

HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - MARCH 8, 2019

NATIONAL

- How 6 major health systems and hospitals hope to boost housing
- Medicare trims payments to 800 hospitals, citing patient safety incidents
- CHIME to Congress: HIPAA isn't enough to ensure cybersecurity
- Breast cancer screening bundled payment model incentivizes cost savings
- Value-based care shift among highlights of MGMA 19 financial conference
- Freestanding EDs charge up to 22 times more than physician offices, UnitedHealth study finds
- FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb to step down in a month
- 11 healthcare employers make list of best companies to work for
- 4 health systems develop novel approaches to patient engagement
- CMS Updates Nursing Home Compare Site with Care Quality Data
- 7 things to know about drone delivery in healthcare
- Healthcare leaders' top advice for hospitals considering clinical partnerships
- Patients question how FDA approves medical devices
- CMS: Healthcare Spending to Rise by 5.5% Annually to \$6T in 2027
- FDA chief's resignation: 10 industry leaders react
- Support grows for bill seeking OSHA standard on preventing workplace violence in health care facilities
- The 293 hospitals with 5 stars from CMS
- Amazon's joint health-care venture finally has a name: Haven

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- Hospital seeks approval for \$26 million expansion
- High infection rates, injuries cause Medicare cuts at 15 CT hospitals
- Connecticut hospital hopes to build 3 orthopedic ORs for \$26.2M

MAINE

- Maine health group sets record with nearly \$1.2M in grants
- Medicare hits four Maine hospitals with penalties for quality of care

- Mid Coast-Parkview Health exploring possible merger with MaineHealth
- Kaiser Health News: Four Maine hospitals face patient safety penalties
- Mayo Regional Hospital is at a crossroad
- Mayo Regional Hospital board votes to tax member communities to cover debt service
- Dover-Foxcroft hospital needs legislation to merge with Northern Light without towns' votes
- Less than 4 years after its own merger, Brunswick health care group considers joining MaineHealth

MASSACHUSETTS

- Amazon Web Services working with Beth Israel Deaconess in AI push
- Health leaders signal cautious optimism about Baystate's plan
- Beth Israel, Lahey Health Finalize Hospital Merger Deal
- Massachusetts hospital takes union vote challenge to DC
- It's official. Beth Israel Lahey Health emerges postmerger
- MassBio gives report card on state's digital chops
- Partners reveals plans for Care New England if hospitals change hands

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Medtronic to close New Hampshire office, affecting 150 jobs
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock in study of rural maternity units
- NH tries to cope with shortage of psychiatrists

NEW YORK

- Long Island hospitals gearing up to train, arm security officers
- Outrage grows over care, conditions at Sodus nursing home
- Syracuse hospital patient care ratings sink at St. Joe's, rise at Upstate
- Rightway Healthcare CEO on the issues with employee-based healthcare and how to fix them
- Hospitals, providers urge N.Y. lawmakers to restore Cuomo health care cuts
- Ex-staffer at two Brooklyn hospitals charged with plundering \$550,000
- Bolstered by growing surgical revenue, Warsaw hospital preps for \$10M expansion

RHODE ISLAND

- Rhode Island pursues new patient safety reporting policies after physician subpoenas
- Medical transport company to pay \$1 million for poor service in R.I.
- Rhode Island hospital workers authorize strike notice
- 2 bills to address Rhode Island opioid crisis introduced

VERMONT

- Hospital system: Thousands may have been impacted by hack
- Northern Counties Health Care names new CEO
- Rutland hospital and Rutland Mental Health propose new facility
- University of Vermont Medical Center reaches employee contract agreement

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELAWARE

- Highmark's economic impact in Delaware totals \$135 million
- BCBS Delaware parent: Impact on local economy reaches \$135 million

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- D.C. will no longer guarantee ambulance rides for nonserious conditions
- DC VA center downgraded to one-star rating, worst ever
- Providence hospital gets new D.C. 'health village' leader

MARYLAND

- Two Maryland bills are the state's latest attempt to rein in drug prices
- New Drug Pricing Legislation Introduced in Maryland
- These are the largest health care systems in Greater Baltimore
- Cool Digs: The Maryland Proton Treatment Center is powered by this 90-ton machine

NEW JERSEY

- New Value-Based Agreement with AmeriHealth Caritas Is Bayada's Largest Yet
- Temple University Health System's operating loss narrows to \$26.2M
- Assemblywoman Holly Schepisi named to head Holy Name Medical Center foundation
- Newark Hospital One of Only Six in the State to Receive 5 Star Rating
- RWJBarnabas Health names David Mebane executive vice president

