

## HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - NOVEMBER 1, 2019

### NATIONAL

- Hospitals enter opioid litigation, sue drugmakers for cost of treating addiction
- Could Amazon be the next national telehealth player?
- Payments to high financial risk APMs slightly increased in 2018 compared to 2017: survey
- Healthcare Purchasing Strategies: How 2 Employers Are Driving Referrals Through RAND Hospital Price Transparency Findings
- Wave of deals expected as private equity eyes orthopaedic practices
- Health systems explore decoupling hospital chargemaster from Medicare payments
- Chief Nursing Officers: 3 tactics to solve healthcare industry challenges
- CMS Could Soon Crack Down on States' Medicaid Payment-Boosting Programs for Nursing Homes
- CMS adopts 5-part strategy to address Medicare fraud, waste, and abuse
- Half of nurses and doctors feel burned out
- Freestanding EDs increased emergency out-of-pocket spending in local markets, study finds
- CMS: More hospitals will get value-based purchasing program payment bonuses in FY2020
- CMS delays new primary care, kidney care value-based payment models
- US News and World Report release 2019-2020 'Best Nursing Homes' ratings
- Data breaches linked to more fatal MIs
- US officials predict shortages of critical hospital supplies
- How nurse salary has changed over time + where nurses are paid the most
- FDA warns of critical medical device shortages
- Blockchain isn't limited to the financial industry: How healthcare companies should view the technology
- HHS chief keeps focus on alternative payment models
- Health System Operating Margins Improve, But Still Below 2015 Level
- Provider anxieties rising while waiting for CMS guidance on RoP Phase 3 requirements
- CMS will pay \$1.9 billion to hospitals in value-based payments for inpatient care
- Partnerships between IT and revenue cycle will define the future of healthcare: 3 things to know
- How patient satisfaction scores are changing medicine
- Can Big-Box Retailers Provide Local Health Care?
- Hospitals lobbying to change Medicare's pay formulas

- Health systems explore decoupling hospital chargemaster from Medicare payments
- Verma likens public option to having 'referees play in the game'

## **NORTHEAST**

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

### **CONNECTICUT**

- Health care systems team up for new cancer treatment center
- Connecticut fines 4 nursing homes \$28K+ for patient safety incidents
- Connecticut And New York Battle Rising Healthcare Costs
- State, hospitals, still trying to reach legal settlement
- CT reaps \$18.8M from opioid-drug settlement
- Hartford Hospital bows \$8M community health center
- N. Britain's Hospital for Special Care to break ground on \$13M expansion
- Spike in medical-malpractice payouts worries CT doctors, hospitals
- Most Connecticut Hospitals Making A Profit

### **MAINE**

- MaineHealth's 2 top executives announce plans to retire
- How a Lewiston hospital group is trying to offset the nursing shortage
- Bar Harbor hospital's ER is prescribing meds for opioid withdrawal, but it's not the only one
- Nurses want more security at Maine hospital following multiple assaults by patients
- St. Joseph Healthcare expands neurosurgery practice with addition of two neurosurgeons
- Maine health system gets creative to retain nurses, recruit more
- Central Maine Health partnership extends heart care to rural areas

### **MASSACHUSETTS**

- Foundations pay \$6M to settle allegations of enabling Medicare kickbacks
- Report: Most serious nursing home complaints in Mass. not investigated in required time
- UMass Memorial Medical Center appoints Dr. Kimi Kobayashi chief quality officer
- Partners HealthCare names Dr. Ravi Thadhani chief academic officer
- Food as medicine: Massachusetts bill would give Medicaid recipients fresh food and grocery money
- Partners HealthCare creates funds for AI development, digital tools
- Campbell has turned around Masonic Health
- Central Mass. has received \$1.7B in NIH funding since 2010

- NSMC Salem Hospital ER set to open on Sunday
- Frustration surfaces at Health Policy Commission
- Siemens arm closes \$1.1b deal for Waltham firm
- Baker's proposed healthcare bill highlights primary care, mental health

