

HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - SEPTEMBER 6, 2019

NATIONAL

- Physician pay increased in 2018 while productivity remained stagnant
- HHS Secretary Azar mulls Brett Giroir as next FDA commissioner
- 3 strategic differences between nonprofit and for-profit hospitals
- Physician viewpoint: 10 areas in which AI will transform primary care
- How providers can outperform their peers on MIPS regardless of what CMS changes
- Tougher inspections, bigger budget: CMS seeks to bring uniformity to survey process
- Efforts to Ease Doctor Fraud Law May Fall Short
- AHA says hospital mergers are good — economists say otherwise
- A state-by-state breakdown of inpatient & outpatient spending
- CMS' impending overhaul of the Stark law can only go so far, experts say
- When physicians integrate with hospitals, costs go up, study says
- Judge rules against Johnson & Johnson in landmark opioid case in Oklahoma
- America's Most Innovative Leaders: 24 healthcare leaders on the list
- Fitch: Nonprofit hospital margins improve for first time since 2016
- HHS earmarks \$1.8B for opioid crisis
- Chief experience officers are needed more than ever in healthcare
- Pharma's image 'never been lower,' Gallup poll finds
- 5 notes on CPT code changes in 2020
- More than 50% of patients find providers via social media, survey finds
- Joint Commission releases new maternal care safety standards
- CMS pitches sweeping changes to rules for maintaining Medicare billing privileges
- Why AMA, AHA are pushing back against Apple's Health Records
- Groupon For Medical Scans? Discounted Care Can Have Hidden Costs

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- CT Children's innovation center, fund aim to rear homegrown ideas

- With new facility open, Hartford HealthCare focuses on patient needs
- New Cancer Clinical Trials Open at Danbury & Norwalk Hospitals
- State receives \$17 million from feds to address opioid crisis
- Connecticut Health Insurers Face Questions On Premium Price Hikes
- Connecticut Looks To Expand Doula Services To Improve Childbirth Outcomes

MAINE

- Maine Med receives grant to expand cancer patient access to clinical trials
- The Surprising Rural Health-Care Legacy of the '60s
- Maine will shift to state-based ACA exchange
- Despite bankruptcy, Lincoln hospital isn't making many changes to how it runs
- Mills proposes Maine-run marketplace for 'Obamacare' coverage
- MaineHealth awarded \$388K in United Way grants
- MaineHealth's ACO president talks new Medicare Advantage plan with Anthem

MASSACHUSETTS

- Baystate Health reviewing partnership with US HealthVest after Seattle Times investigation
- Hearing for hospitals seeking affiliation with Mass General
- Massachusetts General Hospital taps Jonathan Kraft as board of trustees chair
- MassHealth made \$1M in improper payments for meds
- EEE Risk Is Now "Critical" in Many Massachusetts Communities
- CDC awards Massachusetts \$7M to combat opioid crisis
- Policies reducing price variations may produce savings, study suggests

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Hospitals in Vermont and New Hampshire considering mergers
- Hearing for hospitals seeking affiliation with Mass General
- No workforce relief for NH's healthcare sector
- New Hampshire gets new federal grant to gather opioid data
- Catholic Medical Center joins ACO
- Concord Hospital taps Dr. Matthew Gibb as its first chief clinical officer
- New Hampshire medical marijuana market plagued by slow patient processing
- Eight New Hampshire hospitals form Medicare ACO
- NH to get \$26M to assist opioid recovery efforts

NEW YORK

- Ellis Medicine now live on Cerner EHR
- Montefiore Health System sees higher revenue, lower operating income in first half of 2019
- On the Job, 24 Hours a Day, 27 Days a Month
- New York bill would ban 24-hour workdays for home health aides
- New York hospital campus to close in October
- Universal Health Services to Negotiate Compliance Agreement in Billing Case
- Child Victims Act lawsuits pile up as Rockefeller University Hospital settles 200-plus
- Blink Health takes bigger SoHo office
- Johns Hopkins Opens New Center for Psychedelic Research

RHODE ISLAND

- R.I. health insurance commissioner sets 2020 health policy rates
- Research group: Rhode Island ranks 7th in U.S. in health outcomes
- With new facility open, Hartford HealthCare focuses on patient needs

VERMONT

- Hospitals in Vermont and New Hampshire considering mergers
- Hospital picks its new CEO
- Copley Hospital appoints Joseph Woodin CEO
- Former Gifford Medical Center exec returns to helm another Vt. hospital
- University of Vermont Medical Center constructs primary care facility in Essex
- Vermont Receives \$9.5 Million Federal Grant to Battle Opioid Crisis
- NVU-Johnson plans ways to boost mental health support on campus
- Regulator pushes for Medicaid spending hike. Lawmakers say not so fast.

