

HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - NOVEMBER 15, 2019

NATIONAL

- FDA proposal for medical device approvals a 'terrible idea,' advocacy group says
- Why hospitals are a weak spot in U.S. cybersecurity
- Here's how Amazon employees get health care through a new app — a glimpse of the future of medicine
- Consolidation of physician practices linked to ACOs, study finds
- OIG: Hospitals overbilled Medicare \$54.4M for patient transfers
- Where are the 36 'straight-A' Leapfrog hospitals?
- Only 10% of patients view their medical records online, study finds
- In Leapfrog report, C most common grade for hospital safety
- Graduate medical education accrediting body taps Dr. Bruce Metz as first CIO
- Hospital-acquired conditions are down, but did CMS' penalty program play a role?
- Where are the 36 'straight-A' Leapfrog hospitals?
- Leapfrog released its new safety grades. It's also facing a lawsuit challenging its methods
- Hospitals bungling Medicare post-acute discharge codes will cost them \$54.4M
- Proposed overhaul of anti-kickback rules part of 'sprint to coordinated care,' HHS official says
- For-profit hospital M&A update: 15 deals involving CHS, Tenet, HCA and Quorum
- 'What's the future of the hospital?' 4 healthcare executives on the biggest challenges facing healthcare in 2020
- CMS to pay for some cardiology procedures in ASCs & more
- CMS issues proposed rule on Medicaid fiscal accountability
- Missouri appeals court upholds changes to Medicaid DSH payment rules
- Hospitals overspending by billions on supply chain expenses, study finds
- With Medical Bills Skyrocketing, More Hospitals Are Suing for Payment
- Why hospitals want to invest in affordable housing

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- CT Hospital Safety Grades Released: 1 Gets 'D', 11 Get 'C'
- Connecticut hospital known for suing patients reviews its debt-collection policies

- Connecticut healthcare group alerts patients of phishing attack
- 'It's ridiculously hard to make a startup succeed.' Hartford's new medtech accelerator is focused on improving those odds
- Connecticut hospital known for suing patients reviews its debt-collection policies
- Researcher IDs CT's most litigious hospital; thousands of patients sued annually
- A Look At The New Hartford HealthCare Facility

MAINE

- Rankings show Maine's hospitals are safest in the country
- Maine hospitals lead in Leapfrog safety grades
- Maine looks to overhaul its \$83 million Medicaid transportation system
- MaineHealth hospital organizations appoint two new leaders
- Central Maine Healthcare in critical need of nurses
- MaineHealth selects presidents of 2 entities
- Western Maine Health taps its own as new president
- After 14 Years, Northern Light Health CEO Is Stepping Down

MASSACHUSETTS

- MGH Settles With Doctor Critical Of Concurrent Surgery For \$13 Million
- Lawrence General Hospital Improves To 'B' Safety Grade
- Massachusetts health system partners with VA to share EHR data
- Why Partners HealthCare invested \$80M in 2 new funds to fuel future growth
- Baystate Health to develop AI tools that match patients to clinical trials
- Massachusetts surgeon to pay \$150K to resolve false billing allegations
- Mass General, Northwell Health pay millions to settle concurrent surgery suits
- Second major hospital chain agrees to pay millions to resolve concerns over concurrent surgery
- New Partnership Helps Outer Cape Residents With Healthcare Transportation
- Cleveland Clinic to split \$1B donation for research from Lord Foundation
- Seacoast hospitals, Mass General fight for merger

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Dartmouth-Hitchcock to open geriatric ER
- Patients just as satisfied when surgeons give fewer opioids for pain
- Concord Hospital doctors reprimanded, fined after teen treated for migraine dies of tumor
- Facing Cease And Desist Order, Health Care Ministry Pushes Back Against N.H. Regulators

- [Healthcare Students Get to the HEaRT of Succession Planning](#)

NEW YORK

- [Judge halts Medicaid cuts to nursing homes across New York during lawsuit against state](#)
- [Chautauqua hospital funded for 100-slot additions program](#)
- [St. Joe's hires former NJ hospital president as chief operating officer](#)
- [Cardiologist sues for \\$20M after New York hospital blocks admitting privileges](#)
- [NY Urologist David Samadi at Center of \\$12.3M Fraudulent Medicare Claims Case with Lenox Hill Hospital](#)
- [New York Identifies Hospitals and Nursing Homes With Deadly Fungus](#)
- [New York is 1st state to publicize hospitals with C. auris cases](#)
- [Northwell awards recognize 'Truly' dedicated doctors](#)
- [The Rite Aid Foundation awards Bayside hospital with \\$30K grant to teach nutrition to at-home patients](#)