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Catching patients off guard: A call for greater transparency for 'facility fees'
- Bodyworks bill could limit health care options
- ConvenientMD and North Country Healthcare announce partnership
- Health clinic in Keene takes care to patients

## NEW YORK

- Nursing Home Providers Sue Over NY's Decision to 'Damn the Torpedoes' and Implement \$246M in Medicaid Cuts
- Why nursing homes just sued NY over Medicaid cuts they say threaten patients, staff
- Connecticut And New York Battle Rising Healthcare Costs
- New York-Presbyterian to provide mental health services to NYPD
- New York City board rejects Northwell Health's \$2B hospital revamp
- Do You Need to Go to Manhattan for Major Medical Care?
- Analysis: New York's surprise-billing solution is causing healthcare costs to climb

## RHODE ISLAND

- Feds subpoenaed R.I. health department records related to controversial chiropractor in June
- Blue Cross seeks to improve housing, seen as key factor in health
- R.I. towns will be test sites for overdose prevention tactics

## VERMONT

- Vermont settles for \$10.67 million with Suboxone distributor
- Vermont Planning For New Secure Mental Health Facility
- Hospital suit settled out of court
- New cystic fibrosis treatment changing lives for patients

## MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

## DELAWARE

- Nanticoke Health Services CEO Steven Rose to retire in 2020

- [ChristinaCare earns top 100 hospital health rankings on four areas](#)
- [HHS awards \\$750,000 for 'We Care' program in Delaware](#)
- [New Health Clinic Opens in Kent County for Delaware Residents](#)

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- [Children's National Hospital To Open New Sports Medicine Center Thanks To \\$5 Million Commitment From Fight For Children](#)
- [Two D.C. Hospitals Recognized For Diversity And Inclusion](#)
- [Here's what Children's National is bringing to the former Discovery HQ](#)
- [Uncertainty Plagues the Only Hospital in Southeast D.C.](#)
- [DC psych hospital sued after 28-day water outage](#)

## MARYLAND

- [Md. lawmakers, officials, union meet on staffing shortages](#)
- [Baltimore seeks to renegotiate \\$60M contract with 14 nonprofit hospitals, universities](#)
- [Local biopharma rebrands as part of commercialization strategy](#)
- [Salary for Maryland deputy health secretary questioned](#)
- [Health Director Honored By Howard County General Hospital](#)
- [Discovery Behavioral Health Acquires New Life in Maryland](#)

## NEW JERSEY

- [Virtua Health hopes to open proton therapy center by 2022](#)
- [NJ recovers \\$15 million from pharmaceutical company](#)
- [New therapy at Morristown Medical Center uses patient's own immune cells to fight their cancer](#)
- [Telehealth Company Gains Ground in Home Health Care's Battle Against Hospital Readmissions](#)
- [Bayonne without a hospital would be a very different Bayonne, officials say](#)
- [RWJBarnabas to buy 2 New Jersey hospitals](#)
- [Tri-State hospital group vows to improve patient safety](#)

## PENNSYLVANIA

- [Virtua Health hopes to open proton therapy center by 2022](#)
- [Pennsylvania doctor doesn't take insurance, sees any patient for just \\$35](#)
- [Primary care doctors paid by patient monthly fees, not insurance, gaining traction](#)
- [UPMC breaks ground on hospital in China, 4 more in the works](#)
- [Pennsylvania surgery center snags \\$12.8M loan](#)

- Tri-State hospital group vows to improve patient safety
- Penn Medicine algorithm flags patients most in need of advance care planning

## VIRGINIA

- Bon Secours Announces Plans to Acquire Three Area Hospitals
- CHS to sell 3 hospitals, exit Virginia
- Massey Cancer Center in Virginia Names Robert Winn as New Director
- Here's the latest on Virginia Hospital Center's expansion, now underway

## WEST VIRGINIA

- WMH files bankruptcy; hires new CEO
- Many rural hospitals are struggling to stay open. A WV hospital just launched a \$22M expansion.
- Roane General Hospital set to expand services with groundbreaking
- West Virginia hospital faces closure
- Ohio Valley Physicians claims Williamson Memorial Hospital owes more than half a million for emergency services

