

HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - APRIL 26, 2019

NATIONAL

- 75% of healthcare experts struggle with implementing blockchain
- What's next for the post-Gottlieb FDA
- Hospitals can only watch as big players move in on primary care
- The 10 best and 10 worst states for children's healthcare
- HHS extends comment period for interoperability proposed rules to June 3
- Cerner and naviHealth launch EHR-agnostic tool to support BPCI Advanced participants
- 210+ healthcare revenue cycle companies to know
- CMS rule aims to block use of drugmaker coupons on ACA plan members' out-of-pocket costs
- HHS Launching Direct Contracting Payment Models for Primary Care
- Hospitals Chafe Under A Medicare Rule That Reduces Payments To Far-Flung Clinics
- HHS continues to deploy strong cybersecurity solutions, report finds
- 25 hospitals make Forbes list of best large employers
- 11 hospitals make Forbes list of best midsize employers
- Medicare hospital fund to run dry in 7 years, trustees say
- Reimbursement Issues Cited as Central Challenge in Physician Salary Survey
- The nation's 15 top health systems, as ranked by IBM Watson Health
- Health-care stocks could rebound after their worst week of the year
- Number of uninsured hospital, ED visits down under ACA, study finds
- CMS's Verma rips expansion plans after gloomy Medicare forecast
- Health IT provider partners with blockchain startup to reduce costs, improve care accessibility
- CMS Administrator Seema Verma promotes state waivers to Affordable Care Act
- 10 hospitals hiring CEOs
- What 25 healthcare CEOs earned in 2018
- CMS warns skilled nursing providers that star ratings could plummet today

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- Danbury Hospital puts finishing touches on new pediatric unit
- Hartford MedTech Accelerator partners lay out their vision
- CT files new allegations against Purdue, Sacklers in opioid lawsuit

MAINE

- Citizens in Piscataquis region to vote on proposed Mayo Hospital merger
- Site neutral payment policies straining Maine hospitals, accelerating consolidation
- Central Maine Healthcare leader suddenly resigns, cites worries over system's direction
- Westbrook health center closing scrambles doctors, patients
- 3 takeaways following Acadia's accidental release of patient names

MASSACHUSETTS

- Boston Medical Center receives \$90M in federal funds to fight opioid epidemic
- Keeping patients from heading to Boston could make UMass Memorial Health Care profitable after ending 2018 with \$28 million operating loss
- Massachusetts lawmakers: State is shortchanging hospitals' safety-net cash
- Skyline Healthcare to voluntarily close short-staffed nursing homes
- New facility helps Medflight paramedics train for various patient situations
- Patient sues Holyoke hospital over assault in ER

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- CMC is latest to join hospital building boom across NH
- New Hampshire, Vermont officials work to halt opioid deaths

NEW YORK

- NYC hospitals agree to hire 1.5K nurses, raise wages
- New York hospital seeks new designation to boost Medicare reimbursement
- New York, Pennsylvania & Vermont lead value-based care shift
- White Plains Hospital Breaks Ground On New Care Center
- Schuyler Hospital breaks ground on transformation project
- St. Mary's urgent care coming to Charlton
- Syracuse doc arrested at hospital was cited for poor care in another state
- Struggling New York hospital to cut robotic surgeries to shore up finances

RHODE ISLAND

- Newport Hospital names chief medical officer
- Principals in proposed sale of New England: Collaboration with Lifespan still on table

- South County Hospital is performing robot-assisted spinal surgery
- Lifespan Launches Website Criticizing Partners-Care New England Deal
- Lifespan warns of severe consequences if R.I. approves Care New England-Brigham merger
- R.I. threatens to withhold Medicaid payments to some nursing homes

VERMONT

- Gifford Medical Center Finds Worker Shortage Cuts Into Hospital's Bottom Line
- New York, Pennsylvania & Vermont lead value-based care shift
- New Hampshire, Vermont officials work to halt opioid deaths
- Vermont VA hospital gets new medical director
- Rutland Hospital Breaks Ground On \$23 Million Medical Office Building
- Springfield hospital looks to the future...and sees more losses
- Dementia Patients Wait Months For Long-Term Care In Vermont Hospitals
- State freezes association health plan growth amid federal legal fight

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELAWARE

- Delaware and Pennsylvania medical societies partner on value-based care
- General Assembly creates task force to study patient abandonment

