

HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - DECEMBER 20, 2019

NATIONAL

- Where the AMA stands on 7 of the year's biggest health care issues
- Why digital health has been such a disappointment, and how to change that
- 106 hospitals, health systems that launched telehealth services in 2019
- 64 hospitals that planned, opened or broke ground on ASCs in 2019
- CMS to Repay Site-Neutral Payments to Hospitals, Appeal Case
- CMS overpaid hospitals \$94M in EHR incentive payments, OIG says
- IT experts urge stronger oversight of patient data in the Wild West of consumer apps
- 13 hospital leaders talk 2020 goals
- Urgent care centers multiply, reaching 9,200+ in 2019
- Healthcare's digital transformation: 5 predictions for 2020
- House passes bill funding HIT-enabled medical research
- 3 must-haves to hit telehealth's tipping point
- Total U.S. healthcare costs hit \$3.6 trillion in 2018
- Hospital group cheers CMS move to pay back outpatient payment cuts
- Judge refuses to strike down 2020 site-neutral plan — but chides CMS

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- How Connecticut reached a \$1.8 billion hospital settlement
- Advocates want to recycle CT's wasted prescription drugs. The state says it's already doing that.
- Starling Physicians Appoints New Chief Executive Officer
- How they came to a \$1.8 billion hospital settlement
- CT hospital settlement gains unanimous approval
- Error rate rises 7% at Connecticut hospitals

MAINE

- Maine Med's new \$8 million helipad saves time – and likely lives
- Regulators focus on Lewiston's Marshwood nursing home as problems mount

- [Health centers in Cumberland, Piscataquis counties get \\$2.1M](#)
- [Lewiston home care service to deploy telehealth systems with \\$254K grant](#)
- [Stonington man awarded \\$850,000 in medical negligence suit](#)
- [Rural Hospitals: The Challenges Maine's Hospitals Face in Delivering Care to Rural Communities](#)

MASSACHUSETTS

- [Hospital Eyes Land in Edgartown for New Nursing Home](#)
- [Partners HealthCare launches five-year \\$100M digital health initiative](#)
- [Massachusetts hospital settles false billing case](#)
- [Boston Heart settles kickback allegations with \\$26.7M payment](#)
- [Inside A Boston OR, Surgery Shows Hospital's Steps To Reduce Its Carbon Footprint](#)
- [Hospital-Level Care in Your Home? It Could Be the Future](#)
- [Southcoast Health announces new Board Chair, annual award winners](#)
- [New president tapped for Nantucket Cottage Hospital](#)
- [Roberta Herman, MD to become new Joslin Diabetes Center President and CEO](#)

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- [Hospital CEO tapped as N.H. health commissioner](#)
- [New medical co-op aimed at saving health care costs](#)
- [New Hampshire has received millions in federal funding to tackle the opioid crisis. What has it accomplished?](#)
- [Dover Doorway makes impact on opioid crisis, but Seacoast needs more](#)
- [Judge dismisses Littleton hospital's suit over walk-in clinic](#)

NEW YORK

- [NYU Langone opens biotech incubator with 22 industry members](#)
- [River Hospital and Upstate Medical University to pursue clinical affiliation](#)
- [Schedule work to start new \\$ 305 million Stony Brook Southampton Hospitals](#)
- [NYU Langone Health opens biotech incubator in Manhattan](#)
- [Brooklyn nursing home will serve patients on site of closed St. Mary's Hospital](#)
- [VA Buffalo readies for \\$180 million in projects through 2025](#)
- [New York hospital to end lung program after Catholic Health layoff announcement](#)
- [Kaleida responding to union's job cut claims](#)

RHODE ISLAND

- Despite financial turmoil, Providence leaders expect Lifespan to pay up
- Horowitz to retire after 35 years of leading Saint Elizabeth Community
- The Miriam Hospital wins national honor

VERMONT

- Vermont hospital extends OR closure into 2020 as sickening smell remains unsolved
- SVMC earns 'A' rating for safety from Leapfrog
- Vermont's 'all-payer' model aims for patient accountability
- Vermont hospital extends operating room closure for odors

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELAWARE

- 32 Delaware organizations will share \$2 million in effort to improve health
- ChristianaCare, Medtronic join on new project to target technologies, therapies
- ChristianaCare community grants support variety of organizations
- Delaware attorney general loses appeal bid in opioid lawsuit

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- University sues majority GW Hospital owner for breaking funding agreement
- Mental Health Help Expanding at D.C. Schools
- What A School Nurse Shortage Means For D.C.-Area Schools
- D.C. Council seeks to lower maternal mortality rate in District