## CENTRAL

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

### IOWA

- 4 hospitals investing in new orthopedic facilities
- Mayo Clinic Health System in Waukon closing
- Iowa hospitals try podcasts to reach out to patients
- University of Iowa Health Care giving midyear raises to 2,750-plus
- Iowa physician accused of filing 89 fraudulent Medicare, Medicaid claims
- Mayo Clinic's closure of rural facilities continues with Waukon, Iowa

### KANSAS

- Patient Who Sued KU Hospital Over Cancer Misdiagnosis Settled For Millions, Records Show
- Healthcare agreement to bring big changes to Allen County hospital
- NRH to partner with Lawrence Memorial on orthopedic clinic; Emporia Community Foundation to oversee foundation assets
- Chanute hospital CEO: Kansas needs Medicaid expansion, not more donation pickle jars

### MINNESOTA

- Minnesota nursing home complaint response times better in 2019 — but still fall below federal guidelines
- Moose Lake's Mercy Hospital board votes to join Essentia

- Chanhute hospital CEO: Kansas needs Medicaid expansion, not more donation pickle jars
- Minnesota employers see 4% health cost increases
- Mayo Moves Births From Albert Lea To Austin Hospital

## MISSOURI

- St. Louis medical center alerts 152,000 patients of data breach
- SSM Health receives shipment from nonprofit aiming to solve 'drug shortage crisis'
- New Cardinal Glennon specialty clinic in south St. Louis County opens Nov. 4
- Former Missouri hospital executive pleads guilty to \$114 million billing scheme
- SSM Health hospital first in St. Louis region to receive Civica Rx drugs
- Walgreens to close all 17 healthcare clinics in Kansas City
- Belton Regional Medical Center to double size of ICU

## NEBRASKA

- Clinical trials mean \$394 million boost to Nebraska's economy, treatments for Nebraskans
- Clinical research studies seeing remarkable efforts in Nebraska
- New health care option available in Norfolk

## NORTH DAKOTA

- Bismarck Cancer Center celebrating 20 years
- Health care professionals gather for Stroke Conference

## SOUTH DAKOTA

- Sanford Health agrees to pay more than \$20 million to settle lawsuit
- Latest Ruling Over Unpaid CSRs
- DOJ: Sanford to pay \$20M to settle kickback allegations
- South Dakota lawmakers look to expand telehealth statewide
- Native Americans Fight Government-Run Healthcare

## MIDWEST

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

## ILLINOIS

- Nursing homes in central Illinois fined for license violations
- Illinois to Propose Pharmacists to Get Breaks, Fewer Duties
- Illinois hospital begins 'final wind down processes'



- [Dlatt becomes COO of Legacy in Illinois](#)
- [Drugmakers settle Illinois drug-pricing lawsuit for \\$242 million](#)
- [Illinois city recommends \\$9M in aid for hospital project with surgery center](#)
- [148 Illinois Nursing Homes Make U.S. News 'Best' Ratings](#)

## INDIANA

- [Medical device production facility coming to Westfield, will create 450+ jobs](#)
- [IU Health White Memorial welcomes new chief nursing officer](#)
- [Beacon Health Opens New Granger Hospital](#)
- [Roche Diagnostics Names North American CEO](#)
- [NWI Ortho Practice Breaks Ground on New Facility](#)
- [South Bend Med Foundation Completes Sale of Labs](#)
- [Fishers medical device startup raises \\$10M to launch first product](#)
- [Indiana suspending Medicaid work requirement after lawsuit](#)
- [New La Porte Hospital Boosting local economy](#)
- [Trilogy Health Services Opens New Senior Living Community in Indiana](#)