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- Union's TV commercial in DC accuses Kaiser Permanente of delaying, denying mental healthcare
- AHF ribbon-cutting marks opening of expanded D.C. healthcare center
- Startup of the Week: Meet Sorcero

MARYLAND

- Practice settles \$400K improper billing case
- PG hospital system drops appeal of AAMC cardiac surgery approval
- Opposition drops appeal, Anne Arundel Medical Center to open cardiac center by 2020
- Legislation overhauls Maryland medical network's board
- Hershey outlines last-ditch effort to pass hospital bill
- Meritus Medical Center receives special recognition
- CareFirst raises minimum wage to \$15, introduces new employee benefits model

NEW JERSEY

- Hackensack Meridian Health paycheck glitch means some workers weren't paid

- [Here's How Likely New Jersey Will See A Doctor Shortage](#)
- [Brodrick named EVP and chief nursing executive at Hackensack Meridian](#)
- [Valley receives \\$10 million in gifts for new hospital](#)

PENNSYLVANIA

- [Jefferson Hospitals settles allegations of ADA violations at outpatient imaging service](#)
- [Pennsylvania hospital shortchanges employees for 7th payday](#)
- [New York, Pennsylvania & Vermont lead value-based care shift](#)
- [Judge tosses UPMC's bid to intervene in BCBS lawsuit](#)
- [Lancaster General considers doubling size of emergency department, adding patient tower](#)
- [Hospital's strong track record will move it forward](#)
- [A rush for nurses strains colleges and hospitals as health care booms in Pittsburgh](#)
- [Penn State Health selects new chief financial officer](#)
- [Delaware and Pennsylvania medical societies partner on value-based care](#)
- [Hospital Develops Niche Services, Adds Doctors](#)
- [Ex-Pennsylvania health system COO charged in \\$1.3M fraud scheme](#)
- [Allegheny Health Network CEO vows to expand amid Pittsburgh health care war](#)
- [Thieves hit Pennsylvania hospital — and swipe \\$450,000 in colonoscopes, cops say](#)
- [Allegheny Health Network CEO vows to expand amid Pittsburgh health care war](#)
- [UPMC lawsuit against attorney general is dismissed](#)
- [In Pennsylvania, Two Health Care Behemoths Are Fighting. Patients Are Caught In Middle.](#)
- [There are fewer 5-star rated Philadelphia-area nursing homes under new federal system](#)

VIRGINIA

- [Centra names new CEO](#)
- [Inova names cancer center leader — and it's a familiar face](#)

WEST VIRGINIA

- [WV's Mon Health holds leadership development institute for system officials](#)
- [WVU Medicine offers specialized care in Weston](#)

CENTRAL

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

IOWA

- [Both sides dig in on Children's Hospital feud](#)
- [Mercy Iowa City breaks ground on new rehabilitation hospital](#)

- Mercy Iowa City begins construction of 40-bed rehab hospital in Coralville

KANSAS

- Ransom Memorial Health Will Join AdventHealth as AdventHealth Ottawa
- Hiawatha Hospital shares need for countywide sales tax
- AdventHealth Takes over Operations at Ottawa Hospital
- KU And Saint Luke's Hospitals' Suit Says Liver Allocation Policy Will Cause Hundreds To Die
- Hospitals in Two States Launch MEDITECH EHR Implementation

MINNESOTA

- Doctor's denial of hospital admission can be negligence - Minnesota top court
- UnitedHealth grows digital health business in Minneapolis
- MN Health System to Go Live with Epic EHR in 4 Locations in May
- Children's Minnesota Trauma Center receives Level I re-verification status from the American College of Surgeons
- California company fined \$50,000 over Medicare marketing in Minnesota

MISSOURI

- Missouri hospital tries to regain Medicare funding after owner enters bankruptcy
- Judge orders plaintiff to pay \$1,900 to SSM Audrain Healthcare in discrimination case
- DOJ investigates former NKC firm for failed hospital chain
- Truman Medical in Kansas City receives \$10 million donation
- Opinion: Life sciences respect essential to Missouri patients and economy
- New children's hospital opening in North County
- Only one St. Louis-area hospital named to 'great hospitals' list
- Sales tax proposed to help support Nevada hospital
- Hospitals sue over new national liver transplant policy
- Ex-Missouri hospital owners accused of carrying out elaborate billing scheme

