c-level exec from N.C.
- New York medical office building acquired for \$48.1M
- New York Hospital to Increase Emergency Department Security
- Higgins: Almost \$7 million for WNY health care centers
- NYU Langone, healthcare workers reach contract agreement
- NewYork-Presbyterian CIO Daniel Barchi on the strategic initiative he'll tackle in 2019
- New York nurses unionize after state orders investigation of alleged threats at hospital

RHODE ISLAND

- Hospital merger plan files for approval from Rhode Island
- Newport Mental Health Center Gets \$2 Million Federal Grant

VERMONT

- Springfield hospital officials withheld financial woes from regulators
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock researchers analyze Vermont's hub and spoke opioid treatment model
- Vermont community hospital notifies 32,000 after data breach



- Vermont hospital struggles to pay its bills
- Springfield Medical Care Systems CEO Resigns

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELAWARE

- Christiana Care CEO Janice Nevin says \$15 hourly wage will not drive up health care costs
- Health care company founder shares \$20M with workers
- Kentmere Healthcare Consulting helps Horizon Healthcare expand

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- C. sues Ascension over hospital closure
- Ascension sued by city officials to keep DC health system open
- Confusion Turns to Compromise as the D.C. Council Moves Forward on the Construction of a New Hospital
- Maryland doctor to pay more than \$3 million for alleged fraudulent Medicare, Medicaid claims
- GWU Hospital says it's back in the game to work toward East End Hospital deal

MARYLAND

- New Upper Chesapeake medical center, now planned for Aberdeen, is welcomed by city audience
- Union Hospital, LifeBridge end merger talks
- Maryland health care aide charged with Medicaid fraud of almost \$450K
- Meritus Health CEO retires

NEW JERSEY

- The Interview Issue: Barry Ostrowsky is making sure RWJBarnabas Health changes for the best
- HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital in Toms River changing names
- Troubled New Jersey hospital names successor 1 week after CEO resigns
- Hackensack Meridian gives nurses raises, pledges to hire more
- New Jersey hits health insurer with penalty over privacy breach
- Troubled New Jersey hospital awaits vote on interim CEO
- New Jersey nurses reach labor deal with future Salem hospital owner

PENNSYLVANIA

- Pennsylvania hospital nurse strike looms
- Menno Haven unveils rehabilitation center
- New Hospital to Create 200 Jobs
- New Rhein Healthcare Investors moving headquarters to Philadelphia



- Conemaugh Health System breaks ground on outpatient center
- CHOP and Philly launch home repair program to prevent asthma
- Wolf appoints advisory group to improve home health care working conditions
- Geisinger looks to fill 200 jobs in new hospital
- Pennsylvania health system, CEO will pay \$12.5M to resolve billing probe
- Negotiations between nurses, hospital ongoing
- UPMC chief innovation officer to depart for North Carolina health system
- Longtime UHS executive gets new job leading Acadia
- Luke's University Health Network selects presidents for 2 hospitals
- Council punts on pharma bill banning gifts to doctors
- Hospice company paying \$6M in fraudulent billing case
- Former St. Joseph Hospital's closing creates uncertain future for employees, property

VIRGINIA

- Centra sees operating margin drop as electronic records rollout leads to increased costs
- Sentara mandates vaccines for all employees
- Valley Health announces layoffs as care costs increase
- Copper helps Sentara hospitals drop infection rates by 60%, study says
- Ballad Health, critics debate trauma plan

WEST VIRGINIA

- Deric Bryant named hospitalist director at Camden Clark Medical Center
- WVU Children's Breaks Ground on \$150M Tower at J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital in West Virginia
- Healthy patients and a healthy economy: United Hospital Center takes care of North Central WV
- Overcoming barriers to advance regional healthcare

CENTRAL

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

IOWA

- Where It Takes the Longest to Get to a Hospital in the U.S.
- Iowa hospital seeks \$500K from county as losses mount
- CHI Health Mercy Council Bluffs president to retire, ending 24-year tenure

KANSAS

- Kansas fixes Medicaid billing that cut pediatricians' pay
- Where It Takes the Longest to Get to a Hospital in the U.S.