## KENTUCKY

- [All four of Kentucky's Veterans Long-Term Care Centers earn top ratings from federal CMS](#)
- [Humana will lay off more than 800 employees in Louisville and several states](#)
- [UPS adding massive Louisville facility as part of health care network upgrade](#)
- [U of L Finalizes KentuckyOne Health Purchase, Announces Name Changes](#)
- [Kindred's Virtual Care Offers a Solution for the Increased Needs of Our Aging Population](#)
- [Humana to Lay Off More Than 800 Employees](#)
- [Jewish Hospital will become U of L Hospital's second location](#)
- [Liberate Medical, a local medical device maker, gets sales green light](#)

## MICHIGAN

- [Nurses protest at groundbreaking of new hospital](#)
- [Sparrow holds Job Fair to fill dozens of positions](#)
- [Michigan Bill Would Curb Pre-Approval Rules In Health Care](#)
- [Michigan State U receives \\$19.5M for medical innovation center](#)
- [Emails: Michigan health director sought to suspend Medicaid work requirements](#)
- [Director of Michigan Health and Human Services talks food insecurity and child health](#)

- [Michigan bill would curb pre-approval rules in health care](#)

## OHIO

- [4 hospitals investing in new orthopedic facilities](#)
- [Countdown: Central Ohio hospitals, ranked by financial performance](#)
- [Ohio gets \\$39M settlement from distributor of Suboxone](#)
- [TriHealth to Operate Retail Health Clinics in Cincinnati Area Walgreens Stores](#)
- [OhioHealth and ChenMed Open Third Medical Center](#)
- [University of Cincinnati Medical Center to get \\$221 million expansion](#)
- [Mercy Health-St. Rita's Medical Center breaks ground on building](#)
- [Tri-State hospital group vows to improve patient safety](#)
- [University Hospitals' CEO Thomas F. Zenty III to retire in 2021](#)
- [Ohio hospital places nurse on administrative leave after derogatory Facebook post](#)
- [1.2 million Ohio Medicaid recipients may be in dark over losing coverage for Walgreens](#)

## WISCONSIN

- [Aurora Health Care breaks ground on \\$228M project adjacent to Foxconn](#)
- [Forward Award Winner: Advocate Aurora Health](#)
- [Venture Investors Bets on Healthcare, and Milwaukee, With \\$75M Fund](#)
- [Common Ground could net \\$56.8 million in unpaid federal subsidies](#)
- [Advocate Aurora breaks ground on \\$228 million Mount Pleasant project](#)
- [Sixteenth Street plans new clinic on Milwaukee's south side](#)

## SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

### ALABAMA

- [USA Health's Complex Spine Center](#)
- [22 Alabama Nursing Homes Make U.S. News 'Best' Ratings](#)

### FLORIDA

- [Jackson Health System fined \\$2 million by the feds over stolen and lost patient records](#)
- [Federal agency gives red hand warning icon to TMH Rehabilitation Center](#)
- [Government website marks 25 Florida nursing homes with abuse, neglect warning icon](#)
- [Nursing home, hospice projects proposed in Florida, including Hillsborough and Pinellas](#)



- Children's hospitals' affiliation to help expand pediatric care
- Florida Panthers Extend Partnership with Broward Health
- Florida's Broward Health pulls \$93 million from Ken Fisher
- Jackson Health System targets 2020 Doral hospital finish
- Health First to relocate Cape Canaveral Hospital to Merritt Island, open new facilities
- Orlando Health buys more Central Florida land

## GEORGIA

- Emory Healthcare plans big move into Atlanta mall
- South Georgia doctor sentenced to 97 months in prison for health care fraud
- Ga. facing critical shortage of paramedics
- Georgia sends small hospital execs, board members to the classroom
- Piedmont Fayette named among America's 100 Best hospitals in 4 categories
- Proposed open-heart surgery program at Hamilton Medical Center in Dalton gets state approval
- Doctor and hospital CEO convicted for peddling opioids across state lines
- Georgia hospital's ex-CEO, doctor convicted of 100-plus illegal prescription crimes
- Ex-Georgia hospital CEO convicted of 102 federal charges
- Georgia governor releases plans for health care overhaul

## MISSISSIPPI

- Cuts coming to Keesler hospital? It's first up as Congress looks to trim military health jobs.
- NMHS names new chief medical officer
- Mississippi hospital gets upgrades as part of takeover
- U of Mississippi Medical physician sues insurers for denying cancer treatment