PENNSYLVANIA

- UPMC operating revenue up 20% to \$19B in 2018 as it preps for legal bout
- Commonwealth Health ending helicopter services
- Pennsylvania hospital shortchanges workers' paychecks — again
- Paul Muschick: Finally, a clue about what prompted proposal to change PA's medical malpractice lawsuits
- Rural hospitals testing new payment model
- Massini to become new Penn State Health CEO

- UPMC partners with hospital in Kazakhstan
- UHS reports its DOJ fund reached \$123M, is 'close to an agreement'
- LHC, Geisinger announce joint venture
- St. Clair Hospital gets top rating
- UPMC Susquehanna Muncy receives national recognition for telehealth
- LVPC approves LVHN's new hospital campus
- Struggling Pa. hospitals to test new funding model
- Philly's IntegriChain drug payment analytics firm, backed by Silicon Valley cash, buys another rival

VIRGINIA

- UVa Health System executive departing in May
- Fauquier Health opens new cardiac lab
- HCA Virginia Health System appoints new chief financial officer
- Dr. Sunil Budhrani Chosen to Lead Innovation Health
- NIH awards Virginia health orgs \$23M for precision med, pop health innovation

WEST VIRGINIA

- Cabell Huntington Hospital recognized among top 250 in America
- St. Joseph's Hospital named one of the top 100 critical access hospitals in the nation

CENTRAL

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

IOWA

- Dubuque area hospice providers prep for increased demand
- Floyd Valley Healthcare named top critical access hospital
- St. Luke's names new chief operating officer

KANSAS

- Children's Mercy East has growth plans
- Kansas Health Institute pegs net cost of Medicaid expansion at \$47.4M in 2020
- California company buys Overland Park hospital
- Lawmakers could side with KU Hospital to keep transplant livers in Kansas
- Former employees of shuttered southeast Kansas hospital still unpaid

MINNESOTA

- Minnesota hospital accidents reached new high in 2018
- Twin Cities' largest radiology groups to merge

- Here Are 9 Minnesota Hospitals Ranking Among America's Best
- \$6.5 million going to nursing home improvements across Minnesota
- Minnesota health costs could double to \$94 billion
- 11 die, 118 hurt in Minnesota hospitals last year from medical errors deemed preventable

MISSOURI

- MU Health Care doesn't rule out future legislation for hospital sale
- Federal agency gives University Hospital one star
- New behavioral health hospital planned in Cape Girardeau
- Children's Mercy East has growth plans
- Ascension hires first chief community impact officer
- Lower rating to cost MU Health Care \$800,000 in Medicare payments
- Citing patient safety, Medicare penalizes a record 800 hospitals, including eight in the St. Louis area
- MU Health Care's safety rating drops to one star
- Seventeen Missouri hospitals penalized for patient safety incidents
- Texas County Memorial Hospital reports great start to new year

NEBRASKA

- Nebraska Cancer Specialists provide cutting edge care in local setting
- Lexington Regional embraces technology to treat patients from home
- New Omaha VA clinic 'on track' to open in 2020; 'It's a tremendous gift to our veterans'
- Nebraska to develop registry to connect patients with psychiatric beds in emergencies

NORTH DAKOTA

- Medical marijuana makes its North Dakota debut in Fargo
- North Dakota hospitals hear calls for medical marijuana
- Nurses at CHI St. Alexius Health Vote to Unionize

SOUTH DAKOTA

- Huron nursing home to close, called sign of ongoing 'funding crisis'
- New, expanded Avera McKennan ICU goes large, with more room for family

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- Vibra Hospital closure came amid declining revenues; fate of property uncertain
- New medical helicopter for southern Illinois

- Illinois hospital seeks board approval for outpatient surgery center
- Hospital Named in Top 100 of Rural and Community Hospitals in US
- Chicago hospital's Medicare overpayments climb to \$21M
- Illinois association publishes billing guide for Medicaid managed care
- UnityPoint Health-Trinity CEO to retire
- Illinois lawmakers push for Medicaid managed-care reform
- Illinois Health Board gives Quincy Medical Group more time to earn ASC approval
- Mercyhealth adding \$5M orthopedic center to Illinois hospital