- Kansas Hospital Association prepares for pushback on Medicaid expansion
- Late paychecks hit 'lives and livelihood' of KC-based rural hospital chain's employees
- Pediatricians may drop Kansas Medicaid patients due to billing change

MINNESOTA

- UnitedHealth Group will pay \$500M less for Colorado-based physicians group
- TreeHouse Health an innovation hub for healthcare startups
- Hennepin Healthcare cuts ties with sheriff, considers arming security force
- Where It Takes the Longest to Get to a Hospital in the U.S.
- Mayo Partners with MyMeds

MISSOURI

- Foes of sale: St. Mary's not closing
- MU Health Care, SSM Health to host third forum on potential hospital merger
- Where It Takes the Longest to Get to a Hospital in the U.S.
- Report shows improved Missouri health ranking
- MU Health CEO promises to sustain Audrain hospital
- SSM Health leads the training to reduce the rate of women dying in child birth
- Lawsuit against hospital clinic settled
- BJC Health Care says online payments may have been hacked
- Late paychecks hit 'lives and livelihood' of KC-based rural hospital chain's employees
- Kindred at Home offers 'the right care at the right time'

NEBRASKA

- Comprehensive genetics clinic now open at Gordon Memorial Hospital
- Where It Takes the Longest to Get to a Hospital in the U.S.
- State launches website to inform Nebraskans about Medicaid expansion progress
- State dumps two major computer projects after spending \$12 million on them

NORTH DAKOTA

- Where It Takes the Longest to Get to a Hospital in the U.S.
- Jamestown Regional Medical Center taps new CEO

SOUTH DAKOTA

- Where It Takes the Longest to Get to a Hospital in the U.S.
- Wave of nursing home closures hitting small South Dakota communities

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- Chicago hospital performs record 54 heart transplants in 2018
- Vibra Hospital of Springfield set to close
- Siteman Cancer Center plans 2020 opening at Memorial Hospital East
- HSHS St. Francis Hospital appoints CEO
- Brian Charlier to serve as CEO of HSHS St. Vincent, St. Mary's hospitals
- Illinois long-term care hospital to close amid declining reimbursement

INDIANA

- Planning for 800-acre parcel to begin: Columbus Regional Health compiling land-use committee
- Columbus Regional Health Looks To Create Vision For Future Health Campus
- Nurse practitioner opens subscription-medicine clinic in Hebron
- IU Health West Hospital celebrates expansion
- Kelly Stanley: Looking back at IU Health, Ball Memorial Hospital merger, 10 years later
- Carmel City Council poised to reject proposed specialty hospital if it won't commit to permanent taxes
- Lutheran Health Finalizes Plans For New Hospital
- Indiana University Health Blackford Hospital awarded Hospital Accreditation from The Joint Commission
- Franciscan Health Michigan City Prepares for Move to New Hospital
- IU Health West Plans 'Crane Christening'

KENTUCKY

- Louisville gets \$1.3M from state for new entrepreneur effort
- Kentucky grants \$1.3 million for health care hub in Louisville
- Baptist Healthcare finishes fiscal 2018 in the black after a big loss for 2017
- Baptist Healthcare reverses \$69M operating loss
- Kindred Healthcare and Netsmart Partner to Create Next Generation Post-Acute Platform
- Federal grant allows Northern Kentucky partners to build health innovation initiative
- Local hospitals put \$97.2M into economy in 2016
- Passport West End HQ project gets \$24M from national organizations
- Humana ranks high on new Forbes list

MICHIGAN

- Plans move forward on new \$450 million health care campus in Michigan
- Centria Healthcare Reveals New Corporate Branding

HALL RENDER KILLIAN HEATH & LYMAN

HEALTH LAW NEWS

- Michigan state lawmakers have stamped out telemedicine again
- McLaren breaks ground on new \$450 million health care campus
- New hospital coming to MSU research park
- McLaren Macomb hires new director for cardiovascular services

оню

- Bellevue Hospital opens \$7M Eagle Crest Health Park
- Two Premier Health hospitals to have new leadership in the new year
- Bellevue Hospital opens new Eagle Crest Health Park
- Cleveland Clinic latest hospital to raise minimum wage to \$15
- Expansion spree: Cleveland Clinic is opening new facilities and buying others
- Mercy Health puts St. Joseph's planned move on hold
- Sylvania ambulance company sued over potential billing issues
- Miami Valley Hospital names new president
- Kettering Health closer to adding more Middletown inpatient beds
- Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers said healthcare-related projects dominated 2018
- Hospitalwide innovation through medication management: 4 ways hospitals are accomplishing it
- Mercy Health delays plan to build \$250M Ohio hospital
- Former Cleveland Clinic executive gets prison time in \$2.7M fraud scheme