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELAWARE

- Delaware health systems receive federal grant for rural care
- Short named president of Nanticoke Hospital
- How Delaware tech firms helped develop UD's opioid addiction app
- Delaware health facilities receive grant to incentivize rural primary care growth
- Quest Diagnostics signs agreement with Del. Health Information Network
- Beebe, Bayhealth each get \$750,000 in federal grants for physician residency program

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- [Children's National to absorb HSC Health Care System](#)
- [Children's National-HSC merger gets regulatory green light](#)
- [D.C. Region To Receive About \\$90 Million In Federal Funding For Opioid Crisis](#)
- [Officials spend \\$15,000 per month on lobbyist for East End hospital construction](#)

MARYLAND

- [Baltimore organization to research medical uses for MPI](#)
- [Report Finds North Dakota, Maryland and New Jersey Rank Best for a Combined Lower Prevalence of Mental Illness and Higher Access to Mental Health Care](#)
- [Winfield nursing home moving to Carroll Hospital campus, expanding space for patients and technology](#)
- [Ellicott City couple donates \\$500,000 to Howard County General Hospital construction project](#)
- [Gaithersburg's OpGen to combine with German molecular diagnostic company](#)
- [Maryland To Get More Than \\$42M In Federal Funds To Fight Opioid Epidemic](#)

NEW JERSEY

- [Philadelphia HIE expands data sharing services to New Jersey providers](#)
- [Study: N.J. ranks No. 6 in most spent on health care](#)
- [Report Finds North Dakota, Maryland and New Jersey Rank Best for a Combined Lower Prevalence of Mental Illness and Higher Access to Mental Health Care](#)
- [New Jersey hospital leads the fight against the opioid epidemic through alternative program](#)
- [32-Year-Old Raises \\$10 Million Series B To Lower Hospital Readmission Rates With Mobile Patient Management](#)
- [NJ's largest insurer sues over 'smear campaign' about plan for chiropractic care, physical therapy](#)
- [How New Jersey tries to curb cost of prescriptions for vulnerable residents](#)
- [Former New Jersey pharmacy owner charged in \\$2M fraud scheme](#)

PENNSYLVANIA

- [Liberation Way CEO pleads guilty for his role in healthcare fraud](#)
- [Philadelphia HIE expands data sharing services to New Jersey providers](#)
- [Hahnemann bankruptcy has a high-stakes showdown set for Wednesday](#)
- [Philadelphia Solar powered the world's largest hospital solar project](#)
- [Health Care Professionals Rally Against Jefferson Health's Bid To Buy Hahnemann University Hospital's Residency Program](#)
- [Bankruptcy judge in Philadelphia to decide the future of Hahnemann Hospital's residency slots](#)
- [Last-ditch effort to reopen Hahnemann? California firm outlines a plan](#)
- [Can a California hospital operator save Hahnemann?](#)
- [Pennsylvania will receive almost \\$56 million in federal grant money over 3 years to combat opioid crisis](#)

- Emojis let hospitals gauge patient, provider satisfaction
- How Penn Medicine is overcoming interoperability challenges, chief data information officer explains
- Universal Health Services says it's closing in on settlement of billing fraud investigation
- How technology is boosting the physician and patient experience at Jefferson University Hospitals
- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital's chief diversity officer resigns
- Penn Medicine center blends radiology, psychiatry for precision approach to opioid treatment

VIRGINIA

- Chief Nursing Officer named at hospital
- One hospital's evidence-based approach to reducing C-section rates
- Virginia to receive \$20.4 million from Trump administration to fight opioid addiction

