

## HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - DECEMBER 6, 2019

### NATIONAL

- 8 major CMS changes to take effect in 2020
- 2 physician payment model advisers abruptly resign from MACRA committee
- 8 hospital construction projects worth \$1B or more in 2019
- Mandatory CMS radiation oncology model goes on the backburner
- More than 600 hospitals sue over Medicare payment reductions
- 7 hospitals across 4 states will be sold at auction
- Physicians need more healthcare economics training in med school, AMA says
- OIG expects to recover \$5.9B in fraud investigations, doubling last year's haul
- AMA: 3 insights on driving tech adoption in healthcare
- AHA innovation fund joins \$16M funding for hospital cybersecurity startup
- 3 must-do's for the move to value-based care
- Hospitals blast CMS' proposed 340B survey
- How 5 health systems are using their 340B savings
- Hospital operating profitability climbs in October
- Medicare overpaid hospitals \$502M, OIG says
- 4 trends in physician pay
- Hospitals sue HHS, warning price transparency rule would chill competition, crash computers
- Governors and State Lawmakers Plan 2020 Reforms That Seek to Address Rising Health Care Costs
- October Healthcare Breaches Affected Nearly 624,000 Patients
- 10 healthcare innovations named to Time's '100 Best Inventions of 2019'
- Lawmakers introduce bill to fund more medical residency slots to combat physician shortage, opioid crisis
- What Optum, Humana, Ascension & more are doing to advance blockchain
- Rural hospital closures hit record high in 2019 — here's why

### NORTHEAST

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

### CONNECTICUT

- Danbury Hospital could get grilled over suing patients
- Connecticut ob-gyn practices falling short in caring for women with disabilities

- W.R. Berkley announces merging of health care businesses
- Hospital oversight extended

## MAINE

- Six Maine health organizations share \$2.1 million to expand online services
- Maine Med set to open 64 rooms for cancer patients in new tower
- Maine hospital presses on with ASC, hospital addition amid budget constraints
- USDA invests \$2.18 million in Maine facilities to help expand rural education and health care
- Waterville hospital failed to protect patient from abuse, federal agency finds
- Ex-EMMC worker says supervisor discriminated against him because he's black and male

## MASSACHUSETTS

- Athenahealth CEO Bob Segert describes the cloud vendor's new path forward
- Partners HealthCare has announced a name change
- Boston Heart to pay \$26.7M to settle alleged doctor kickback scheme
- Partners rebrands to Mass General Brigham
- Tufts, Harvard Pilgrim CEOs say merger will lower costs
- Lifespan announces \$55m operating loss, offers early retirements to employees
- Why Partners HealthCare Rebranded as Mass General Brigham
- Partners HealthCare VP on addressing regulation challenges in the revenue cycle
- Boston Children's VR platform wins Eli Lilly innovation challenge
- BCBS of Massachusetts adds digital cognitive behavioral therapy service
- To heal, MGH must admit mistakes
- A united Tufts-Harvard Pilgrim is better for consumers, CEOs say

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

- New Hampshire critical access hospital says nearby urgent care center would cause \$3.2M annual loss
- Littleton Regional says it would lose \$3.2 million a year if ConvenientMD opened
- Health Care Sharing Ministries To Challenge N.H. Cease And Desist Order
- N.H. To Apply For Federal Waiver to Spend Medicaid Dollars On Mental Health
- Q&A with healthcare entrepreneur Nick Vailas

## NEW YORK

- Provider pays \$500K fine in two neglect cases, makes significant staffing changes
- After wandering senior nearly froze to death, Amherst facility is fined \$1,000
- More than half of Catholic Health job cuts coming from earlier buyouts

- [New NY Nursing Home Law Targets Physician Privilege Disclosures](#)
- [New York hospital closes campus](#)
- [Another rural New York hospital to close campus, affecting 201 jobs](#)
- [NY Health Act supporters rally before state hearing in Kingston](#)
- [Praise for expanded surprise hospital bill protections](#)
- [Cold Spring Harbor Lab wins \\$750K grant from TD Bank](#)
- [WMCHealth's TCS New York City Marathon Team Raises Nearly \\$50,000](#)

## **RHODE ISLAND**

- [Rhode Island hospital system ends year in the red](#)
- [Rhode Island Hospital president to leave as Lifespan announces losses and offers early retirements](#)
- [State Hospital Cited for Failing to Provide Proper Care to 72% of Patients Sampled](#)
- [EMS Crews Brought Patients to the Hospital With Misplaced Breathing Tubes. None of Them Survived.](#)
- [RIDOH aims to address growing antibiotic resistance in the state](#)