INDIANA

- Lutheran ordered to pay legal fees
- IU Health's operating income climbs to \$612M in 2018
- Beacon Health improves operating results, but ends FY 2018 with net loss
- Indiana hospital CEO abruptly resigns after 10+ years
- Spero Health Opens First Indianapolis Clinic
- DeKalb Health to Affiliate With Parkview
- Southern Indiana Hospital To Close In April After 10 Years
- Kentuckiana Medical Center to Close
- Northern Indiana city loses pharmacy, gets a 'telepharmacy'

KENTUCKY

- UofL appears open to dealing with multiple partners in health care acquisition
- HealthTrust inks Kindred
- St. Elizabeth, a nationally praised health provider
- Saving rural hospitals will improve quality of life
- Kentuckiana Medical Center to Close
- Kindred Healthcare and HealthTrust Enter Exclusive Supply Chain Relationship
- Passport Health Plan's 2018 losses much higher than projected
- Bill would put 'giant holes' in Kentucky's safety net, groups say
- Kentucky has highest antibiotic prescribing rate in U.S.; campaign aims to curb overuse
- Passport announces contract with KentuckyOne Health will remain, despite previous termination letter sent to patients
- Kentucky Hospitals Launching Data-Sharing Tool to Help Combat Prescription, ER Abuse
- Trump budget to request \$400M for Kentucky VA hospital replacement

- Home health care company to invest \$600K in Louisville offices
- Patient Protection bill to curb misleading drug advertising heard in committee
- Kentucky hospitals developing data-sharing tool to flag patient ER, prescription abuse
- CHI Saint Joseph Medical Group names new president

MICHIGAN

- Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital receives grants to directly help patients
- Medical billing company hit with ransomware attack
- Data breach impacts thousands of Mary Free Bed patients
- Beaumont Macomb Co. outpatient center goes to Lenox Twp.
- Patient safety and what health care organizations are doing about it
- What a Michigan ASC does to stay competitive & recruit physicians — 3 Qs with Executive Director Tina Piotrowski
- Mary Free Bed partnering on \$40.7M hospital
- Metro Health launches new rehab program for heart patients
- Spectrum Health's DTC Telehealth Service Tackles the Polar Vortex
- Ransomware attack affects 15,000 patients at Michigan health system
- UP lawmakers propose minimum nursing requirement for hospitals
- Michigan hospitals docked Medicare payments, due to patient infections

OHIO

- Ohio State's hospital looks to suburbs for sites to build outpatient-care centers
- CEO of Greater Cincinnati hospital exits
- Mercy Is a Leading Ohio Hospital in Statewide Initiative to Reduce Sepsis Mortality
- Mercy names interim leader of one of region's largest hospitals
- MetroHealth's trauma survivor program becomes model for other hospitals
- Ohio physician accused of fatal medication orders is immune from civil suits, lawyer claims
- Mercy Health-Fairfield Hospital CEO steps down
- Fewer Cincinnati hospitals rank among nation's top 100
- Cleveland Clinic takes financial hit in 2018
- Cleveland Clinic's strategy for next 5 years

WISCONSIN

- NWTC, DHS take aim at Wisconsin nursing shortage
- Beaver Dam Community Hospital acquisition confirmed

- Slaggie family donates \$5 million to La Crosse Mayo cancer center
- Advocate Aurora Health Care wins rezoning OK for \$228M hospital
- Medical College of Wisconsin considering new programs to meet health care workforce needs

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- How an Alabama hospital dealt with deadly tornado aftermath
- Children's of Alabama launches remote-monitoring app for pediatric patients
- UAB Hospital installs Alabama's first cyclotron cancer-fighting machine

FLORIDA

- Health care firm shutters suddenly, lays off all 500 employees
- Tampa's Greystone Healthcare names new CEO
- Promise Healthcare seeks more time to control Ch. 11 as it closes sales
- Lee Health Hospitals among the best of the best
- Florida health care transparency efforts measured
- New Four Corners ER to Open in March
- Nemours Children's Health System CIO on precision medicine's potential
- Ocala Health opens new joint care center
- Patient shoots physician at Florida hospital, authorities say
- Bay Medical Lays Off 20, Ends Childbirth Services

GEORGIA

- Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital well on its way to becoming trauma center
- Legislative effort to overhaul CON system stalled in Senate
- Georgia's CON repeal bill may be 'dead for the year'
- Bills moving through Georgia Legislature to help teledoctors set up
- Georgia Legislature takes aim at surprise billing, again
- Georgia Senate OKs surprise billing legislation
- One-Quarter Of Georgia Hospitals Penalized Over Patient Safety Problems