WEST VIRGINIA

- Oklahoma, West Virginia lawsuits against Johnson & Johnson pursue different legal angles
- Pleasant Valley (West Virginia) Hospital appoints Jeff Noblin CEO
- West Virginia to receive \$35 million for opioid crisis
- Ohio Valley Medical Center in Wheeling, WV, suspending acute and emergency services
- Wheeling mayor 'blindsided' by closure of services at OVMC; vows to move forward

CENTRAL

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

IOWA

- Report: Indian Health Service, long plagued with problems, is at a crossroads
- Des Moines hospital transplant program announces closure
- Physicians, Iowa state pay \$2.5M settlement to paralyzed woman in misdiagnosed spinal condition claim
- Gov. Kim Reynolds appoints top health official from Texas as Iowa's new human services director
- 52 rural Iowa hospitals at risk of closing under public option, analysis shows
- More uninsured kids showing up at school clinics as a last resort for health care
- University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics researchers hoping to cure blindness

KANSAS

- McPherson hospital, college announce rural health initiative
- Governor Kelly: 'We will finally expand Medicaid in Kansas in 2020'
- Cerner begins layoffs that will affect hundreds of employees
- People push for more money to mental health centers in Kansas
- Vaping epidemic imperils Kansas students; time for new laws?

MINNESOTA

- Minneapolis-based startup Bright Health adds top executives
- MN Snapshot: Woodbury is quickly becoming a health care hub for Minnesota
- U of M will buy Shriners hospital campus on Minneapolis riverfront
- Mayo Clinic, Oxford University select Cerner EHR for new London facility
- Medtech investment firm launches with \$225M fund
- Former UnitedHealth, Best Buy exec becomes Bright Health president as startup's founder departs
- Advocates Call for Renewed Community Health Center Funding
- Children's Minnesota raises money to help patients get back to school
- Minnesota lawmakers call for greater transparency of air ambulance prices

MISSOURI

- Missouri gets \$5 million to address growing primary care doctor shortage
- Health technology company laying off 255 in wider cost cutting effort
- Advocates launch petition to place Medicaid expansion on 2020 ballot in Missouri
- Missouri hospitals join ballot campaign to expand Medicaid
- Missouri Doctors, Advocates Want Voters to Decide Whether To Expand Medicaid

NEBRASKA

- Report: Indian Health Service, long plagued with problems, is at a crossroads
- Nebraska gets \$4 million in federal funding to fight opioid crisis
- Nebraska advocacy group sues to speed state's planned Medicaid expansion
- Nebraska physician group opens healthcare facility, surgery center - 3 insights
- Nebraska Medicine closes adult crisis unit as it moves toward new psychiatric emergency center

NORTH DAKOTA

- Sanford Health and University of Jamestown announce primary care partnership
- Report: Indian Health Service, long plagued with problems, is at a crossroads
- Thielen donating \$25K to Sanford Cancer Center
- New Sanford Clinic open, old building set for demolition
- Sanford Health talks about new Women's Center in Fargo
- Report Finds North Dakota, Maryland and New Jersey Rank Best for a Combined Lower Prevalence of Mental Illness and Higher Access to Mental Health Care
- North Dakota to Receive \$4 Million to Combat Opioid Crisis

SOUTH DAKOTA

- [Report: Indian Health Service, long plagued with problems, is at a crossroads](#)
- [Lawsuit: Sanford Health pressured medical director to resign](#)
- [Former medical director says Sanford forced her to quit after she noted security concerns](#)
- [Signify Health Breaks Ground in Rapid City](#)
- [SD to get additional \\$4 million to battle opioid epidemic](#)
- [South Dakota hospital's leadership upheaval shrouded in secrecy](#)