## **VERMONT**

- [Vermont medical center shuts down ORs after mystery smell sickens staff again](#)
- [Whistleblower accuses OneCare Vermont of fraud](#)
- [RI's Healthcare Is Fraying - Lifespan Loses \\$35M, Layoffs Pending and Questions at Care New England](#)
- [Southwestern Vermont Health Care offers free paid training opportunity](#)
- [DFR reaches \\$1.8 million settlement in student health insurance dispute](#)

## **MID-ATLANTIC/EAST**

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

### **DELAWARE**

- [Hospitals in Maryland and Delaware were graded on safety. Here's how they did](#)
- [Bayhealth deploys Apple's Health Records app](#)
- [Bank of America donates \\$500K to ChristianaCare cancer fund](#)
- [Bayhealth Sussex Campus, Delaware's newest hospital, graded 'D' in hospital safety](#)
- [Report finds gaps in Delaware prison health care system](#)

### **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

- [Money in Medicine: These drug and device companies paid the most to D.C. doctors in 2018](#)
- [State-of-the-art health care facility coming to Southeast DC](#)
- [CareFirst investing millions in D.C. area for infant mortality, maternal health initiatives](#)
- [DC hospital allegedly fired director of nursing for reporting unlawful billing](#)

## MARYLAND

- Hospitals in Maryland and Delaware were graded on safety. Here's how they did
- UMMS names new president and CEO
- Md. hospital projects update: How much they cost and when they'll be finished
- Mercy Medical Center to establish the Maryland Bariatric Center
- LifeBridge Health, Bon Secours celebrate merger with dedication
- Havre de Grace leaders push back on notion city 'lost' Harford Memorial Hospital
- RightEye's Parkinson's test just took a big step forward. Now it's eyeing a \$15M funding round.
- Maryland hospital projects: How much they cost and when they'll be finished

## NEW JERSEY

- New Jersey bill proposal would let nurses — not state law — set nurse-to-patient ratios
- New Jersey hospital admits giving a kidney transplant to the wrong person
- Researchers begin major study aimed at improving health equity in New Jersey
- FBI investigating New Jersey hospital tied to transplant scandal
- New Jersey medical center nurses strike
- Another generic drugmaker settles price-fixing probe
- New Jersey medical center nurses strike
- Hackensack Meridian Health reschedules nonemergency surgeries after 'external technical issues'

## PENNSYLVANIA

- Hahnemann closure puts \$51 million in Medicaid funds in play. Will the money stay in Philly?
- Evangelical Community Hospital appoints new directors, associate VP
- Meet Michael L. Brown, the new boss at Commonwealth Health's Scranton hospitals
- Cancer center moves into Mt. Pleasant's Frick Hospital
- Paycheck delay reported at Ellwood City Medical Center
- Patients concerned about agreement between Highmark insurance and UPMC
- CHOP's new robot sings, dances and even recognizes patients' faces
- Merger mania shakes up Philadelphia-area health system rankings
- Easton Hospital is sending more patients to St. Luke's, and maternity care could be next
- Sneak peek at the \$15M Physicians Care Surgery Center in Royersford
- Pennsylvania hospitals fare well overall in national study, with some exceptions
- Local emergency room shut down, some concerned it won't reopen
- Ellwood City Medical Center banned from new admissions

- Delco hospital names new president
- Geisinger and St. Luke's open new co-owned hospital
- Wolf Signs Bill Aimed at Improving Financial Stability of Rural Hospitals
- Allegheny Health Network reports 10th straight quarter of positive earnings
- Pennsylvania hospital ordered to shut down ER, inpatient services
- LG Health hires 3 new execs, including for role created after February hospital citation
- Penn State Health names new senior vice president and chief information officer
- Tower Health hit with 3-notch credit downgrade
- Do I hear \$1,000? Auction of Hahnemann University Hospital equipment begins
- Pennsylvania health system files lawsuit against Nuance over malware attack