NEBRASKA

- Nebraska spine, neurosurgery physicians open outreach clinic
- Another nursing home under state control will be closing in May
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln awarded \$11.85 million to study rural drug addiction

NORTH DAKOTA

- Shifting ground caused Minot hospital construction site explosions, inspector says
- Less invasive pacemakers now available in North Dakota hospitals
- 'Not just a hospital'

- Unstable ground triggered explosions at North Dakota construction site, investigators say

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- Supreme Court enters battle over suburban Chicago hospital
- Cook County State's Attorney enters hospital closure fray
- Courts go back and forth on keeping Westlake Hospital open
- Illinois nursing homes in crisis, citing payment delays, shortfalls
- New rules for nurses considered in Illinois House
- OSF HealthCare expands Downtown plans, moves ahead on headquarters work
- Doctor says Catholic hospital shouldn't have monopoly on Clinton County health care
- UnityPoint Health unveils new SouthPark Pointe facility
- Westlake Hospital owners agree to keep operating; critical hearing slated for next week
- U. of C., Advocate Health Care announce joint violence and trauma care effort
- Nurse staffing ratios could save Illinois hospitals \$1.4B, study finds
- Chicago safety-net system, Israeli innovation group partner for health tech
- Not so fast with that massive nursing hire, says hospital group

INDIANA

- IU Health BMH remodel to make emergency department bigger, 'less chaotic' environment
- IU Health in Jay, Blackford counties to gain virtual behavioral health support services
- Parkview Health named one of America's Best Employers by Forbes magazine
- IU Health, neurosurgical group still at loggerheads
- IU Health to build its own neurosurgery team as local group resists employment
- Hospitals sue over new national liver transplant policy
- IU Health Adds VP
- Parkview Named One of the Nation's Top Health Systems
- IU Health extends behavioral health support statewide
- Healthcare Realty Picks Up Indianapolis Outpatient Facility
- Spero to Open Jeffersonville Clinic

KENTUCKY

- Construction underway for new CHI Saint Joseph Medical Group facility
- Saint Joseph Medical Group building new Winchester site

- Kentucky doctor shortage predicted to worsen
- Nursing chief of one of Louisville's largest hospitals set to retire
- UK lands its biggest-ever federal grant to tackle opioid epidemic
- Louisville health care company gets \$100 million investment, new CEO and new name
- Bluegrass Pain Consultants owner faces federal drug fraud charges
- Humana, Doctor On Demand launch virtual primary care plan

MICHIGAN

- DMC receives medical accreditation following cardiologists care complaints
- DMC's cardiology program wins accreditation after leadership departures
- Violations force Kalamazoo nursing home to halt Medicaid, Medicare services
- DMC's Harper Hospital clears inspection, responds to cardiologists' lawsuit
- Siena Heights partnering with Hillsdale Hospital

OHIO

- Should Ohio hospitals need licenses? DeWine weighs options
- Nursing home group wants higher Medicaid payments
- Ohio nurse practitioners push to practice independently
- With a new hospital on the way, MetroHealth is poised for growth
- Ohio hospital settles 3 wrongful-death suits over doctor, dosages
- CMS finds patient restraint issues at Mount Carmel hospital
- Ohio : Hospital settles 3 lawsuits in excessive dose claims

WISCONSIN

- Juneau's Clearview director loving new job's challenges: Wilson leading facility's teams since Jan. 2
- \$33 million investment powers Redox, a Madison health technology company
- Ascension St. Joseph Continues Work to Improve Health Equity
- Activists and residents concerned about lack of communication from Ascension Wisconsin on St. Joseph hospital

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- Children's of Alabama, serving thousands in north Alabama every year
- Alabama hospital hopes to add 2 more procedure rooms in planned ASC

FLORIDA

- Florida House, Senate move closer on hospital licensing bill

- Florida Supreme Court Justices reject Central Florida hospital plan
- Florida health system working to bounce back after radiologist shortage
- What pushed BayCare's revenue over \$4 billion
- Florida Health System Adds Apple Health Records EHR Data Viewer
- Lee Health concerned over bill that might change 'Certificate of Need'
- Lee Health voices concerns over deregulation bills
- Largo Medical Center appoints COO
- As Medicaid expands elsewhere, Florida lawmakers seek to shrink it
- Florida bill would allow new hospitals to be built without state approval
- Florida hospital leaders push back on CON repeal, say competition doesn't lower prices
- Nicklaus Children's laid off 135 employees but plans to open a second hospital in Miami