MARYLAND

- LifeBridge Health's stroke software initiative grew intervention services by 400%
- U of Maryland Medical System board routinely lobbied execs to promote business interests, probe finds
- U. of Maryland medical system report shows how board members pushed for deals to benefit their businesses
- Atlantic General among top-performing hospitals
- LifeBridge Health gives Bon Secours Hospital a new name
- Luminis Health CEO Victoria Bayless Names Sherry Perkins President of Anne Arundel Medical Center
- D.C. Council aims for more accessible prenatal care

NEW JERSEY

- Medical Care at NJ Hospital Disrupted by Ransomware Attack

- Hackensack Meridian paid ransom for cyberattack that shut down computer network
- Regional health care provider rebrands and expands in New Jersey
- New Jersey Hospital to Use Telehealth to Improve Pre-Op, Post-Op Care
- Saint Peter's signs LOI to join with RWJBarnabas Health
- Shore Medical Center announces partnership with Penn Cancer Network
- Saint Peter's University Hospital adds telehealth services to surgery recovery program

PENNSYLVANIA

- Tower Health clashes with nurses as it takes over St. Christopher's
- Amid Ellwood City Hospital closure, UPMC holding hiring event
- Tower Health and Drexel University Finalize Acquisition of St. Christopher's Hospital for Children
- Nurses at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children fight for contract changes
- More help being offered to Ellwood City Medical Center workers
- New St. Luke's Hospital officially open
- Capital Health opens new pulmonary rehabilitation program for residents of Bucks, Mercer counties
- Philadelphia hospital sells for \$50M
- Behavioral health startup NeuroFlow raises \$7.5M
- Allegheny Health Network Unveils New McCandless Neighborhood Hospital
- Failure to pay doctors' malpractice insurance lands Hahnemann, St. Chris owner in bankruptcy trouble
- Pennsylvania hospitals made \$136.1B impact in FY2018
- Former Penn Health System CEO lands a new job

VIRGINIA

- Virginia could see its biggest-ever jump in spending on mental health treatment
- Chesterfield-based home healthcare provider acquires South Boston company
- Virginia health care facilities see quality scores improve

WEST VIRGINIA

- Camden Clark Medical Center boots up minimally invasive spine operating robot
- Camden Clark Medical Center announces ENT specialty service
- From surprise billing to nursing education, W.Va. Hospital Association outlines 2020 legislative priorities
- Telehealth in West Virginia: Many doors still left to open
- West Virginia University Researchers Study Effects of New Opioid Law
- West Virginia health system now live on Meditech EHR

- [Mountain Health wins naming rights to West Virginia arena](#)

CENTRAL

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

IOWA

- [Rural Iowa's dwindling options for maternal care](#)
- [Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation equips 143 more schools](#)
- [Optimae LifeServices to expand services to Marshalltown](#)
- [U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst asks DOJ for updates on investigation into Iowa facilities after 'disturbing reports'](#)

KANSAS

- [First patients treated in robotic arrhythmia treatment at Kansas hospital](#)
- [Feds say failures at Kansas mental health hospital could delay patient recovery](#)
- [Horton Hospital sold to Atchison healthcare organization at auction](#)

MINNESOTA

- [Mayo's approach to patient data management, security and digital health: Key thoughts from CIO Cris Ross](#)
- [HealthPartners to close home care unit — third round of layoffs in six weeks](#)
- [Bright Health raises additional \\$635 million for expansion](#)
- [BCBS of Minnesota whistleblower warns of 200K 'critical' vulnerabilities](#)
- [Grant helps Essentia fight opioid use disorder in Virginia and Ely](#)
- [Does Abu Dhabi hospital serve Mayo's mission, or its bottom line?](#)
- [Staffing changes won't cut services at Hutchinson Health](#)
- [Prime Therapeutics welcomes Christine Bent as new Chief Operating Officer](#)
- [VC-Funded Payer Bright Health Secures \\$635M in Series D Round](#)

MISSOURI

- [Ascension's revenue climbs 5% as it narrows loss](#)
- [Missouri reimagines rural health care](#)
- [Policy recommendations look to address rural health care problems](#)
- [BJC HealthCare integrates Sectra imaging software with Epic EHR](#)
- [Stolen laptop potentially exposes 114,000 Missouri hospital patients](#)
- [Stolen Truman Medical Center laptop holds 114,400 patients' health data](#)
- [BJC outsources some IT positions, cutting 200 jobs](#)