RHODE ISLAND

- [Matt Quin named president, COO of Women & Infants Hospital](#)
- [Coventry will address childhood trauma with \\$440k grant from the Rhode Island Foundation](#)
- [R.I. legislature seeks to dismiss governor's marijuana regulation suit](#)

VERMONT

- [UVM Health Network to offer DNA testing as part of primary care](#)
- [Hospital Network Implements New Electronic Health Records System](#)
- [UVMHN implements first phase of a unified electronic health record system](#)
- [UVM Health Network launches \\$151 million medical records system](#)
- [Rutland Regional Medical Center receives national recognition for meritorious outcomes from the American College of Surgeons](#)
- [Vermont health system to offer DNA testing as part of primary care services](#)

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELAWARE

- [AG: Newark Manor Nursing Home provided 'substandard and worthless care' to residents](#)
- [ChristianaCare seeks to ramp up use of virtual reality](#)
- [Delaware DOJ gets settlement in case involving care at Newark nursing home](#)
- [Delaware Ranks 5th in Nation for Children Affected by Opioids](#)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- D.C.'s St. Elizabeths Hospital Gets Clean Water After 28 Days
- Virginia, DC Hospital Safety Grades For 2019
- Whitman-Walker to bring health center to St. E's campus
- Children's National names university partner for Walter Reed campus

MARYLAND

- WMHS earns sixth straight cardiac surgery recognition
- New UMMS CEO Promises Accountability After 'Healthy Holly' Scandal
- Maryland Hospital Safety Grades Released For Fall 2019
- U of Maryland Medical System board discloses potential conflicts of interest
- 14 Facts to Consider About Maryland's Nursing Shortage
- New insider UMMS president will have to work extra hard to prove transparency

NEW JERSEY

- New NJ Hospital Safety Ratings Released: 2 Get 'D' Grade
- Atlantic Health Medical Centers Recognized with 'A' Safety Grade
- Housing in Brief: Why New Jersey Is Paying Hospitals to Build Housing
- New Jersey hospital launches emergency telemedicine services
- RWJBarnabas Health part of group announcing \$700M pledge toward community health
- St. Peter's Hospital: Take A Tour Of New Midwife Birth Center
- Former nursing home exec wins \$6M verdict from company that fired her because of race
- Atlantic Health System opens services in Byram
- High tech meets healing at new South Jersey hospital
- Sweeney Joins in Ribbon-Cutting for Inspira Hospital Mullica Hill
- University Hospital names Dr. Chris Pernell chief strategic integration and health equity officer
- NJ Lawmaker Wants 'Transparency' When Hospitals Go Belly-Up
- Newark Hospital Cuts ED Opioid Prescriptions By 70 Percent
- 24 NJ Nursing Homes Receive Lowest Rating From U.S. News
- New Jersey city seeks backup plan to save hospital

PENNSYLVANIA

- Mortality, readmission rates continue to drop at Pa. hospitals
- Jefferson Health CEO gives insight on how to operate as Medicare for All looms
- Get a sneak peek at the \$356M Inspira Medical Center Mullica Hill

- New Pennsylvania licensing system causing concern among healthcare professionals
- Allegheny Health Network taps longtime UPMC surgeon to help guide \$300M investment in cancer care
- Hempfield facility highlights micro-hospital trend in Western Pa.
- Deaths of 3 infants at Pennsylvania hospital linked to preparation of donor breast milk, officials say
- PHC4: Mortality and readmission rates continue to decline at Pa. hospitals
- Lancaster Behavioral Health Hospital's new CEO, Dan Zarecky, comes from Colorado
- Here's How Main Line Hospitals Rank For Safety
- Group Issues New Safety Grade For Bryn Mawr Hospital
- Highmark Health test drives future of medicine with Westmoreland County mini-hospital
- Highmark Health CEO made \$7.49 million in 2018
- Here's How 8 Montgomery Co. Hospitals Rank For Patient Safety
- Geisinger Medical Center Identifies Source of Deadly Infection
- Former Hahnemann residents fear bankruptcy will leave them without malpractice insurance
- UPMC acquires second hospital in Ireland
- Geisinger, St. Luke's joint venture hospital to open this month