MISSISSIPPI

- Mississippi first responders bill now on life support
- Mississippi Profiles: The Mississippi Business Group on Health

NORTH CAROLINA

- Washington Co. plans to reopen hospital & pay former/current employees back pay
- Erlanger Western Carolina Hospital CEO Appointed Secretary Of Western North Carolina Health Network Board Of Directors
- BCBS of North Carolina to reimburse 700,000 members after exceeding cost cap
- Wake Forest Baptist reaches \$25,500 wages settlement with doctor
- 'This is the next chapter': Doctors leaving Novant share vision of new group
- Hospital Group Fights Rejection Of Medicaid Management Contract
- Locals react to Washington County's plans to reopen hospital
- Scotland Health Care System names COO
- Medicaid expansion looms large in Cooper's budget bid
- Only one Triangle hospital scores 5-star rating from CMS
- New Davis Hospital CEO Snow reflects on new role, goals
- Local Providers Study Value-based Plans
- Major economic impact expected with Cape Fear Valley ramping up residency program
- Wake Forest Baptist reaches \$25,500 wages settlement with doctor
- New Caldwell UNC Health Care Facility Holds Ribbon Cutting

SOUTH CAROLINA

- SC continues to invest in telehealth, but internet connections lag
- MUSC moves into Pee Dee
- MUSC completes acquisition of 4 rural hospitals
- CHS sells 4 South Carolina hospitals for \$176M
- Medical University of South Carolina buys Springs Memorial Hospital in Lancaster

TENNESSEE

- Vanguard to pay \$18M to settle allegations it defrauded Medicare, Tennessee Medicaid
- HealthTrust inks Kindred
- Kindred Healthcare and HealthTrust Enter Exclusive Supply Chain Relationship
- Hospice of Chattanooga adopts new name, creates Alleo Health System
- Tennessee hospital closes, lays off 146
- No pay raise for CHS CEO in 2019
- Nashville providers plan to coordinate indigent health care
- Spero Health Announces Appointment of New Chief Operating Officer
- Le Bonheur Children's Hospital to expand Heart Institute
- Acadia profits, revenue drop in Q4

- Rural Tennessee Town Braces For The Inevitable Ripple Effects Of Losing Its Hospital
- Medicare to penalize 20 Tennessee hospitals for patient safety issues
- CVS Caremark to close Nashville call center, affecting 250 jobs
- Advocates call on Governor to address hospital closures
- State unveils how it will evaluate Ballad Health
- Tennessee ASC stays in network with UnitedHealthcare as nearby health system's contract expires

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

- Arkansas hospital's 'operational and financial crisis' puts patients at risk, filing says
- Ex-Myeloma Unit Chief Gareth Morgan Says UAMS Audit Faulted Accounting

ARIZONA

- Arizona bill aims to alleviate state's shortage of doctors and nurses
- How Banner Health Network is managing interoperability with 30-plus EHRs
- Two more members of Hacienda HealthCare leadership team resign
- 2 Phoenix-area Banner Health facilities make top 100 hospitals list
- Abrazo Arrowhead Campus selects COO
- Bills to tackle AZ doctor, nurse shortages win Senate approval
- Arizona Senate OKs Telemedicine Expansion to Meet PCP Shortage
- Arizona hospital fires back at physician staffing company with lawsuit
- Magellan Health net income drops by \$86M in 2018
- Banner Health adopts new point-of-care platform
- Hospital making 'pretty good progress' with bills, CEO says
- Abrazo Mesa Hospital on track for mid-year opening

LOUISIANA

- This hospital modeled itself after the Apple Store, and lets pregnant mothers use gadgets to monitor their health at home
- Perimeter Healthcare Acquires Lake Pines Hospital
- Teri Fontenot, Woman's Hospital President and CEO, announces retirement
- Ochsner Health programs borrow from Apple store model
- Health Care: Southeast Louisiana Veterans Healthcare System Replacement Hospital

NEW MEXICO

- 'Micro-hospital' to open on West Side
- Christus St. Vincent rated as a top New Mexico hospital by federal agency