WISCONSIN

- Aurora Health will pay \$12M to resolve improper compensation claims
- Vincent Lyles heads to Advocate Aurora Health
- Orthopaedic Hospital of Wisconsin to open outpatient facilities
- Advocate Aurora Health to raise its minimum wage to \$15 per hour over the next three years
- Door County Medical Center CEO plans retirement
- 3 patients die after contracting Legionnaires' disease in Wisconsin hospital

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- Alabama hospitals above average in preventing HAIs
- Hospital Busier Than Ever Since Move to New \$230M Building

FLORIDA

NCH Healthcare System is recruiting hospitalists against backdrop of shortage

HALL RENDER KILLIAN HEATH & LYMAN

HEALTH LAW NEWS

- The Florida Hospital Nicholson Center Improves Instruction with Next-Generation Displays
- Mike Griffin will lead USF's consolidation push after resignation by All Children's CEO
- New BayCare Hospital to be Built Along I-75 Corridor
- When he resigned, All Children's CEO left more than the hospital
- Expansion spree: Cleveland Clinic is opening new facilities and buying others
- 3 top execs resign from Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital
- UM health system reports its 'best financial year ever' as cancer care and surgeries grow
- Bill supporting Halifax Health's Deltona expansion takes stage
- UCF's teaching hospital is born
- Florida Hospital joins the fray to upend health care
- Florida hospital CEO can sue CNN for defamation, appeals court rules
- Florida children's hospitals may have to post heart surgery death rates online
- Bonita location of NCH emergency room prepares for grand opening
- Florida hospital CEO: 'Misunderstanding' led to outcry over new policy
- Polk County surgeon pays \$2.2M to resolve false claims' allegations
- Florida's head nursing home regulator Justin Senior contradicts his staff's report on patient deaths
- Florida's best-ranked hospitals -- and more health care briefs from around the state
- From nurse training to practice: 6 thoughts on easing the transition from Memorial Healthcare's 1st chief nursing executive
- Delray Medical Center appoints COO

GEORGIA

- Northside Hospital making moves even as Gwinnett merger has stalled
- When Northeast Georgia Health System hopes to build Braselton surgery center
- WellStar West Georgia Medical Center president to retire
- Emory Healthcare's eICU lets physicians in Australia monitor patients
- With merger still pending, Northside Hospital applies for surgery center CON 5 insights
- Grady named state's top small hospital
- Georgia mothers are dying and Emory Hospital shares how they're taking action to fix it
- Effort to change Georgia's CON laws gains more momentum
- Southeast Georgia Health System selects COO

MISSISSIPPI

- How will a recent ruling on the ACA affect Mississippi?
- Hospital reaches surgery milestone with 1,000th robotics procedure



NORTH CAROLINA

- Rural areas push for more assurances in N.C. hospital sale
- UNC Health Care's new CEO is Dr. A. Wesley Burks
- WakeMed introduces a mobile app that allows you to access your medical records
- Folwell proposal worries hospital
- UPMC chief innovation officer to depart for North Carolina health system
- Novant Health breaks ground on new cancer center
- Atrium Health executive named Charlotte businesswoman of the year
- AG looks to protect WNC's interest in Mission sale
- North Carolina hospital launches Excelsius GPS robotic surgery system
- Navicent Health now one step closer to deal with out-of-state hospital system
- Annual health rankings show mediocre results for overall healthiness in NC
- Ronald "Ronnie" Sloan Receives AHA's Rural Hospital Leadership Award
- Pediatric researcher named CEO of UNC Health
- Under Siege
- Investment Trust buys Wake Forest Baptist Surgery Center
- North Carolina ASC sells real estate, financed at \$5.7M+
- Wayne UNC Health rated among nation's safest
- Mission Hospital one of first to use world's smallest pacemaker