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- [Google, U Chicago move to dismiss lawsuit over patient data sharing](#)
- [Amita Health CEO to step down](#)
- [University Of Chicago Medical Center Nurses Vote To Authorize Strike](#)
- [Chicago children's hospitals seeking Indiana payment boost](#)
- [Chicago hospital creates world's largest orthopedic cast](#)
- [Owners Of Matteson Counseling Center Indicted On Medicaid Fraud Charges](#)
- [Illinois hospital looks to build \\$240M inpatient, outpatient facility in Chicago](#)
- [Nursing Home financial turnaround confirmed](#)
- [Cook County Hospital rehab awarded \\$3 million in state tax credits](#)
- [OSF Children's Hospital now part of national genomic medicine research](#)
- [Blessing Health System launches Apple Health Records](#)
- [VillageMD raises \\$100M to expand primary care platform](#)
- [Illinois nursing college awarded \\$2.8 million to provide rural care](#)
- [Loyola Medicine leverages EHR alerts to improve sepsis care](#)
- [Illinois hospital alerts 1,000 patients of phishing attack](#)

INDIANA

- [Parkview and Trine partner for health informatics](#)
- [Chicago children's hospitals seeking Indiana payment boost](#)
- [New IUPUI online training resource aims to improve health care for people with cancer](#)
- [Indiana seeks to impose slower, kinder work requirements on Medicaid recipients](#)
- [Indiana's life sciences legacy - something to celebrate and to keep striving for more](#)
- [Indiana Gets \\$21M Grant for Drug Overdose Data Collection](#)
- [Trellis Rx Announces Partnership With Parkview Health](#)

- [Aspire Indiana Names New CFO](#)
- [IUPUI Researcher to Study Quality of Life in Cancer Patients](#)
- [Indiana receives \\$18 million in federal grants to fight opioid crisis](#)
- [IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital Earns Distinction for Knee and Hip Replacement](#)
- [IU Health West Expansion Reaches Milestone](#)
- [Anthem's narrow network in Indiana grows to 45 hospitals](#)
- [Indiana may change policy paying out-of-state hospitals less for kids' emergency care](#)
- [Golden Living Centers – Indiana Announces Larry Heydon as Chief Financial Officer](#)
- [New \\$3.75 million grant to support second phase of Indiana Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program](#)

KENTUCKY

- [More than \\$35K raised for Community Health Clinic](#)
- [Kindred Healthcare in joint venture to build rehabilitation hospital in Nashville](#)
- [LHC Group finalizes joint venture agreement with Louisville's Norton Healthcare](#)
- [Co-founder of Norton Cancer Institute to retire](#)
- [Humana grows national health care presence with primary care clinics](#)
- [Health care provider mandates flu shots — even for visitors](#)
- [Incentive offered to fill health care needs in Kentucky](#)
- [Dearing Named Kentucky's Public Health Commissioner](#)
- [Kentucky to get nearly \\$31.5 million to combat opioid abuse](#)
- [Winchester native named chief medical officer for Saint Joseph Hospital and Saint Joseph East](#)
- [Highlands ARH Regional Medical Center celebrates merger](#)
- [Kentucky sends nurses to help in Hurricane Dorian recovery](#)

MICHIGAN

- [Macomb Hospital Workers Have Fresh Reason To Celebrate Labor Day](#)
- [Michigan gets \\$27.9M in federal funds to fight opioid crisis](#)
- [Priority Health, Total Health Care signal intent to merge](#)
- [Rural hospital had staff making trips to Dollar General, former nurse says](#)
- [2 Michigan health plans to merge](#)
- [Allegan General Hospital officially joins Ascension Michigan, hires new orthopedic surgeon](#)
- [Bigger Spend, Same End: Post-Hospital Care Study Suggests Medicare Could Save Money](#)

OHIO

- [NextGen Healthcare in Green closing; 82 to lose jobs](#)

- Lehman named Mercy Health's Lima region president
- Akron Children's Hospital names Boston Heights health center in honor of \$2 million gift
- Dayton health center receives \$500K grant
- Martins Ferry nervous about hospital's future while planning 2020 budget
- How Cincinnati Children's cut hospitalization rates 20% among high-risk youth
- Employees at UC Health fall victim to phishing attack
- Cleveland Clinic more than quadruples operating income
- More than 1K jobs to be lost in West Virginia, Ohio hospital closures
- Health officials say Ohio drug overdoses drop by 22% in 2018
- Ohio to receive \$64 million to fight opioid epidemic