## **VIRGINIA**

- Sentara Healthcare integrates Imprivata biometric patient identification technology
- Sentara Hospitals reaches \$2.175M HIPAA settlement with OCR
- As University Hospital Hounds Debtors, Doctors Say It's Doing Harm
- Northern Virginia hospital CEO to retire
- Sentara Hospitals agrees to \$2.2M HIPAA settlement for incorrectly reporting data breach
- Newly-appointed VCU Health CEO hopes to tackle healthcare equality, grateful for previous leadership
- Virginia Hospital Center CEO Jim Cole to retire after 25 years

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

- WVU Medicine CEO: state's largest health system continues growth
- West Virginia grapples with nursing shortage
- WVU Lays Foundation For Children's Hospital
- BMH Welcomes new executive director of Outpatient Clinics
- Telemedicine connects hospital with specialists
- WVU Medicine, Health Plan take a second look at proposed network deal
- Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Morgantown, WV, names new CEO

## **CENTRAL**

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

## **IOWA**

- Culture clash could be to blame for UnityPoint, Sanford Health merger halt
- UI Hospitals and Clinics settles with patient for \$1.2M over retained surgical items
- Towel, staple left inside University of Iowa cancer patient brings \$1.2 million deal

- U.S. Justice Department investigating Iowa's Glenwood and Woodward centers for people with disabilities
- With opioids taking scores of Iowa lives each year, state officials learn how to administer naloxone
- After Children's Hospital mismanagement, University of Iowa will oversee health care building projects
- Former Iowa hospital CEO given suspended sentence for theft charges
- UnityPoint announces consolidation of Marshalltown health care on south campus
- Iowa City VA to launch podcast focused on veterans' health concerns
- What's next for medical marijuana in Iowa

## KANSAS

- Check out NueHealth's latest \$15M outpatient surgery center
- Coffeyville Regional names new CEO
- Kansas hospital purchased out of bankruptcy names interim CEO, CNO
- VA Secretary Wilkie, Sen. Moran target veteran suicide, access to care
- Study shows healthcare impact
- Hospitals subject to financial penalties from Medicare
- Five Topeka organizations awarded over \$100K by Kansas Health Foundation

## MINNESOTA

- St. Francis Regional Medical Center Plans Surgery Center
- Lawsuit: Nurses faced retaliation for criticizing anesthetist staff changes in Lake City
- CentraCare receives \$234K to expand telemedicine to rural areas
- Children's Minnesota alerts nearly 38,000 patients of privacy incident
- Mayo Clinic Health System to close hospital in 2020
- Mayo Clinic taps CIO of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center to lead analytics, digital efforts
- M Health Fairview to cut 500 jobs, consider hospital closures amid \$80M shortfall
- Challenges abound in first MDH compilation on rural healthcare
- Hospital violence draws renewed concerns
- Mayo announces first hospital outside of US
- Mayo closes two more facilities, blames rural health care crisis
- Mayo Clinic hires health IT veteran John Halamka to lead digital health strategy, AI projects
- In Minnesota, rising health costs hitting home
- Prime Therapeutics Welcomes Christine Bent as New Chief Operating Officer

## MISSOURI

- SSM St. Clare Hospital in Fenton gets shipment of hard-to-find generic drugs



- Missouri hospital 1st in state to offer new imaging technology for spine surgery
- SSM Health SLU Hospital celebrates 100th organ transplant of 2019
- SSM St. Joseph – Lake Saint Louis pioneers new surgery technology
- St. Mary's Hospital opens expanded ER
- Behavioral health hospital construction has begun
- Creditor alleges fraud, seeks to wrest control of St. Louis hospital
- Mental Health Care Dominates Growing Missouri Telemedicine Field
- Experts Warn Of Rising Health Costs In Missouri Despite Lower ACA Premiums
- USDA Funding to Expand Health Care Access in Rural Missouri
- Lake Saint Louis First in Missouri to Offer State of the Art Technology for Spinal Surgery

## NEBRASKA

- Chos named CEO of Blue Valley
- Nebraska Medicine alerts patients of data breach
- Nebraska Medicine Breached By Rogue Employee
- 'It will pay dividends': Children's, UNMC strengthen affiliation agreement
- Nebraska Medicine's new, expanded \$32 million cardiac catheterization lab will boost efficiency
- Ransomware Attack Forces Great Plains Health to EHR Downtime
- HHCS honored with Rural Provider Excellence in Quality Award

## NORTH DAKOTA

- North Dakota Hospitals Graded
- Altru Health System names Steven Weiser as new system president
- More college students are seeking help for mental health, but what happens when there aren't enough counselors?