- Clarkson Eyecare parent is acquired

NEBRASKA

- CHI Health Saint Francis' Cancer Center starts new clinical trial
- Nebraska Health System Completes Epic Systems EHR Implementation
- Unapproved cell-based therapy causes serious illness in Nebraska
- Great Plains Health first in Nebraska to receive Leapfrog Top Hospital Award

NORTH DAKOTA

- Altru Health System scales back plans for its new Grand Forks hospital
- HHS awards nearly \$1.4 million for health services

SOUTH DAKOTA

- Here are five building projects that sparked Avera Health's rise
- Problems plague South Dakota hospital that churned through 6 CEOs in 3 years

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- Community operators, employees part of 'abhorrent cover-up' of alleged \$700,000 theft from resident, lawsuit claims
- Eight Illinois hospitals named among best in nation. You might be surprised who didn't make the cut.
- Shawnee Health nurses honored for excellence
- Our View: Thumbs up to HSHS St. John's Hospital renovation plan
- Quorum may sell shuttered MetroSouth hospital to consulting firm for \$1
- North Side hospital called 'house of horrors' in lawsuit over treatment of DCFS children
- Chicago hospital CEO credited with helping save stroke patient

INDIANA

- Facing Healthcare Staffing Shortages in Rural Indiana
- Physician wins award for compassionate work with trauma patients
- North Point Orthopaedics breaks ground on \$10 million medical office that quadruples its space
- Indiana orthopedics group to open \$10M MOB, quadrupling in size
- IU Health Names VP & Chief Pharmacy Officer
- IU surgery center to break ground
- Aspire Indiana Health completes \$1.35M renovation

- Justice Department Awards Funding for Opioid Crisis
- Precision Health Grand Challenge Leads to Discovery
- VA Announces Plans for New Veterans Clinic in Terre Haute
- Indiana Leads Charge for HIE Consolidation

KENTUCKY

- Ky. Gov. Beshear signs executive order to end work requirement for health care
- St. Claire employees elected as president and secretary to Kentucky Rural Health Association
- U of L Health – Jewish Hospital recruits a new leader for its organ transplant program
- Kentucky hospital supply manager charged with stealing supplies, selling them online
- Humana CEO, other execs offload \$38M in company shares
- Humana announces hospice pharmacy acquisition
- Health Foundation Advisory Council gains 4 new members
- Health Kentucky | Nation's first state cancer registry

MICHIGAN

- Medical startup receives FDA clearance
- Ciena Healthcare opens new \$16.5 million nursing facility in Westland
- McLaren Central Michigan receives gold seal for hospital accreditation
- BCBS of Michigan cuts new value payment deal with 7 major systems
- Beaumont, UHS break ground on new mental health hospital
- Sparrow Health System given OK to build facility in Portland
- DCHS named a top rural hospital in Michigan
- Beaumont, UHS Break Ground on Mental Health Hospital in Michigan
- 'Curious' hospital employee improperly accessed thousands of medical records
- DMC CEO to retire, replaced by downtown hospital CEO
- Ascension Borgess plans new cancer center in WMU business park

OHIO

- How Summa Health kindled a cultural turnaround
- Cincinnati hospital gets top-tier maternity ranking
- Dayton Children's Hospital sees uptick in patients
- Ohio psychiatric hospital CEO departs as state threatens to revoke hospital's license
- New bill called Esther's Law would allow surveillance cameras in nursing home resident rooms

- Scholarships for Butler Tech EMT students underline need for more life-savers
- Cincinnati doctors rank among highest compensated in U.S.
- UPMC employees, South Toledo community voice concerns over hospital's future
- Ohio bill banning mandatory nurse overtime at hospitals passes House
- How this Cleveland Clinic hospital is accommodating patients with autism
- Mercy Health announces partnership with Nationwide Children's Hospital

WISCONSIN

- Monroe Clinic names new president
- Boldt gives \$1 million to Children's Wisconsin to help train therapists for children
- SSM Health moves forward with new clinic project
- SSM Health details proposed \$75 million, 5-story clinic on Fish Hatchery Road
- Gundersen, Marshfield Clinic to remain independent
- Barnes & Noble in Greenfield will close; Ascension Wisconsin micro-hospital to move in
- UW Hospital Nurses Announce Union
- See construction progress on ProHealth Care's \$55 million Mukwonago hospital project

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- American Family Care names new CIO
- USA Health neurologist first in the state to perform new aneurysm procedure
- Encompass Health names new chief HR officer