WISCONSIN

- Gunderson Health System joins All of Us research program
- Wisconsin to receive more than \$17 million in federal funding to combat opioid crisis
- Ascension Wisconsin to open new health center in Menomonee Falls
- Ascension Wisconsin opens new Shorewood clinic
- Ascension Wisconsin, micro-hospital developer to build new health center in Menomonee Falls
- Orthopaedic Hospital of Wisconsin gives \$2.1 million for UWM Klotsche Center expansion
- Medical College of Wisconsin, UWM to partner on mental health nurse practitioner residency program

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- Alabama hospitals must report gunshot victims to law enforcement under new law
- U of Alabama Birmingham receives \$200K for telehealth expansion
- \$21M in revenue cuts, layoffs expected by Ala. Dept. of Public Health
- Millions of dollars headed to Alabama to fight opioid crisis

FLORIDA

- Numerous South Florida nursing homes still not in compliance with state law
- Kendall Regional and Mercy Hospitals join forces in opioid take-back program
- Lee Health program takes aim at opioid addiction
- 8 hospitals offering free virtual care visits during Hurricane Dorian
- West Florida Healthcare announces 2nd freestanding ER in Escambia County on Nine Mile Road
- West Boca Medical Center hires George Rizzuto as CEO

- Memorial Hospital Jacksonville appoints Kevin McKeown CFO
- Miami's Jackson Memorial to repay \$412M in Medicaid payments
- Former St. Joseph's nurse alleges BayCare executives ignored ED staffing concerns

GEORGIA

- CMC hosts ribbon cutting for emergency department expansion
- Insurer's contract with north Georgia hospital due to expire
- Northwest Georgia awaits shifting strategy on opioid lawsuit
- Owner of Atlanta home health company pleads guilty in \$1.2M fraud
- Atlanta hospital expands EMS service, raising concerns over business practices
- Home health care owner pleads guilty to defrauding Georgia Medicaid
- Walmart launches standalone health clinic in Georgia
- Atlanta hospital expands EMS service, raising concerns over business practices
- Jefferson Hospital in Georgia names Wendy Frost Martin CEO

MISSISSIPPI

- Federal judge takes over Mississippi's mental health system
- Mississippi getting more than \$19M to combat the opioid crisis
- William G. Jackson honored as Physician of the Year
- Mississippi VA hospital hired surgeon despite malpractice concerns, OIG report says

NORTH CAROLINA

- Biz briefs: Health care provider celebrates 50 years of service
- Deep Dive: Here's what the 'uncharted waters' of NHRMC's potential sale look like
- Cooper signs employee raise bills, vetoes Medicaid transformation
- NC Medicaid overhaul rollout pushed back by budget impasse
- Amid Doctor Shortage, Nurse Practitioners Fill Rural Care Gap
- 8 hospitals offering free virtual care visits during Hurricane Dorian
- Raleigh Radiology raises \$891,937 in equity from 2 investors
- Eleanor Health opens 1st outpatient addiction clinic in North Carolina
- Budget impasse delays Initial Nov. 1 rollout of Medicaid managed care
- Keep up with how Hurricane Dorian is affecting health in NC
- Rural hospital closures lead to higher mortality rates
- Atrium Health Beats Pension Suit Over Governmental Exemption

SOUTH CAROLINA

- Valentine leaving CEO role at Summerville Medical Center
- MUSC Health employee posted unauthorized photo of infant patient on social media
- Founder of Rock Health launches SC fertility startup geared toward millennials
- 8 hospitals offering free virtual care visits during Hurricane Dorian
- Charleston doctors blame physician burnout on endless paperwork and data entry
- Summerville Medical Center CEO departing after 5 years amid renovations to hospital

TENNESSEE

- Tennessee Hospital Association names new CEO
- Health data company adds ex-Healthways, InVivoLink exec
- Mayor intervenes on Nashville General-Meharry negotiations
- LifeFlight expands fleet with critical care ground ambulances
- Kindred Healthcare in joint venture to build rehabilitation hospital in Nashville
- How did one Murfreesboro pharmacy earn title of state's largest purchaser of opioids?
- Partnership will improve care for regional nursing home residents
- Lincoln County's Hospital Gets A New CEO Amid Competing Visions For The Future
- US Senate hopeful Sethi leaving role as health nonprofit CEO
- Tennessee to receive \$46.7 million in federal funding to combat opioid crisis
- UT Medical Center board leader's guidance and governance spans nearly 30 years
- Ballad Health says it is reducing patient charges
- Investor in Brentwood health care company goes active
- Billing issues leave hospital patients 'beyond frustrated'
- Tennessee healthcare executive sentenced to prison for kickback scheme
- Erlanger trustees call special meeting over future of CEO
- Center for Medical Interoperability launches verification program for medical devices