## SOUTH DAKOTA

- Culture clash could be to blame for UnityPoint, Sanford Health merger halt
- Oyate Health Center hires Rapid City surgeon as chief medical officer
- South Dakota Communities Struggle With Nursing-Home Closures
- Sanford Health unveils tiny device for virtual home visits
- South Dakota lawmakers consider telehealth
- South Dakota announces settlement in medical devices case

## MIDWEST

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

## ILLINOIS

- [Nurses, University of Chicago Hospital Reach Agreement](#)
- [Illinois-Based Fairfield Memorial Hospital Plans Expansion](#)
- [Pinckneyville Community Hospital honored for excellence](#)
- [Mercyhealth wins appeal on building Crystal Lake hospital](#)
- [Illinois hospital honors ambulatory surgery staffer](#)
- [Evanston nursing home fined \\$25,000 for care policy violations](#)
- [Interview with CEO Mark Berger Chicago](#)
- [Why mandated nurse-to-patient ratios have become one of the most controversial ideas in health care](#)
- [4 health company executives accused in \\$1B fraud scheme](#)
- [15 Docs Fired From Illinois Health System to Be Replaced With NPs](#)
- [\\$52 million rehab hospital proposed for Libertyville](#)
- [Illinois hospital, medical group launch telehealth system for rural patients with diabetes](#)
- [New U of Chicago Medical Center contract includes pay bump, better nurse staffing](#)
- [OSF Healthcare's net income down 18% in 2019](#)
- [NorthShore University HealthSystem posts annual operating loss after \\$116M write-down](#)

## INDIANA

- [Four Muncie pediatricians find a new home, no longer in limbo](#)
- [Class-action lawsuit filed against Goshen Health in response to failure to sterilize](#)
- [Indiana hospital tells surgical patients they were possibly exposed to HIV, other diseases](#)
- [Reversal: COA reinstates default judgment against nursing facilities](#)
- [Ascension St. Vincent expands Indianapolis cancer center](#)
- [4 people nearly killed in crash involving IU Health ambulance](#)
- [New behavioral health hospital planned for Greenwood](#)
- [Baptist Health acquires Madison, Ind., urgent care and occupational medicine operation](#)
- [Indiana Hospitals Among Top Cardiovascular Hospitals](#)
- [Aspire Indiana Introduces Name Change](#)
- [Healthcare Supply Chain Company Expanding](#)
- [Regenstrief Partners with Startup on Nursing Home Care](#)

## KENTUCKY

- [Kentucky hospital pays \\$10M to resolve false claims, kickback allegations](#)
- [Former KentuckyOne pharmacies tagged in \\$10M false claims settlement](#)
- [Kentucky practice to open orthopedic clinic](#)



- Christ Hospital shelves \$24M plan to build in NKY
- UK, UofL partnership with state gets \$4 million grant to commercialize med-tech, health breakthroughs
- Christ Hospital walks away from all its plans at Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell
- U of L will be part of the new hub for healthcare innovations in Kentucky
- U of Louisville back on the defense over KentuckyOne deal, need for \$50M state loan
- Passport Health Plan not selected for new Medicaid managed contracts
- UK home to new national center studying economic impacts of rural health care
- Passport, a 20-year managed Medicaid veteran in Kentucky, loses out on \$8B contract
- Baptist Health now running urgent care clinic in La Grange
- U of L Health names new hospital CEO
- LCRH acquires two local practices
- Incoming president of the Kentucky Medical Association Robert Couch dies
- Baptist Health acquires Madison, Ind., urgent care and occupational medicine operation
- OH receives \$460k for telehealth project
- Confluent Health names new director after change in investor group
- U of Louisville gets credit downgrade after KentuckyOne deal
- UofL Health - Shelbyville Hospital names new CEO
- Louisville's largest private company names chief human resources officer
- Lawsuit claims Kentucky health care law violates civil liberties
- Waystar acquires Denver-based tech firm
- Confluent Health names new director after change in investor group
- Saint Joseph Hospital Foundation receives anonymous \$100,000 donation
- Lawsuit: Kentucky 'certificate of need' law blocked opening of Louisville health care firm
- Murray-Calloway County Hospital working to reach agreement with Anthem, hospital CEO says