FLORIDA

- Mayo Clinic, Ascension among healthcare giants investing in Northeast Florida
- Florida VA hospital employees, supply companies indicted in kickback scheme
- First look: See inside this \$85M AdventHealth expansion
- 21st Century Oncology acquired by Australia-based GenesisCare
- Krounda Medical fined \$85K for failing to give patient access to EHR data
- Florida Doctor Groups Push Back Against Giving Advanced Nurses Their Independence
- Florida medical group to pay \$85K for not providing medical records to patient
- UF Health to Acquire Central Florida Health's Hospitals
- Gulf Coast Medical Center gets top hospital honor

- AdventHealth campus plans 2nd expansion this year
- Tampa Lawmaker Files Legislation To Reform Prescription Drug Industry In Florida
- Moffitt Cancer Center shakeup: CEO and others resign over China ties
- Ascension recognized for cardiovascular care
- West Volusia Hospital Authority will be audited
- Orlando Health scoops up more land near downtown campus
- Living Like a Leader: A day with Cleveland Clinic Florida CEO Dr. Wael Barsoum
- FHA hospitals provided \$4.1 billion in community benefits last year

GEORGIA

- State of Emergency declaration will ease burden at Grady Hospital
- Report Raises Concerns About Georgia Hospital Tax Credit
- Georgia officials: Neediest hospitals not guaranteed most funds under tax law
- State regulators approve hospital transparency rules
- Study: Selby General Hospital best for orthopedic surgery
- Georgia finalizes hospital financial disclosure requirement
- Georgia hospitals get new transparency rules
- Grady to accept certain trauma patients as hospital recovers from burst pipe

MISSISSIPPI

- Nurse Practitioners filling the state's gap in health care
- Hospital unveils marker
- Medicaid Expansion 'On the Table,' Says Incoming Lt. Gov. Hosemann

NORTH CAROLINA

- UNC Health Care integrates CarePort Health platform for data-driven care coordination
- Duke Clinical Research Institute lands \$100M+ federal contract
- North Carolina hospital misses payroll
- Atrium, Novant compete in public hearing on 'desperate need' for more hospital beds
- 5 North Carolina hospitals rank among best in the country, watchdog group says
- Cone Hospital To Become More User Friendly
- Women's Hospital team practices moving 'patients' ahead of new facility opening in February
- Mission patient placed call that caused lockdown
- UNC Rex Healthcare cracks 'Top Hospitals' list - and tech is a driver

- Two Novant facilities in the Triad named 'Top Hospitals'
- Atrium to post \$1B profit, says it keeps small-town hospitals afloat, changes Cone Health ties
- Rural-urban divide continues to widen, report finds

SOUTH CAROLINA

- Grand Strand Health expands behavioral services
- South Carolina Gets Green Light To Impose Medicaid Work Requirements
- CMS approves South Carolina's Medicaid work requirements
- South Carolina medical center cuts 12 positions
- South Carolina hospital alerts 2,550 patients of data breach

TENNESSEE

- Nashville heart surgeon makes history in midtown hospital
- Council approves \$16M in emergency funds for Nashville General Hospital
- St. Jude recruits doc from top children's hospital to lead clinical trials research
- Sen. Chuck Grassley wants a hospital system that sued poor patients to explain itself
- Tenet sells two Tennessee hospitals to Methodist Le Bonheur
- Nashville's Charity ER Has Been Suing More Patients Than Anywhere Else In Town
- CHS' chief financial officer stepping down
- Report: Vanderbilt, VUMC have \$11.9B economic impact on state
- Nashville General negotiates \$35M settlement with Momenta Pharmaceuticals
- Nashville executive lands head job at CMS innovation center
- 16 East Tenn. healthcare professionals disciplined
- State health department names CMO
- Admissions suspended at West Tennessee assisted living home

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

- A close look at the opioid issue
- UAMS Doctor Named to National Committee
- Community Clinic appoints new CEO

ARIZONA

- AI-powered virtual clinics open in Arizona supermarkets
- Banner Health names CEOs to oversee 5 Valley hospitals
- Abrazo West Campus expands hospital capacity to 200 beds
- Arizona hospitals have \$30 billion economic impact
- Arizona hospitals have far-reaching effect on state's economy, report says

LOUISIANA

- LHC Group and Ochsner Health System announce acquisition expanding partnership
- LHC Group, Ochsner to expand joint partnership to acquire five Louisiana-based home health locations
- Ochsner becomes 1st provider partner of telemedicine startup Hims & Hers
- New Orleans health department's access to data is limited following cyberattack
- Our Lady of Lourdes opens free-standing emergency room in Scott

NEW MEXICO

- New Mexico awarded \$3.5M to help fight opioid crisis
- Are New Mexico's hospitals shortchanging community health?
- Medical insurance bypasses Native Americans in New Mexico
- Navajo Nation to Create Its Own Managed Health Care Entity
- UNM team aims to improve migrants' health care
- Percentage of New Mexicans without health insurance less than U.S. average