VIRGINIA

- VCU Health System announces interim leadership appointments
- Virginia Baptist, Lynchburg General get 'D' rating for safety
- Health care watchdog gives 'D' safety grade to two Lynchburg hospitals
- Virginia, DC Hospital Safety Grades For 2019
- Virginia loses key behavioral health official at critical time
- Dr. Phillip Jackson appointed president of Sentara Albemarle Medical Center

WEST VIRGINIA

- WVU Medicine celebrates success of state's first heart transplant
- Aetna wins \$200M contract to manage foster care in West Virginia
- Nurses at Cabell Huntington Hospital Vote to Unionize

CENTRAL

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

IOWA

- MercyOne plans joint venture with Premier Health for urgent care
- U of Iowa Health joins HealthPartners' provider network

- [Safety violations found after attacks at Iowa psych hospital](#)
- [UnityPoint Health says it will not merge with Sanford Health](#)
- [St. Luke's Hospital first in Iowa to offer single-incision surgery thanks to robotics](#)
- [Serious Workplace Safety Violations Found After Attacks at Iowa Psych Hospital](#)
- [New community collaborations strive to improve overall neighborhood health](#)
- [Iowa's children's mental health system making progress, state official says](#)

KANSAS

- [Hutch Regional refunds Medicare nearly \\$3 million](#)
- [Contractor's errors prompted \\$2.7M Medicare refund from Kansas hospital, lawsuit claims](#)
- [Wichita approves \\$35.5 million in incentives to subsidize creation of medical school](#)
- [Kansas Hospital Association: Medicaid Expansion could keep hospitals open](#)
- [Typo in regulation costs Kansas hospital \\$600K](#)
- [Rural Kansas Loves Its Hospitals, But Keeping Them Open Only Gets Harder](#)
- [As many rural communities see healthcare struggles, Colby hospital thrives](#)
- [The patient will see you now: The age of health care in the hands of the consumer](#)

MINNESOTA

- [HealthPartners to close 30 pharmacies, cut 300 jobs in Minnesota and Wisconsin](#)
- [Mayo Clinic to end surgical services at 2 hospitals](#)
- [HealthPartners cutting 75 jobs on diminished Medicare revenue](#)
- [Minnesota lawmakers pitch dueling insulin plans](#)
- [Commission struggles in early going to find health and human services savings](#)
- [New Albert Lea healthcare provider shares plans with community](#)
- [Federal government finalizes changes that will cost MinnesotaCare millions](#)
- [How one Minnesota clinic slashed its number of opioid prescriptions](#)

MISSOURI

- [How safe are Missouri hospitals? Check out the latest scores](#)
- [Missouri appeals court upholds changes to Medicaid DSH payment rules](#)
- [EOS imaging Announces 350th System Worldwide Installed at University of Missouri Health Care](#)
- [Missouri's Refusal To Treat Mental Health Like A Physical Condition Means Patients Wait Months](#)
- [St. Charles County appoints new health department director](#)

NEBRASKA

- 'Health care delayed is health care denied': Speakers oppose two-tier Medicaid plan at hearing
- Four nursing facilities closing
- Winnebago hospital, now tribally owned, resumes inpatient services
- Great Plains Health receives award for protecting patients
- A new passageway, built 38 feet above street level, gets doctors from the office to sick kids

NORTH DAKOTA

- Sanford Health mega-merger with UnityPoint collapses
- ND takes new approach to behavioral health
- Medical Debt Turns Mandan Couple's Lives Upside Down

SOUTH DAKOTA

- UnityPoint Health says it will not merge with Sanford Health
- New Federal Oversight for Sanford Health Following \$20M Settlement
- After \$20 million settlement, Sanford faces federal oversight
- Sanford Health must hire auditor to monitor billing after whistleblower settlement
- Feds: South Dakota doc made millions on unneeded surgeries