## MICHIGAN

- Local medical center enrolls first patient in largest heart failure clinical trial in U.S.
- Michigan finds some success fighting opiate crisis on front line: emergency rooms
- Former DMC neurosurgery residency director: Allegations against program false
- DMC neurosurgery residency allegations are 'out of context,' 'blatant lies,' ex-director says
- Munson Healthcare to make safety codes easier to understand
- Michigan doctor, others plead guilty in \$8M kickback scheme
- North Shore completes acquisition of Atrium facilities; Marshfield, Point, and Rapids facilities to operate under new names

- How 2 Michigan health systems are combating workplace violence
- 2 Michigan health plans get approval to merge
- Michigan developer plans to establish 15 surgery centers in 1 year, seeks physician investors
- Bill proposes to prevent violence against nurses in Michigan
- Health care options expanding in mid-Michigan with new programs and facilities
- St. Luke's Hospital to merge with Michigan-based McLaren Health Care

## OHIO

- Ohio Valley Surgical Hospital receives national award for patient experience
- Ohio drops a few notches in ranking of states' hospitals
- Emergency room visits more frequent in Ohio than other states, but no one quite knows why
- Christ Hospital shelves \$24M plan to build in NKY
- Cincinnati hospital system drops ASC plan after losing appeal
- Dayton, Premier try to help high-frequency users of 911, ER
- Cleveland-area real-estate agent pushes to add Nursing Facility Patients' Bill of Rights to Ohio Constitution
- Mercy sues HHS over hospital reimbursement
- Ohio hospital adds orthopedic service line with same-day care
- City of Dayton, Premier Health pledge \$30 million to redevelop hospital site
- Akron Children's Hospital identifies three community health priorities
- St. Luke's Hospital to merge with Michigan-based McLaren Health Care
- Cleveland Clinic's operating income up 65% in Q3

## WISCONSIN

- Milwaukee nursing home expected to close; inspection reports reveal disturbing violations
- Dycora Transitional Health nursing home in Glendale to close
- Dycora Facility in Receivership to Close Next Year as Wisconsin Nursing Home Closures Continue
- Bridges of Milwaukee nursing home on northwest side will close, cutting 71 jobs
- Hackers hold Milwaukee-based tech company's data for ransom; nursing homes affected
- Bills seek to curb Wisconsin's opioid epidemic
- Mayo Clinic Health System to raise rates in La Crosse, Sparta by 2.75 percent in 2020
- North Shore completes acquisition of Atrium facilities; Marshfield, Point, and Rapids facilities to operate under new names
- In a Wisconsin village, the doctor makes house calls — and sees the rarest diseases on Earth
- Ascension Medical Group plans urgent care center in Hartland
- Expect to see a new urgent care center in Hartland in early 2020

- “It happens every day,” Proposal aims to reduce workplace violence at hospitals

## **SOUTH/SOUTHEAST**

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

### **ALABAMA**

- Baptist Health imposes security measures at emergency department, outpatient entrances: 4 notes
- UAB Hospital receives prestigious Magnet designation
- Tuscaloosa medical practices announce plans to merge
- USA Health surgical oncologist performs first robotic liver resection in South Alabama

### **FLORIDA**

- Southwest Florida hospitals get top marks for specialty services
- Broward Health Challenges State Over Medicaid Repayments Of Emergency Care For Undocumented Migrants
- Florida complex to feature 25+ outpatient specialties, 9 tenants & an ASC
- Ribbon cutting ceremony held at new Nassau County UF Health medical office
- Florida healthcare mogul must pay \$44M in massive Medicare fraud case, court rules
- Central Florida Health appoints Dr. David Berger COO
- UCF to open adult teaching hospital in Lake Nona
- Citrus Memorial Hospital receives national heart award
- Florida hospital system challenges state over Medicaid repayments
- Central Florida Regional Hospital names new CEO
- Here's how much Tampa Bay's largest hospitals pay full-time workers
- From ICU Nurse to Home Care CEO: Inside Jennifer Sheets' Journey to Becoming Interim's Top Exec
- AdventHealth to open its 6th new freestanding ER in Central Florida
- Florida's Lee Health Embraces Cutting-Edge Clinical Research as a Care Option
- HCA's Mercy Hospital gets new CEO
- Hospital system appoints top nurse official
- Major Fla. hospital chain billed surprise emergency room 'surcharges,' lawsuit claims
- Florida agency to begin rejecting licenses for nursing homes without emergency power plans
- An ex-NFL player became a hospital CEO. Feds questioned his qualifications
- Lawnwood Regional Medical Center shows off progress on free-standing ER in Indian River
- Nemours Children's president steps down