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

- JPMC Set to Build New \$180M Hospital
- Difficult Year Continues for Allegiance Health
- Van to bring health to rural Arkansas
- UAMS receives \$4.6 million grant for rural primary care physician training
- Arkansas hospital threatens to pull plug on its management company

- [Arkansas man wants answers after receiving surprising medical bills](#)

ARIZONA

- [Report: Indian Health Service, long plagued with problems, is at a crossroads](#)
- [Banner Health's revenue climbs to \\$4.7B in first half of 2019](#)
- [Doctor shortage is hitting Arizona hard. Here's how we're solving it](#)
- [Ballot measure seeks to raise hospital wages in Arizona](#)
- [Using a smartphone to detect a highly contagious virus](#)

LOUISIANA

- [Louisiana seeking emergency contracts for Medicaid services](#)
- [LHC Group finalizes joint venture agreement with Louisville's Norton Healthcare](#)
- [LSU Health New Orleans awarded \\$13.6 million for expanded cancer clinical trials network](#)
- [New ASC coming to Baton Rouge next year](#)
- [Minden Medical Center CEO Gregory Pearson resigns](#)
- [Louisiana nursing facilities win national recognition for high-quality care](#)
- [Home Health Care Training Programs Popping Up As Caregiver Crisis Worsens](#)
- [Lafayette-based Leading Health Care of Louisiana to open Baton Rouge office, to expand at three others](#)
- [Louisiana governor declares "call to action week" on opioid addiction](#)
- [Louisiana seeking emergency contracts for Medicaid services](#)

NEW MEXICO

- [Report: Indian Health Service, long plagued with problems, is at a crossroads](#)
- [Presbyterian Healthcare phishing scam hits 183K patient records](#)
- [New Mexico hospital achieves spinal cord injury certification](#)
- [New Mexico hospital sued thousands of patients for medical debt](#)
- [As Patients Struggle With Bills, Hospital Sues Thousands](#)
- [New Mexico Governor Announces Plan To Increase Payments To Medicaid Providers](#)
- [Victims of Severe Brain Trauma to be Studied at UNMH](#)

OKLAHOMA

- [Oklahoma hospital used dirty gastroscopes on almost 1,000 patients; no infections reported](#)
- [Oklahoma, West Virginia lawsuits against Johnson & Johnson pursue different legal angles](#)
- [Oklahoma to receive \\$11.8 million in additional federal funds to combat opioid epidemic](#)
- [Clinical trial aims to help babies with rare congenital heart defect](#)
- [Oklahoma launches inmate opioid relapse prevention program](#)

- [Working Group Dives into Health Info Exchange After Stitt Promises One for Oklahoma](#)

TEXAS

- [3 ways healthcare providers can prepare for the new Medicare skilled nursing payment model](#)
- [Harris Health System COO leaves following patient deaths](#)
- [Nix Health to Lay Off Over 500 Home Health Workers](#)
- [Frisco-based Corepoint Health merges with Rhapsody](#)
- [Texas Doctor and Steward Hospital in Battle Over Rent, Hospital Records](#)
- [Health care tech company with Houston ties gets huge opportunity on the West Coast](#)
- [Signify Health Merges with Remedy Partners](#)
- [Dozens of Texas hospitals sue Big Pharma companies over nation's opioid epidemic](#)
- [Stolen laptop puts health information of 7,000 Texas hospital patients at risk](#)
- [Nearly 30 Texas-based hospitals sue J&J, Purdue, CVS, and more over opioid epidemic](#)

NORTHWEST

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

ALASKA

- [Alaska hospitals deploy digital platform to share patients' medical records](#)
- [Alaska judge questions emergency used to cut Medicaid rates](#)
- [Alaska hospitals take advantage of tech to coordinate care](#)