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- 46 Illinois Hospitals Get A Safety Grades
- BCBS of Illinois breaks ground on Chicago expansion
- Strike averted at Chicago's Mount Sinai, Schwab Rehabilitation hospitals
- Sinai Health, employees reach a deal, averting a strike
- Inside Innovative Health's \$80 Million Skilled Nursing Construction Push
- Life Spine to pay nearly \$6M to settle kickback lawsuit
- Illinois hospital adds \$39.6M outpatient addition
- President of 2 BJC HealthCare Illinois hospitals to retire

INDIANA

- Franciscan ACO performance results in \$14.4M savings
- Regional Health Systems CEO Retiring
- Indiana hospitals should create nonprofit fund to reinvest profits, former state economic leader says

- One rural hospital failed. Another stepped in. But Anthem isn't happy.
- Indiana HIEs Unify to Better Meet the Needs of the State's Healthcare Community
- Community Health Acquires Fairbanks
- Health Information Exchanges to Consolidate

KENTUCKY

- Lawsuit dismissals mean Bardstown Medical Plaza will be part of Baptist Health
- Jewish Hospital gets rare 'F' grade on patient safety
- Baptist Health's chief compliance officer to retire, replacement named
- Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital earns distinguished 'Hero Award' for its work in improving stroke care for patients
- Kentucky Doctor Jonathan Moore Agrees to Pay \$65,404 for Allegedly Engaging in Illegal Kickback Scheme with OK Compounding Pharmacy
- Brash named CEO at Logan Memorial
- UofL Hospital exceeds 5,000 da Vinci Robotic Surgery procedures
- 13 Kentucky hospitals earn A's for patient safety. 2 Lexington hospitals decline to D's.
- St. Elizabeth Healthcare performs its 10,000th lung screening, a rare milestone; screening saves lives
- Lexington hospitals give big to endangered city program that has cut ambulance runs
- Logan Memorial Hospital appoints David Brash CEO

MICHIGAN

- McLaren-Central Michigan given 'A' grade in patient safety for third consecutive cycle
- DMC, Wayne State lose neurosurgery training accreditation
- Trinity Health names Michigan hospital chief as interim leader of Mount Carmel East
- Measures aim to end 'surprise billing' for Michigan medical patients
- DMC committee won't try to save neurosurgery program
- Trinity Health selects Sheri Shapiro as chief strategy officer
- Detroit hospital, school losing neurosurgery training permit
- Michigan health information network merges with state HIE
- CareTrust to Sell 6 Michigan SNFs for \$37M After Operator Stops Paying Rent
- 3 Mid-Michigan hospital earn an 'A' safety grade from non-profit
- Upper Michigan hospitals get high patient safety scores for Fall 2019
- Leading MI Health Information Exchange Networks Plan Integration
- Ascension Health Invests In Area Medical Facilities

- Henry Ford Health System takes holistic, multifaceted approach to neighborhood investment
- Helen DeVos Children's Hospital joins consortium for disaster response
- Detroit Medical Center aims to save its neurosurgery residency program, set to close June 2020
- Complaints: DMC neurosurgery residents were bullied, overworked
- Patient claims Michigan medical group employee posted health record on social media

OHIO

- Trinity Health names Michigan hospital chief as interim leader of Mount Carmel East
- Member of UC Health's C-suite to step down - after he helps find his own replacement
- Trinity Health System opens facility in Weirton
- Mercy Health adds to C-suite in Springfield
- Miami Valley Hospital South in Centerville to become trauma center
- Akron Children's Hospital surgeons reducing narcotic prescriptions due to opioid crisis
- Encompass Health to construct 40-bed inpatient rehabilitation hospital in Toledo, Ohio
- U of Cincinnati, UC Health to launch \$2B fundraising campaign
- David Spivey named interim president of Mount Carmel East
- Ohio hospital earns certification for hip, knee replacement
- University Hospitals in Cleveland has invested over \$2.9 billion in community benefit during the past decade
- Firm focused on hospital revenue opens office in Cincinnati
- Mercy Health plans to redevelop Cherry St. with apartments and retail stores

WISCONSIN

- HealthPartners to close 30 pharmacies, cut 300 jobs in Minnesota and Wisconsin
- Milwaukee startup ecosystem poised for health care investment growth
- St. Joseph's Hospital changing its name to Froedtert West Bend Hospital
- UnityPoint Health says it will not merge with Sanford Health
- Ascension Medical Group plans 3rd Ward clinic
- Gundersen Health System commends new bill requiring Medicaid to cover telehealth services
- How this VA hospital in Wisconsin cut nurse turnover by 52%