## NORTH CAROLINA

- UNC Health Care names Asheboro's Eblin as UNC Rock's interim CEO
- Here's what Atrium Health wants for its proposed \$147 million hospital in Cornelius
- Emory becomes Novant Health's chief administrative officer
- Where is Mission Health's independent monitor?
- North Carolina health system addresses patient concerns about billing
- Appalachian Regional Healthcare System to Open a New Family Practice
- A rebirth: Chatham Hospital to resume maternity care in September 2020
- Public meeting Tuesday for group formed to advise on NHRMC options

- Wake Forest Baptist Joins Duke Medical For \$90 Million Statin Study
- Hospital security now handling IVC cases
- Appalachian Regional Healthcare System to Open a New Family Practice
- Mission, Cigna reach deal to keep hospital in-network for Cigna customers

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

- Roper St. Francis to restructure; CEO takes new role
- Patients' personal info exposed online after SC hospitals records were compromised
- SC hospital system says patient information compromised during cybersecurity incident

## **TENNESSEE**

- Operator wins EEOC lawsuit alleging discrimination against worker with anxiety
- Ballad Health supports national LAN's new goals to accelerate reach and impact of value-based payment reform
- HCA Healthcare's share price up after Q3 revenue, earnings beat expectations
- Hospital group CEO says she's 'Cautiously optimistic' about TennCare block grant
- CHS to sell 3 hospitals, exit Virginia
- Tennessee Hospital Association names chair, leadership changes
- Tennessee nursing home improperly billed Medicaid nearly \$52K, audit finds
- Appalachian Hospital Merger Exposes Tension over Rural Healthcare Access
- Community Health Systems narrows Q3 losses to \$17M, reports continued admissions drops

## **SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST**

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

### **ARKANSAS**

- Next step telemedicine proves life-saving
- 4 Arkansas behavioral health providers plan merger to form Arisa Health
- Tire Pros donates \$5,564 to Arkansas Children's Hospital

### **ARIZONA**

- Banner acquires Colorado hospital
- Summit Healthcare opens outpatient pavilion with surgery center
- St. Luke's Medical Center in Phoenix closing its doors next month
- Summit Healthcare Outpatient Pavilion Opens In Arizona
- Arizona health centers sue Medicaid for unpaid services

- Cleaning plant troubles could lead to hospital tool shortage
- Steward to close Phoenix hospital in November
- St. Luke's Phoenix hospital to close next month due to drop in patients

## LOUISIANA

- Louisiana Medicaid expansion spotlighted during U.S. Senate inquiry into eligibility risks
- Health care is on the ballot in state elections starting next week
- Leading Health Care of Louisiana to build \$4.5 million Lafayette office
- LSU board gives the green light to Charity Hospital redevelopment: 'This is a great day'

## NEW MEXICO

- HCSC unveils big push to get uninsured Americans covered
- HSD to seek \$79.8M more for Medicaid
- New Mexico's health insurance exchange costs stay about same
- DOH reports decrease in drug overdoses across New Mexico

## OKLAHOMA

- Oklahoma midwives oversaw at least seven out-of-hospital deaths last year; faced no repercussions
- Oklahoma Medicaid agency expands virtual medication program
- Surprise medical bills hit many Oklahomans

## TEXAS

- 4 hospitals investing in new orthopedic facilities
- Medical City Plano's New Cancer Hospital Opens Monday
- These are the top nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities in Houston
- Tenet, Texas Health Resources are funding fight against Medicare for All
- Reeling from Accusations of Fraud, Pine Creek Medical Center Shuts Down
- CEO of Texas Health Aetna out after 8 months
- Plano hospitals turn to new initiatives to fight national opioid crisis
- Houston tech company is helping to scale breast cancer screening using IT solutions
- Texas Health Mails Incorrect Bills, Impacting 82,000 Patients
- Plano Healthcare Facility Looks for Buyer
- North Texas hospital system aiming to reduce opioid use
- Dallas County's Growing Physician Shortage