GEORGIA

- Emory Healthcare considers move into struggling mall
- Big-name partnership in cancer care formed northwest of Atlanta
- Georgia Bio CEO: Investment in life sciences has produced 14.9 percent growth in jobs
- Coliseum Medical Centers to train new doctors in emergency medicine
- Hospitals sue over new national liver transplant policy

MISSISSIPPI

- Rural Mississippi hospital at crossroads with new owners
- Mississippi hospitals and owner seek bankruptcy, to be sold
- Hospital in Mississippi delta cuts financial losses

NORTH CAROLINA

- N.C. House bill would create birthing center regulations
- Proposed bill would require a license for NC birth centers
- New Broughton Hospital nears opening
- Randolph Health officials clarify challenges
- 'We are open for business': Randolph Health CEO talks about hospital's future
- North Carolina Hearing Could Decide Future of Four OK Hospitals
- Atrium Health appoints Michael Parkerson chief marketing officer
- North Carolina Judge Orders Fairfax Hospital Employees Be Paid
- N.C. hospital delivering blood with drones in pioneering medical program
- House members take another stab at certificate-of-need reform

- New Levine Cancer Institute just days away from grand opening
- Duke and UNC compete over more surgical space in Orange County
- Nanotech firm which recently moved HQ to Raleigh raises \$70M
- Northern CEO meets with Cooper
- Novant Health's midtown medical plaza reaches construction milestone

SOUTH CAROLINA

- Law lets some hospitals seize tax refunds
- MUSC receives grant to support telehealth network development
- How MUSC is scaling telehealth across South Carolina

TENNESSEE

- Middle Tennessee tech industry driven by health care
- Patients at Community Health Systems facilities can now get health records through their iPhones
- Saint Thomas settles religious discrimination lawsuit
- Midstate healthcare tech jobs in demand, growing steadily
- Ballard Health relies on partnerships to excel with difficult payer mix
- Saint Thomas Health to pay \$75,000 to settle lawsuit with EEOC over flu shot
- Nashville nursing company sued for not paying workers for 2 months
- Nashville health care company names new CEO
- Hospitals sue over new national liver transplant policy
- HealthStream adjusted Q1 profit up 30%+
- State lawmaker named in lawsuit against Comprehensive Pain Specialists
- Report: Ballard Health should learn how to communicate effectively

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

- Efforts to save area hospital continue
- Executives expect no relief for state's shortage of nurses

ARIZONA

- Verde Valley Medical Center in Camp Verde to offer immediate care
- Less than 40% of Arizona doctors use prescription drug database, despite state law
- Arizona's New Telemedicine Law Expands Coverage, Adds Platforms
- Banner Health and Aetna partner to create new primary care service

- New law signed following investigation in Hacienda HealthCare
- Arizona law will extend telehealth insurance to all health specialties

LOUISIANA

- Ochsner's aggressive Baton Rouge play
- BCBS of Louisiana sues J&J subsidiary, alleges it filed sham lawsuits to thwart competition

NEW MEXICO

- County protests state move taking \$9M from hospital
- Commissioners vote on hospital proposal
- Roosevelt General Hospital expands service with new clinic

OKLAHOMA

- Oklahoma One Step Closer to Boosting Medicaid Rates for Nursing Homes
- Two Oklahoma hospitals fought off deadly fungal 'superbug'
- Petition filed for Oklahoma vote to expand Medicaid
- Jay Johnson Installed As OHA Board Chairman
- Oklahoma lawmakers mull details of Medicaid expansion bill
- Lawmakers Want Oklahoma Health Care Authority to Use Debt Collectors in More Cases
- North Carolina Hearing Could Decide Future of Four OK Hospitals
- Ascension taps Jeffrey D. Nowlin as senior VP, Oklahoma ministry market exec
- North Carolina Judge Orders Fairfax Hospital Employees Be Paid
- President of Ascension St. John Health System named as new CEO
- Renewed effort to reopen Pauls Valley hospital
- Oklahoma hospital down to 8 employees after missing payroll for months