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- Huntsville Hospital, Urgent Care Centers Merge
- 81-bed Alabama hospital to join UAB Health System

- Huntsville Hospital trains to handle patients with highly infectious diseases
- Huntsville Hospital expands NICU by 10 beds, growing with regional health needs
- Huntsville Hospital partners to build urgent care network
- Birmingham Internal Medicine Docs Join Florida Group

FLORIDA

- Data breach put thousands of Florida Blue members' personal information at risk
- Florida Health Care Plans' new CEO aims to keep HMO growing
- Here's how Orlando-area hospitals ranked for safety in fall 2019
- Tampa General CEO John Couris: To build a patient-centric system, focus first on improving internal culture
- Promise Healthcare accuses former CEO of interfering in hospital deal
- HCA selects Charles Gressle as East Florida division president
- Nicklaus Children's Health System names hospital CFO, VP of clinical affairs
- Increasing Florida hospital, surgical center fees cited among workers' comp concerns
- Birmingham Internal Medicine Docs Join Florida Group

GEORGIA

- These leaders, boards help make Northeast Georgia Health System decisions
- What the finances of Northeast Georgia Health System look like
- Floyd Medical Center's merger — why, how much and what it all means
- Children's Hospital looking to expand
- These are Georgia's safest hospitals, according to new report
- No Improvement for Southeast Georgia Health System - Brunswick Campus Hospital Score
- Looking at the Floyd Healthcare merger: How it affects the county
- Middle Georgia hospitals score among best, worst in new report
- Universal Health Services to settle DOJ hospital probe in Georgia
- Fewer Georgia Hospitals Earn 'A' Safety Rating In New Leapfrog Report
- Emory Johns Creek Hospital breaks ground on expansion
- This is what's causing the fight between Anthem, Northeast Georgia Health System
- Emory breaks ground on \$469 million cancer treatment tower in Midtown
- Northside Hospital Cherokee applies for another two-floor expansion
- Nurses in Georgia seek law to protect themselves in the operating room

MISSISSIPPI

- Memorial Hospital is expanding well beyond Gulfport. Here's a look at what's new.
- Three coast hospitals earn "A" ratings in national safety survey
- Mississippi hospital acquires surgery center in transaction boom
- Analysis: Area hospitals receive mixed results in safety

NORTH CAROLINA

- Rural and safety net hospitals prepare for cut in federal support
- SRMC ER medical director wins Rookie of the Year award
- Eye ASC in the works at \$1.2M North Carolina property
- Watchdog group gives 2 Triangle hospitals 'C' grades
- Hospital patient safety study reveals good news for NC overall, bad news for WakeMed
- Twelve Triad hospitals earn highest grade on patient safety report
- Hospital Safety Grades: Here's How Charlotte Facilities Fared
- New maternity unit will put family docs at the helm
- Nurses Bring In-Home Care, Connections in North Carolina
- Raleigh pharma firm Merz reorganizes into 3 separate businesses
- Wilmington Health, doctor settle civil fraud claims; NHRMC to repay nearly \$900,000
- Poll shows most county residents don't support selling NHRMC
- UNC Hospitals pharmacy department wins award for reducing patients' financial risks
- Feds say this NC doctor performed unnecessary procedures for Medicare payments
- Care collaboration tech reduces hospital's ED-to-bed wait time by 97 minutes
- Atrium, Novant sign value-based agreement with BCBS of North Carolina
- Dr. Phillip Jackson appointed president of Sentara Albemarle Medical Center

SOUTH CAROLINA

- RMC safety grade improves; CEO says hospital committed to best practices
- Charleston hospitals tout top scores in new report, but MUSC cautions grades aren't totally fair
- Three Lowcountry hospitals receive "A" grade in newly released hospital safety ratings
- New study finds SC telehealth program helped rural students with asthma avoid ER

TENNESSEE

- Urgent Care company adds behavioral health services
- Vanderbilt CIO: When customizing an EHR, don't get 'hyper-focused on the tech'
- LifePoint sells hospitals in \$700 million leaseback deal