- DFW is the 13th Best “Hospital City” in the Country
- Methodist Dallas Medical Center livestreams brain surgery
- Meet the New VP at Texas Health Huguley

## **NORTHWEST**

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

### **ALASKA**

- Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association announces new President/CEO
- Premera promises \$5.7M to rural Alaska health care programs
- Pledge gives \$5.7 million to improve rural health care
- AK Health Groups Receive Grants for Rural Patient Access to Care

### **IDAHO**

- Portneuf Medical Center CEO stepping down
- St. Luke's telehealth center to expand virtual services
- Idaho hospital readies to open \$3.7M surgery center
- ‘How R U?’ St. Luke's is studying whether text messages can prevent suicides
- Saint Al's employee agrees to plead guilty to stealing funds, including donations
- Idaho Medicaid enrollment begins in November

### **MONTANA**

- US healthcare breach may have exposed records of 130,000 Montana patients
- Proposed sale of Shelby hospital stokes controversy, concerns over local care

### **OREGON**

- Trillium files antitrust suit against OHSU, Providence, Legacy claiming it is being blocked from Portland market
- 6 health system executives named to committee to control healthcare costs in Oregon
- Oregon insurer sues, says 3 health systems have locked it out of Portland market
- How and why this rural hospital CEO taps into public's ‘buy local’ sensibility
- Federal judge lifts extra oversight of Oregon State Hospital, citing improvements
- Oregon Health Plan Turf Battle Results in Federal Anti-Trust Lawsuit
- OHSU will use grant to tackle alcohol abuse in rural Oregon

### **WASHINGTON**

- Washington critical access hospital seeks to launch 12-physician residency

- Seattle cancer group notifies nearly 1,000 patients of data breach
- Open enrollment for Washington Health Benefit Exchange begins Friday
- Health care, life sciences IT company raises \$16M in Series A funding round
- Tricia Raikes, Charlotte Guyman among those on medical institute's new board
- Seattle Children's opens pediatric research facility Building Cure

## WYOMING

- Casper Company to Pay \$50k in Wage Discrimination Case
- Wyoming Department of Health sets Cheyenne listening session

## WEST

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

### CALIFORNIA

- Corner Office: Stanford Children's CEO Paul King on why he always remembers to take a jacket
- Dignity Health to cut jobs at 2 California hospitals
- Nurses at California hospital plan 3-day strike
- Class-action settlement with Dignity Health delayed
- California nursing home patients had minutes to flee fire
- California regulators say 'no' to Adventist Health, St. Joseph Health merger
- Dr. Carrie L. Byington takes the reins at UC Health

### COLORADO

- Banner acquires Colorado hospital
- Southwest Health Alliance to see startup savings through new partnership
- New Mental Health Colorado CEO talks goals
- Loveland to get a 'super VA clinic' in 2022
- Colorado hospital CEO out after board vote
- DaVita Health Solutions rebrands as 'Vively Health'
- Community Hospital in Colorado hires Joseph Gerardi as COO, CNO
- Children's Hospital Colorado uses telehealth to diagnose fetal heart disease
- Colorado hospital workers sue for alleged unpaid, off-the-clock work
- Colorado health exchange says that despite lower prices, it pays to shop around

### HAWAII

- U.S. News & World Report: Hawaii among states with best nursing homes
- Tensions hit tipping point at Molokai Community Health Center over 4 day closure

## NEVADA

- Nevada health exchange aims for enrollee retention, increase
- Nearly 58k prescription records thrown out at Smith's in Henderson
- Valley Health System opens emergency room in southwest Las Vegas
- Nevada Pharmacy Board probe finds background checks lacking

## UTAH

- Doctor shortage brings creative solution: Work here and we'll help pay your student debt
- St. Mark's Hospital just did one of the first procedures of its kind in Utah
- Intermountain Healthcare sending 'golden tickets' to participants for heart disease study
- 20,000 Utah Valley Eye Center patients may have had information hacked after HIPAA breach