IDAHO

- [Douglas hospital hires new CEO](#)
- [Idaho's Medicaid expansion saga continues after first-round of proposed restrictions are rejected](#)
- [Minidoka Memorial Hospital garners national and global recognition for innovation](#)
- [Idaho's First Children's Hospital Set To Open In Early September](#)
- [North Idaho Healthcare Coalition is created](#)
- [North Canyon Medical Center selects J'Dee Adams as CEO](#)
- [Idaho's health insurance waiver rejected: 'CMS pulled the rug out from under us,' lawmakers say](#)

MONTANA

- [Report: Indian Health Service, long plagued with problems, is at a crossroads](#)
- [New federal rule aims to bring more doctors to rural hospitals](#)
- [Montana medical providers developing health information exchange](#)
- [Montana developing \\$19M statewide HIE](#)

OREGON

- [400 McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center caregivers set to strike](#)
- [AllMed Healthcare Management Names Maridy McGinnis New CEO](#)
- [Providence Health Plan alerts 122,000 members of data breach](#)
- [Oregon hospital researching the development of a universal flu vaccine](#)
- [Moda Health returns to an insurance market it exited in 2017](#)
- [Legacy appoints permanent leader for Unity Center](#)
- [Here are the 25 drugs Oregon doctors prescribe the most](#)

WASHINGTON

- [DOJ investigating Providence St. Joseph's Swedish Health Services](#)
- [Providence St. Joseph's Swedish Health under DOJ investigation](#)
- [Hundreds of patients are stuck in Washington hospitals despite lack of medical need](#)
- [Community Health Plan of Washington appoints Melissa Stevens as Vice President of Community Engagement and Growth](#)

WYOMING

- [As Wyoming tries to control supply of opioids, patient, prescriber complications emerge](#)
- [Mental Health Summit address tough Wyoming spirit](#)
- [Douglas hospital hires new CEO](#)

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- [Altavita Village bankruptcy sale approved by the state, with some conditions](#)
- [Paging More Doctors: California's Worsening Physician Shortage](#)
- [Health care tech company with Houston ties gets huge opportunity on the West Coast](#)
- [Tenet names 3 leaders for Central Coast Market](#)
- [Long-term Care Facilities Close At Alarming Rate In San Francisco](#)
- [New chief operating officer named at local hospital](#)
- [Nurse research prompts care improvements at Providence St. Joseph Health](#)
- [Quorum's sale of California hospital moves forward](#)
- [Kaiser Permanente Ventures joins \\$35M funding for virtual mental health startup](#)
- [UCLA launches federally funded innovation hub for medical tech, digital health](#)
- [Prime Healthcare partners with Carbon Health to improve patient experience with AI, virtual care](#)

COLORADO

- [Report ranks Colorado hospitals by region, and specialty care](#)

- McKee Medical Center expands cancer center
- ASC signs on as tenant in Colorado development
- Nearly half of Boulder Valley Women's Health Center staff leaves, citing leadership
- UCHealth Dedicates More Than \$100 Million for Behavioral Health
- UCHealth pledges \$100M toward mental health services in Colorado
- Metro area takes clinic health care growth in Stride
- Colorado Health System Boosts Telehealth in Mental Health Outreach
- Firing of doctor sets off fight over assisted suicide law
- COS CEO: Dr. Brian Erling, Penrose-St. Francis Health Services

HAWAII

- Hawaii doctors lose jobs after hospital switches contractors
- Hawaii releases Medicaid Managed Care RFP
- 12 Hawaii physicians opt out of contracts after hospital switches staffing agency

NEVADA

- Carson Tahoe Health creates cancer triage line to assist patients with their treatment
- Nevada Health Link's new call center, website now live
- UNLV medical students hope to help Nevada's health system
- Nevada readying return to state-run health insurance website
- VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System Expansion

UTAH

- Salt Lake County gets \$600K federal grant to fight opioid epidemic
- Utah to receive \$24 million in federal funding to combat state's opioid crisis
- Huntsman Cancer Institute Breaks Ground on 205,000-Square-Foot Expansion of Cancer Hospital