### **GEORGIA**

- Georgia hospital to build surgery center

- Rural Health Care Crisis: Nine Georgia Counties have no doctors
- Fighting The Doctor Shortage In Rural Georgia
- ASC included in Atlanta health system's \$231M+ project
- Georgia hospitals uneasy over state's new online transparency rules
- Atlanta hospital plans to build Braselton surgery center

## MISSISSIPPI

- C Spire Health app redefines traditional doctor house call
- C Spire, UMMC teaming together for telehealth
- FMOLHS plans to invest in Mississippi hospital, Lafayette, Baton Rouge

## NORTH CAROLINA

- Doctor suing over Certificate of Need gets first court win
- These Triangle hospitals made IBM's list for best cardiovascular care
- As expected, NC Medicaid managed care won't begin on time
- North Carolina hospital joins Mayo network
- Hale named CEO of Blue Ridge Regional
- Cone Health CEO Emeritus Dennis Barry dies at 80
- North Carolina hospital to end gynecology, obstetrics services
- Hospital Buys Autumn Hall Land For Emergency Department
- Winston-Salem surgeon who wants to offer low-cost services wins round in legal battle
- The Outer Banks Hospital launches partnership with NC Aquarium and Jennette's Pier
- Novant Health Named 2019 College of Healthcare Information Management Executives HealthCare's Most Wired Recipient
- New robot to assist with complex surgeries at CRHS
- Hospital Buys Autumn Hall Land For Emergency Department
- Cone Health launches 'innovation sandbox'
- Cone Health exploring partnership with Randolph Health, CEO says in email
- Doctors opening new local clinic in midst of contract dispute with Gastonia health-care group
- New WakeMed facility to be built in Wendell Falls
- Erlanger CEO Explains Why Murphy Labor And Delivery Is Closing
- North Carolina Healthcare System Buys Land in a Top Region for Medical Investors
- Trustees appoint 2 to lead Cape Fear Valley in CEO's absence
- Duke Regional Hospital appoints Adia K. Ross CMO

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

- [Doctor Is South Carolina's First Recipient of AMA Award](#)
- [Commentary: Patient safety demands that SC nurse anesthetists work under physicians](#)
- [Uber Driver Says S. Carolina Hospital Dumped Patient on Him](#)
- [MUSC, Clemson leverage telehealth network to expand healthcare access in South Carolina](#)
- [MUSC creates pharmaceutical platform to help hospitals save](#)
- [MUSC children's hospital opening delayed again](#)
- [Allendale County Hospital CEO recognized as South Carolina's "Community Star"](#)

## **TENNESSEE**

- [Independent monitor selected to oversee \\$1.5B HCA-Mission deal](#)
- [Nashville FD, medical center testing automated documentation system for ER handoffs](#)
- [Will Tennessee become first state to get Medicaid block grant? 5 things to know](#)
- [Brentwood hospital company mulls going private](#)
- [BCBS accuses Tennessee hospital of using 'suspicious' billing tactics](#)
- [New Chattanooga-based company helps doctors ditch employment in favor of private practice](#)
- [Hospital CEOs talk about forces shaping medical care here](#)
- [Brentwood health care firm taps former HCA exec as CEO](#)
- [Private equity firm sets sights on Quorum Health](#)

## **SOUTH-CENTRAL/SOUTHWEST**

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

### **ARKANSAS**

- [Dr. Stephen Mette Named CEO of UAMS Medical Center](#)
- [Arkansas nursing home abruptly shuts down, scrambles to relocate 21 residents](#)
- [Arkansas Rural Health Partnership Expands across the Arkansas Southern region](#)
- [Arkansas youth treatment center broke federal rules in chemical injections, seclusion](#)

### **ARIZONA**

- [Banner Health acquires Phoenix Orthopaedic Consultants](#)
- [Medicare overpaid Arizona medical center by at least \\$1.2M, OIG says](#)
- [Banner Health's revenue hits \\$7B in first 3 quarters of 2019](#)
- [Banner Health appoints new CEO for Banner – University Medical Center Phoenix](#)
- [Second veteran family plans to sue Phoenix Veterans Administration Hospital](#)
- [More hospitals, states snuff out surgical smoke](#)

- Arizona orthopedic practice acquired by Banner Health
- Town hospitals embrace healthcare technology
- Arizona hospital closes: 4 things to know
- Health care businesses ready to hire displaced St. Luke's workers