TEXAS

- Methodist Health System CEO to retire in April
- Philip Patterson: Ascension helps Providence rise to new challenges
- Most board members say MCH sale unlikely
- Texas cancer center ousts 3 over Chinese data theft concerns
- As Methodist Health CEO steps aside early, interim chief comes out of retirement
- Houston hospital system gifted with massive \$15 million wellness grant
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas removes 14 DFW hospital emergency rooms with out-of-network docs from network
- Medical City Denton selects CFO
- Tenet Healthcare could leave downtown Dallas in office consolidation

- Children's Health plans new medical campus on the tollway in Prosper
- Texas bill would bar physicians from refusing unvaccinated patients
- St. David's Medical Center Taps New CEO

NORTHWEST

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

ALASKA

- South Peninsula Hospital's CEO Joe Woodin resigns
- Former nurses accuse Alaska hospital of age discrimination
- New CEO chosen for Alaska Psychiatric Institute
- State Of Alaska Revises Contract For Psychiatric Hospital
- AK city and regional group agree to hospital purchase

IDAHO

- Here's how Medicaid expansion could affect Magic Valley hospitals
- Little: Some of Idaho's Medicaid expansion waivers likely won't be approved
- Medical helicopter base to open in Salmon
- Idaho a national leader in opioid antidote availability, as federal efforts gear up
- Legislature requires hospitals to give rest and meal breaks to nurses
- Idaho Oral Health Program receives \$1.6 million to meet state-wide health professional shortage

MONTANA

- Hayman named new director of VA Montana Health Care System
- Montana facility's 'chemical restraint' raises questions
- Montana hospital installs Meditech EHR
- Drug maker to spend \$100M expanding Montana facility

OREGON

- Unions begin contract talks with Kaiser Permanente in Oregon, six other states
- Hospitals sue over new national liver transplant policy
- Oregon nursing home abuse not properly reported to oversight agency, report says
- Report raises concerns about Oregon's health insurance exchange
- Patients caught in the middle as Regence, Salem Health dispute rate increase

WASHINGTON

- Protections for nurses' working conditions supported by Eastside legislators
- Lourdes Health appoints CEO

- Nurse shifts would be limited to 8 hours under new Washington bill
- State senator slammed for saying nurses "play cards for a considerable amount of the day"
- Virginia Mason Memorial is one of 25 hospitals in the US to receive environmental award
- Washington Legislature votes to end surprise medical billing

WYOMING

- Casper, Cheyenne hospitals receive average ratings by feds; St. Johns rated 5 stars
- Health care costs in Wyoming higher than national average
- Wyoming Medical Center: Charity care down, bad debt up
- New Summit owners have ambitious plans to challenge WMC's hold on Casper care
- Rural Wyoming pharmacist drives 80 miles to deliver meds to patients

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- California hospital hit with lawsuit after secretly recording 1,800 surgeries
- California seismic safety rules pose expensive challenge for Sonoma County hospitals
- Modesto long-term care hospital is told to make improvements – or else
- KPC Health wins approval to buy Verity Health hospitals
- Why tiny Fort Bragg hospital is looking to Sacramento-area giants for lifeline
- After Vox reporting, California moves forward on plan to end surprise ER bills

COLORADO

- Platte Valley Medical Center Renovation Complete
- New Banner Health providers expand patient care in Northern Colorado
- Kaiser Permanente starts contract talks with union after recent Colorado job cuts
- Community Hospital eyes a new path after nixed Centura merger
- New COO named at SLV Health
- Many health care bills on the move
- Denver Hospital Takes New Approach To Opioid Addiction Help: 'Treatment On Demand'
- Longmont's nSpire Health files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy
- DaVita to Use 100 Percent Renewable Energy

HAWAII

- LETTER: North Hawai'i Community Hospital Faces Challenges
- Hilo hospital beefs up security at ER

- [Hawai'i's Small Independent Doctors May Be Struggling Under New Payment System](#)
- [Opinion: North Hawaii Community Hospital nurse's concerns for safe patient workloads](#)

NEVADA

- [Las Vegas schools, health care systems address persisting nurse shortage](#)
- [Celebrating some of Southern Nevada's finest medical professionals](#)
- [Addicted Nevada: Defining the 'who' and 'what' of Nevada's Opioid Crisis](#)

UTAH

- [Civica Rx opens new HQ in Utah](#)
- [Intermountain Healthcare's new goal? Help Utahns to live longer](#)
- [Why Intermountain CFO Bert Zimmerli takes his job personally](#)
- [Access is not the only problem with health care in Utah](#)