- Quorum Health ends Q3 with \$76M net loss
- Celina hospital's reopening offers hope for rural healthcare in Tennessee
- Nashville General Hospital wants to open more clinics beyond the Meharry campus
- Deer smashes through Tennessee hospital window, injures 3 patients
- Tennessee hospital enhances patient experience with collaboration platform
- CHI Memorial Hospital deploys Epic EHR
- Tivity Health: 3Q Earnings Snapshot
- Email System With Info of 44K Tennessee Medicaid Members Breached
- CHI Memorial Hospital deploys Epic EHR

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

- Mercy opens \$133M Arkansas hospital tower
- Arkansas hospital terminates contract with operator
- Mercy opens new \$141 million patient tower, includes McMillon Family Heart Unit
- Delta Dental of Arkansas Foundation unveils \$1.3 million grant campaign

ARIZONA

- "A" safety grade for patient care given to two Tucson hospitals
- Arizona's growing population, lack of medical students worsens doctor shortage
- U of Arizona unveils medical simulation center
- Northern Arizona Healthcare opens outpatient center - 3 insights
- LHC Group and LifePoint Health expand joint venture partnership in three states
- Grand opening Saturday for Abrazo Mesa Hospital
- Abrazo hospitals earn A grades from Leapfrog Group
- "A" safety grade for patient care given to two Tucson hospitals

LOUISIANA

- Home Health Companies to Pay \$2.5 Million to Settle Federal False Claims Act Lawsuit
- Ochsner's net income up \$49M over 3 quarters
- Louisiana Dept. of Health to pay millions to settle accusations of false Medicaid claims
- Louisiana pays DOJ \$13M for scheme to get higher federal Medicaid payments
- Mentally ill children in Louisiana do not receive adequate services through Medicaid, lawsuit says

- Memorial Hospital is expanding well beyond Gulfport. Here's a look at what's new.
- Louisiana health system to deploy Meditech EHR across 5 hospitals
- Initiative aims to improve women's health

NEW MEXICO

- Las Cruces medical center receiving national recognition
- Inside the unique role of midwives in New Mexico
- UNM Hospital expansion gains traction
- Neal Bowen of Hidalgo Medical Services to lead New Mexico behavioral health division
- New Abrazo Mesa Hospital hosts grand opening Saturday

OKLAHOMA

- Flu shot mix-up in Oklahoma sends 10 people to hospital
- After 100 years, Oklahoma Hospital Association focused on future
- How Oklahoma's New Health Laws Will Affect You, From Short-Term Health Policies To Eye Clinics
- Baby Boom at OKC hospital, 18 babies born in 24 hours

TEXAS

- Data Breach Costs Texas Health Agency \$1.6 Million
- Leapfrog's Safest North Texas Hospitals
- Texas healthcare execs guilty in \$150M hospice scam
- HCA Healthcare VP joins eye care company as COO
- Texas health system building ASC
- Ohio health tech firm opens new 50,000-SF Woodlands office
- Texas hospital operator files for bankruptcy
- Safety as a core value: Former Memorial Hermann CEO on how to become a high reliability health system
- Baylor Scott & White CEO Jim Hinton: Digital-physical fusion will solidify legacy brands' place in the future of healthcare
- Texas Medical Center challenges physician shortage projections
- Judge orders a hospital to keep 9-month-old on life-support as her family searches for a solution
- Access Physicians Receives \$9.3M in Funding to Expand Telemedicine Nationwide
- Museum District specialty hospital acquired by Dallas health care co.
- Cornerstone Healthcare Group Acquires Houston Long-term Acute Care Hospital from HCA Houston Healthcare
- Leapfrog's Safest North Texas Hospitals
- Texas Supreme Court considers bridal shop's Ebola lawsuit against Texas Health Presbyterian

- Three South Texas Health System hospitals receive 'A' rating for patient safety
- Scenes from a Rural Hospital's Final Day
- Dallas group buys HCA Houston Healthcare hospital unit
- Hospital operator north of Houston files for Ch. 11 bankruptcy protection
- Texas Health Southwest Expands Heart Attack Treatment
- Texas Breaks Ground on Construction at Rusk State Hospital
- Texas Rehab Hospital Settles Medicare Billing Case for \$6 Million

NORTHWEST

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

ALASKA

- Alaska hospital taps community to train CNAs, cut staff turnover
- Cherokee County hospital working to ensure doors stay open
- UAA tackles mental health issues in Alaska
- To reduce staff turnover, Wrangell hospital takes homegrown hiring approach
- Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association announces new CEO