## LOUISIANA

- Baton Rouge General seeking a Mid City campus rebound
- Executive Spotlight: Woman's CEO Dr. Barbara Griffith
- Natchitoches Regional Medical Center names Dr. Ronnie Ursin CNO
- FMOLHS plans to invest in Mississippi hospital, Lafayette, Baton Rouge
- Proposed mergers would combine 34 Louisiana hospitals
- Jennings American Legion Hospital Signs Letter of Intent to Merge With Lafayette General Health
- Ochsner, BCBS of Louisiana launch 2020 health innovation challenge
- Willis-Knighton joins partnership to advance pediatric health care in NWLA
- Sale of struggling Louisiana public hospital more likely than lease, sources say
- Lafayette Community Health Care Clinic to reopen in 2020 as Lafayette General Healthcare Clinic

## NEW MEXICO

- Behavioral health groups settle with state of New Mexico
- New Mexico behavioral health providers settle with state for \$10 million
- Anchorum St. Vincent pledges \$27M for community programs, grants
- New Mexico looks for paths to universal health insurance
- Con Alma Health Foundation Awards \$665K In Grants
- Presbyterian Healthcare Services said data stolen in May breach appears to have not been misused

## OKLAHOMA

- State health officials hire Medicaid consultants, sign contract for nearly \$1.5 million
- New Tulsa Hospital Aims To Improve Mental Health Treatment
- More Oklahoma counties are left without maternal care
- Oklahoma health department requests a reduced budget
- Oklahoma Health Department Proposes Cutting Its Budget By \$4.5 Million
- Health care company expects to pay \$66 million to settle whistleblower case involving alleged kickbacks to OKC surgeons

## TEXAS

- Baylor Scott & White to transfer operations of Texas community hospital
- Lab to pay \$26 mil for conspiring with Texas hospitals to induce doctor referrals, bill Medicare, TRICARE



- Texas orthopedic surgeon pays \$300,000 to settle kickback allegations over 'medical directorship' arrangement
- Heart Hospital Of Austin Names New COO
- Texas sues HHS to reverse \$25M in Medicaid repayments
- Texas hospital CEO to county: Pay your medical bills
- Texas cancer center warns 15,000 patients of data breach
- Texas health system closes hospital, lays off 972
- New Texas surprise-billing law may strip protection for some patients
- LHC Group Adds Density in Texas; Highmark Health Turns to Contessa
- New South Dallas Facility Aims to Plug Cracks in Region's Mental Health Care System
- Haskell Memorial Hospital, Hendrick Health System announce alliance
- Harris Health System hires new CEO from Dallas hospital system
- Health care company expects to pay \$66 million to settle whistleblower case involving alleged kickbacks to OKC surgeons
- Texas Children's Hospital CEO Mark Wallace readies for health care upheaval
- Texas Health Resources, Methodist, LHC Group expand partnership
- Replacement Facility For Rusk State Hospital Breaks Ground
- Baylor Scott and White Out as Operator of Carrollton Hospital
- Austin Partnership Provides Health Care For Under-Served Children
- Crossroads rural hospitals hold their breath about financial future
- UT Health East Texas, Premier Health partner on area urgent care clinics
- Tenet shares hit 1-year high
- Organ procurement organization extends EHR-integrated referral software to Texas health systems
- Dallas Social Service Organizations Unite to Improve Health Outcomes in Low-Income Communities

## **NORTHWEST**

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

### **ALASKA**

- New CEO leaves Alaska Psychiatric Institute after less than 4 months
- Alaska Medical Center Stays On Track
- Earthquake-ready: Learning and preparation never stops for local hospitals

### **IDAHO**

- New opening date announced for Idaho Falls Community Hospital
- State's 1% budget cut to hit hospitals, nursing homes
- Evers signs bill expanding telehealth reimbursement
- Bingham Healthcare opens weight loss clinic in Idaho Falls

- Idaho Falls Community Hospital opening next week, and here's a look inside
- Idaho surgery center to reopen with 4 upgraded ORs
- After 50 years, St. Luke's cancer center has a new, 'modern' name: St. Luke's Cancer Institute

## MONTANA

- Report: Health care costs grew faster than income in Montana, nation over past decade
- Montana Supreme Court rules counties not responsible for alleged negligence of hospital in Longsoldier's death
- Bozeman Health to raise starting wage to \$15, won't cost patients
- Kalispell hospital sued over data breach