SOUTH CAROLINA

- South Carolina hospital closes after 63 years
- Collective Medical Partners with the South Carolina Hospital Association
- Select Health of South Carolina covers Paradigm Spine's coflex device
- Board member chosen to lead South Carolina health panel

TENNESSEE

- Newport Medical Center's new CEO is Matthew Littlejohn
- State wants more information about Ballad's proposed NICU changes
- Baptist Memorial Health and Jonesboro DO school reach partnership deal
- Jacobs out at Acadia
- Acadia to owe Jacobs more than \$10 million following ouster
- CHI Memorial-Chattanooga named Best Regional Hospital
- Metro Health Dept. receives \$25K grant



- 4 hospitals in Oklahoma and Tennessee miss payroll
- Longtime UHS executive gets new job leading Acadia
- Sisters of Mercy honored before hospital closure
- Ballad Health, critics debate trauma plan
- CHS appoints new director
- Tennova Healthcare-Cleveland CEO resigns

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

- Baptist Memorial Health and Jonesboro DO school reach partnership deal
- Robotic spine surgery comes to Arkansas
- Arkansas Children's names Dr. Greg Sharp as SVP and Chief Medical Officer
- Arkansas hospital threatens legal action over competitor's orthopedic contract with university
- Arkansas surgeon used FaceTime to calm patient during brain operation

ARIZONA

- FastMed, NextCare announce merger
- Mayo Clinic Arizona CEO departs for exec role at Optum
- Arizona ranks 30th nationally in overall health
- \$200M Valley medical project set to break ground early next year

LOUISIANA

- Louisiana cancer clinic opens state's 1st musculoskeletal center
- Our Lady of the Lake Children's Health announces new president
- Ochsner Health System and Geneva Health Solutions Partner to Bring Innovation to Louisiana Patients with Cardiac Device Implants
- Attorneys general: Settlement talks ongoing in drugs lawsuit
- Louisiana is one of 48 states taking generic drug companies to court

NEW MEXICO

- New Mexico to pay \$63M more for Medicaid next year
- Lovelace Health System parent prepares to go public
- Hospitals in Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon and Utah Receive 2018 HealthInsight Quality Awards

OKLAHOMA

- Prague Hospital CEO Resigns After Announcement Of Possible Closure
- Oklahoma Rural Hospital Employees Concerned

HALL RENDER KILLIAN HEATH & LYMAN

HEALTH LAW NEWS

- Prague Community Hospital Employees Receive Paychecks, Hospital's Future Remains In Jeopardy
- Blake Shelton establishes cancer research program at Oklahoma Children's Hospital
- 4 hospitals in Oklahoma and Tennessee miss payroll
- CEO of Prague hospital steps down amid financial struggles
- Oklahoma Hospital Association honors St. Mary's oncology head
- Oklahoma falls to No. 47 in health rankings
- Rural hospital employees in Oklahoma have not received paychecks

TEXAS

- 27 Dallas-Fort Worth hospitals earn A grades in new patient safety ranking
- Jude latest hospital to raise minimum wage to \$15 an hour
- Medical City Fort Worth's new \$65 million tower expands ER, intensive care unit
- Little River Healthcare bankruptcy leaves Killeen staff without jobs
- Spine Team Texas to anchor new medical building
- Sundance hospital indicted on 11 more counts for allegedly holding patients illegally
- Texas Hospital Discloses Third-Party Breach
- The Dallas Companies Hoping to 'Uberize' the Healthcare Staffing
- 'Staffing situation' forces Baylor Scott & White hospital to suspend labor, delivery services
- Waco urology clinic spared in Little River Healthcare closures
- Dallas-based Tenet, other health care stocks fall as Obamacare ruling jolts investors
- Deep in the troubled heart of Texas, health care suffers
- California orthopedic device maker DJO to move headquarters, 200 jobs to Lewisville
- Marietta to head CHI
- Texas Hospital Association CEO encourages hospitals to unite in advocacy efforts
- Baylor St. Luke's exaggerated quality of heart transplant program, lawsuit alleges
- Kingwood Medical Center appoints new CEO
- Report: Texas Hospitals are Becoming Less Profitable

NORTHWEST

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

ALASKA

- Alaskans see extended health insurance enrollment period following November quake
- Alaska ranks 32nd in comprehensive national health rankings report
- Alaska's post-earthquake blanket waivers