IDAHO

- Retiring St. Luke's CEO: Fee for service has got to go
- Portneuf Medical Center announces interim CEO
- St. Luke's CEO to retire in 2020, COO to take over
- Saint Alphonsus partners with cancer institute, improves access to care and trials
- Former Idaho health system worker to pay nearly \$1.5M in restitution for wire fraud
- Idaho Names Six Rural Health Heroes

MONTANA

- An IR View: Good things are happening at St. Peter's Health
- Montana's Medicaid expansion work requirements delayed
- Montana children's hospital had several escape attempts before teen's death
- Billings Clinic names Colorado health executive as new CEO

OREGON

- Oregon hospital alerts patients of data breach
- Portland-area hospitals have Trillium in a bind

- CCO that claimed Portland hospitals conspired against it is barred from metro-area market
- Portland cardiologist accused of implanting 100-plus unnecessary pacemakers
- Oregon regulators bar Trillium from expanding into Portland
- Portland, Oregon, paramedics learn self-defense amid attacks

WASHINGTON

- PeaceHealth announces chief executive of the PeaceHealth Northwest network
- New fungus scare closes operating rooms at Seattle Children's Hospital
- Seattle Children's Hospital has again shut down operating rooms due to mold problems
- How Providence is 'deconstructing the health system'
- Charles Prosper appointed chief executive of PeaceHealth's Northwest network
- Providence St. Joseph to rebrand in 2020

WYOMING

- Hospital's CEO, CFO are appointed to state boards
- Pair of hospital studies show high costs and low access to care in Wyoming. Now what?
- Why a Wyoming hospital's bad debt climbed 50%
- WMC's discussions with outside hospitals continue, likely won't be done before new year
- Wyoming Lawmakers Approve Database Showing High Health Costs
- Wyoming Medical, Hospital Groups Laud Early Approval of Medicaid Expansion

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Kaiser Permanente CEO Tyson dies unexpectedly at 60
- Proposed Adventist and St. Joseph 'partnership' rejected by state
- Stanford's Second Opinion program helps patients worldwide
- As Kaiser Permanente faces another labor battle, critics question its mission
- Sutter, Kaiser hospitals reopen after wildfire
- Stanford Health Care CEO: My time as a trauma patient taught me this about hospitals
- Pride Industries lands in crosshairs of outsourcing strike at UC Davis Medical Center
- San Geronio Memorial Hospital names Steve Barron CEO
- Promise Healthcare accuses former CEO of interfering in hospital deal
- Kaiser Permanente board will discuss CEO succession later this month

- Dignity Health must face class action over ER fees, court rules

COLORADO

- Littleton-based Doctors Care is there for the medically underserved
- UCHealth opens medical center in Highlands Ranch, offering primary care and urgent care services close to home
- Franklin Community Health Network names leader of Colorado hospital as new president
- CTA APEX Awards: Children's Hospital Colorado brings health care into digital age
- PMC begins search for new CEO
- Porter Adventist Hospital confirms staff cuts
- How CHI revamped its patient billing strategy to improve collections, satisfaction
- How Denver Health is improving patient experience with the help of an executive touch, CIO Jeffrey Pelot explains
- Hospital In Louisville Receives 'A' Grade For Safety: Report
- Around the nation: DEA sues Colorado officials over patient prescription drug data

HAWAII

- CEO of Molokai's only health center not stepping down despite residents' demands
- Hospice Hawaii expands services, rebrands as Navian Hawaii

NEVADA

- Some Nevada healthcare workers opt out of flu shot
- Study: Nevada ranks 31 for patient safety 'A' grade hospitals in US
- Centennial Hills Hospital breaks ground on \$98M patient tower
- Comprehensive Cancer Centers in talks for new Las Vegas facility
- Nevada's opioid lawsuit reaches new stage

UTAH

- University of Utah Health witnesses number of changes before the new year
- Intermountain Heber Valley Hospital completes expansion project, invites community to open house Nov 12th
- Fewer Utah patients heading to the emergency room
- Intermountain CMIO: How interoperability bridges gaps in knowledge, decision support to improve patient care
- Eye practice to cut ribbon on new ASC in Utah