OKLAHOMA

- Saint Francis disputes lease provision
- Saint Francis delays local investment, seeks change for leased facility
- Deadline passes with no bill to OK hospital sale
- Oklahoma hospital operator ousted over 'immediate threat' to patient safety
- Lawsuit filed against Oklahoma Health Department over wrongful termination, negligence
- House bill seeks to lure doctors to rural areas with tax breaks
- New bill aims to increase number of doctors in rural areas
- Judge Orders Current Owners Of Prague Hospital To Turn Over Operations
- Williston Hospital owner loses a hospital in Oklahoma
- Oklahoma voters in Texas County to determine sales tax to benefit Memorial Hospital
- Governor Stitt requests performance audit of Oklahoma Health Care Authority
- Oklahoma health department sued by former employees

TEXAS

- Texas joins states taking aim at surprise hospital bills
- East Texas lawmaker files bill to help fund nursing homes
- Get to know the new CEO: Q&A with Navarro Regional Hospital's Curt Junkins
- Christus Spohn Health System undergoes leadership reorganization
- Two dozen groups call for Medicaid expansion in Texas, which leads nation in uninsured
- Texas committee says ASC infection reporting isn't useful
- Tenet VP will be the First Latina Chair of the Texas Hospital Association
- Medical City Dallas Will Open New Heart and Spine Hospitals
- Texas lawmakers take aim at surprise medical bills
- HCA Houston Healthcare Northwest welcomes new CEO
- Memorial Hospital of Texas County Sales Tax Proposition Passes
- Long-term care hospital operator to eliminate more than 200 jobs in Texas
- Houston Methodist Launches a Direct-to-Consumer Telehealth Service
- Mercy Hospital in Rogers named one of nation's top 100 hospitals in new study
- Federally Qualified Health Center to break ground this summer in McKinney

- 2 Texas hospitals to install Allscripts HER
- M.D. Anderson Cancer Center hires first chief scientific officer

NORTHWEST

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

ALASKA

- Medicaid cuts threaten financially vulnerable rural hospitals

IDAHO

- Hospice of North Idaho receives support from Kootenai Health
- Bill Adding Restrictions To Idaho's Medicaid Expansion Introduced
- New partnership to address health disparities in rural Idaho
- Saint Al's gets accreditation for heart pain center
- A new bill in the Idaho Legislature would add work requirements to Medicaid expansion

MONTANA

- Bozeman Health announces new urgent care clinic with online check-in
- SCL Health's Lockwood clinic closing temporarily
- Guest opinion: Education, infrastructure, health care priorities for Montana Legislature
- Acting director named for Montana VA Health Care

OREGON

- Signature Healthcare at Home to Acquire Samaritan Health Services' Home Health
- Portland biotech firm sold to global drug developer

WASHINGTON

- Monroe hospital asking for levy bump in April to bring back birth services
- A children's clinic providing healthcare to those in need gets a new location in Rainier Valley
- Washington state House votes to end surprise billing
- Molina expands focus on Social Determinants of Health by offering members Amazon Prime

WYOMING

- Critical access hospital study for Saratoga begins
- Ten Wyoming hospitals penalized by Medicare, report says

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Patients Begin Moving Into New \$2 Billion CPMC Hospital on Van Ness in S.F.
- Insurer off the hook for California hospital's \$42M false claims settlement
- California health data company's 138% stock jump a mystery to traders
- Bankrupt California hospital chain closes \$235M sale
- California health data company's 138% stock jump a mystery to traders
- California community hospital averts strike

COLORADO

- New Colorado Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera passionate about health care
- Lower health premiums topic at Capitol
- Poudre Valley Hospital and Medical Center of the Rockies make top 100 hospitals list
- Community Hospital merger talks off
- East Morgan County Hospital holds 2nd community meeting
- Loveland's Medical Center of the Rockies ranks in top 100
- Denver analytics company secures \$17M to help payers reduce costs and improve outcomes
- Local Hospitals Tackle Healthcare Cost Concerns
- Colorado hospitals end merger talks
- Club 20 presenter says state bills put hospitals 'in the crosshairs'
- Centura Health CEO: Why we hit pause on 'mad rush' to value-based care
- Colorado hospital 'bed tax' is legal, court rules

HAWAII

- Hawaii State Hospital administrator William May leaves post in early May
- Kaiser Permanente Awards \$188K in Hawai'i Health Grants

NEVADA

- Las Vegas hospitals add residencies to ease doctor shortage
- Carson Tahoe Health board appoints new CEO
- Bills would protect health care benefits in Nevada

UTAH

- University of Utah Health improves turnaround time with new imaging tech
- Kyle Hansen Named New Administrator of Intermountain Utah Valley Hospital
- Utah Valley Hospital Opens Pedersen Patient Tower