- Alaska's mental health crisis: ideas and possible solutions
- Earthquake anxiety overwhelms some Anchorage mental health clinics already stretched thin
- Alaska projects massive nursing shortage

IDAHO

- New cancer report on 2017 shows stable cancer trends for Idaho
- The skybridge is up at St. Luke's
- High-tech alternative medicine clinic Happy Whole You opens in Pocatello
- Portneuf Health Partners makes large donation to Bannock Development

MONTANA

- Pharmacy industry 'middlemen' settle Montana case
- Fewer Montanans are signing up for Obamacare
- Advocates push for statewide behavioral health plan
- New partnership expanding pediatric mental health care
- Prescription Management Company Reaches \$375,000 Settlement With State Of Montana

OREGON

- President and CEO of Bay Area Hospital announces resignation
- Lori Coyner to return as state Medicaid director
- Hospitals in Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon and Utah Receive 2018 HealthInsight Quality Awards
- Zoom+Care to be acquired by Portland-area hospital giant
- Nurses accuse Bend hospital of unfair labor practices
- Oregon hospital association leader plans to step down
- Bay Area Hospital CEO to retire in January
- Southern Coos Hospital & Health Center names interim CEO

WASHINGTON

- Microsoft Executive B.J. Moore Joins Providence St. Joseph Health as Chief Information Officer
- PeaceHealth to acquire Zoom+Care
- CHI slows work on Harrison Silverdale hospital
- CHI Franciscan Health cuts workforce building \$500M replacement hospital
- AG Ferguson: \$2.7M awarded in first-ever Washington Civil Medicaid false claims trial
- Providence St. Joseph Health taps Microsoft exec as new CIO
- PeaceHealth to acquire 37 clinics
- Washington state ranks ninth in national health report



WYOMING

- MinuteClinic Launches New Virtual Care Offering in Wyoming
- How Wyoming's aging population impacts the state financially

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Adventist Health looking for 50 new nurses
- Molina Healthcare goes to war with its founding family, affecting coverage for 79,000 patients
- UCI Health Names COO
- Medsphere Systems gets \$32M to address demand, mull acquisitions
- Dignity Health, GoHealth Urgent Care acquire 6 California urgent care centers
- California biotech industry group CEO leaving
- Hospital chain Dignity Health buys naming rights to Carson's StubHub Center
- California hospital won't reopen Jan. 1
- Molina Healthcare battles with founding family
- Dignity Health CFO Dan Morissette discusses CHI megamerger, Apple partnership

COLORADO

- UnitedHealth Group will pay \$500M less for Colorado-based physicians group
- To Win Over FTC, DaVita Sale Price To UnitedHealth Drops To \$4.3B
- MBRE Healthcare acquires Colorado medical office building with surgery center for \$26.6M
- Thomas More Hospital CEO to depart
- 2 takeaways from Pagosa Springs Medical Center HIPAA settlement
- UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center provides \$16.3 million in community benefits
- Children's Hospital Colorado names 4 leaders for Southern region
- Sabin named president of southern region for Children's Hospital Colorado
- UCHealth purchases \$5.9M medical building in Woodland Park
- Pagosa Springs Medical Center settles with OCR over hospital's failure to terminate former employee's access to PHI
- UCHealth's northern Colorado hospitals first in the state to electronically scan newborn footprints

HAWAII

- Preparing For Hawaii's New Medical Aid In Dying Law
- Hawaii named healthiest state, Louisiana ranks last in new report
- Tripler Medical Simulation Center earns reaccreditations



NEVADA

- Las Vegas' Sunrise Hospital still spreading its wings at 60
- Sandoval OK's \$3 million for med student fellowship programs
- Hospitals in Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon and Utah Receive 2018 HealthInsight Quality Awards
- Hospital wants spotlight on low Medicaid reimbursements
- New Nevada medical programs to get more than \$3.3 million in grant funding
- Signups for Nevada health insurance exchange decline

UTAH

- Huntsman Cancer Institute plans to bring quality care to patients at home
- Revere Health's new one-stop shop for health care breaks ground in Southern Utah
- Health-technology firm Collective Health to open a Utah office
- Hospitals in Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon and Utah Receive 2018 HealthInsight Quality Awards
- Balance billing issue gets packed hearing at Utah Health Reform Task Force