## OREGON

- Alarmed about safety decline, nurses at McMinnville hospital file for a union
- Fewer Clark County ambulances diverted to Portland ERs
- Oregon hospital's parent company could see private equity buyer
- Health insurance enrollment down 16% in Oregon
- OHSU startup raised \$1.5M for cancer drug platform
- Bad debt could rise at Oregon hospitals in line with national prediction
- Providence appoints experienced philanthropy chief for Oregon

## WASHINGTON

- New rules ahead for mold reporting at Seattle hospitals
- Tri-Cities researcher made \$5.6M from fake drug trials. Now he faces life in prison
- PeaceHealth recognized as one of the Healthiest 100 Workplaces in America
- Lawsuit Filed Over Mold Infections at Seattle Hospital
- Molina Healthcare of Washington distributes \$1M in innovation funding

## WYOMING

- Cheyenne Regional Medical Center wins grant to boost public safety
- Campbell County Memorial Hospital hit with cyber crime
- St. John's Medical Center takes patients 'behind the scenes'
- Wyoming hospital releases patient portal app for bedside assistance
- Wyoming Hospital Launches Epic Systems' Mychart Bedside EHR App
- Jackson hospital braces for fight over property tax bill

## WEST

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

## CALIFORNIA

- City struggled to fix Laguna Honda after patient abuse scandal
- Napa's OLE Health names Shinder as new chief medical officer

- California surgeon sentenced in hospital kickback scheme
- Unions say layoffs averted in restructuring at St. John's hospitals
- Dignity Health shuffles dozens of jobs, avoids some layoffs at 2 California hospitals
- Construction Commences on Healthcare Center in Bakersfield
- Lakewood Regional appoints new COO
- 'How much trouble is the hospital in?': With staff reduction, concern voiced on future of Sierra Nevada Memorial
- California hospital reopens with help from Kaiser, Sutter Health
- Adventist Health's 30-year deal to operate 25-bed California hospital advances
- A core piece of UCSD Health's innovation strategy is pontification: 'You have to be a visionary,' says innovation chief Matthew Jenusaitis
- Uber Health partners with California health plan: 3 things to know
- Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital registered nurses plan to picket Dec. 13
- New healthcare laws coming in 2020
- Exer Urgent Care Opens New Medical Facility In West Hills And Continues Expansion In Southern California
- MarinHealth CFO on capitation practices for a rural patient population
- Adventist Health's 30-year deal to operate 25-bed California hospital advances

## COLORADO

- HealthOne extends telehealth program access to local hospital
- Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence to receive \$1.5M grant
- Colorado hospitals just avoided tens of millions of dollars in federal funding cuts — but it might not last
- UCHealth pays \$1.38 million in revenue sharing from Memorial lease
- Avista Adventist Hospital names Isaac Sendros as CEO
- \$1.5 million grant to help educate Colorado rural nurses
- 8 hospital CEOs claim Colorado has 'lost its focus' on Medicaid patients
- UCHealth shares revenue with city
- UCHealth has paid Colorado Springs more than \$1.38M in revenue-sharing in 2019
- Why the CEO of Presbyterian/St. Luke's keeps a tiny diaper on her desk
- More Colorado teens and children visiting ERs for mental health reasons
- Longtime Axis Health System CEO Bern Heath to retire; successor named

## HAWAII

- After 40 years building from the ground up, Hawaiian Rehab Services owner handing business to daughter
- Hawaii health officials investigate unlicensed care homes

- [Kauai medical center receives more than \\$2.7M from California charity](#)
- [Anna Chiotti named Kona hospital CEO](#)
- [New health center by Queen's to offer medical care in Kahala](#)
- [Phoenix-based Intellimed expands to Hawaii](#)

## NEVADA

- [Las Vegas psychiatric hospital gets a year to fix safety issues](#)
- [Charting The Future Of Health Care In Rural Nevada](#)
- [Intermountain Healthcare gains naming rights to Raiders' practice facility](#)

## UTAH

- [Primary Children's Hospital launches center with 'cutting-edge' genetic technologies](#)
- [Intermountain Launches Pediatric Precision Medicine Center](#)
- [6 things you can learn about innovation from Intermountain Ventures](#)
- [Intermountain brings antibiotic stewardship initiative to urgent care settings](#)
- [Spanish Fork Hospital to open in 2020](#)