OKLAHOMA

- Pharmacists say monitoring has curtailed opioid epidemic
- New executive director appointed to Oklahoma City-County Health Department
- Western Oklahoma receives millions to fight opioid crisis
- OU Children's Hospital receives baby-friendly designation
- Oklahoma appeals judge's \$465 million order in opioid case

TEXAS

- Texas ortho surgeon to pay \$300K to settle kickback allegations
- Tenet Healthcare Soars 117.1% YTD: Will Growth Continue?
- Memorial Hermann, Cigna to end contract
- Dallas-based Tenet Healthcare sells two Memphis area hospitals for \$350 million
- Presbyterian Hospital Overcharges Medicare Over \$10 Million, According to Audit

- Tenet Sells 2 TN Hospitals in Latest Healthcare Acquisition Deal
- Texas Health Presbyterian incorrectly billed Medicare more than \$10 million, audit finds
- Christus Texas hospital gets new president
- Texas Health to Increase Graduate Medical Education Commitments
- Cigna to end contract with Memorial Hermann; 178,000 customers affected
- Here's how Texas Health Frisco put stakeholder input into action
- Christus forms timeline for St. Mary demolition

NORTHWEST

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

ALASKA

- Anchorage hospital honored with prestigious distinction
- Alaska one of three most improved states in America's Health Rankings 2019 report
- Dozens of patients at Alaska's only state-run psychiatric hospital have been arrested this year for assaults inside the facility. Is there a better way for authorities to react?
- Anchorage's Alaska Native Medical Center honored with prestigious distinction
- A breakdown of health care funding in Dunleavy's budget proposal

IDAHO

- A Look At Dental Health In Rural Idaho
- Family Health Services begins construction on new Jerome facility

MONTANA

- Kalispell Regional names new chief physician
- The danger of distance: Here's how a lack of EMS is hurting rural Montana residents

OREGON

- PhRMA sues Oregon over drug-pricing transparency laws
- 'Largest capital investment' in rural health care debuts in Southern Oregon
- Oregon State Hospital halts civil admissions
- Health system, nonprofit launch new approach to tracking needs of vulnerable clients
- Health Share contractor goes into receivership, will cease operations
- 5 Oregon universities grease the wheels for easier research collaborations

WASHINGTON

- Federal government agrees to pay back OMC for 2019 Medicare claims
- Washington hospital CEO likens role to a 'marathon that doesn't have an ending'
- PeaceHealth Northwest network gets new CFO
- CytoDyn signs deal to commercialize HIV drug

WYOMING

- Wyoming hospital alerts nearly 18,000 patients of data breach
- Wyoming requests Medicaid pay for all air ambulance flights
- Wyoming hospitals hit by cyberattacks almost daily, state hospital association says
- Data breach may have compromised patient info
- Wyoming Hospital Boosts Security, Issues Notifications After Breach
- Campbell County Health Announces New CEO

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- What to expect as Kaiser's 4,000 behavioral health workers launch 5-day strike statewide
- Feds back lawsuit accusing Sutter Health of bilking Medicare for higher payments
- Gregory Adams Named Kaiser Permanente CEO
- UCSF and Washington Hospital look at Fremont for a new health center

COLORADO

- Loveland's McKee Medical Center adds inpatient psychiatric unit for seniors
- Colorado report on rising prescription drug costs, possible fixes released
- East Morgan County Hospital updates community
- Colorado HIEs pool data-sharing services, expand reach to millions of patients
- DaVita Kidney Care Names New Chief Medical Officer
- Memorial Regional Health announces potential letter of intent with SCL Health amid financial turmoil
- Rural Colorado hospital looks to SCL Health for financial stability
- Health Care: Colorado Plains Medical Center's Chest Pain Center accredited by American College of Cardiology
- HighPoint Resources supports Children's Hospital Colorado with donation of custom handicap accessible van

HAWAII

- Ransomware Attacks Disrupt Patient Care at Hawaii, NJ Hospitals

- [\\$1.4M for Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital CT scan room](#)
- [Cancer radiation treatment halted after ransomware attack at Hawaii center](#)
- [Big boost for West Hawaii paramedicine program](#)

NEVADA

- [The Ladder: Mark Pandori new head of state health lab](#)
- [Saint Mary's CFO Alan Smith tapped for COO role](#)
- [Optum's strategy in Las Vegas reveals how it plans to rapidly expand](#)
- [Nevada Health to begin second phase in March](#)
- [How much do businesses providing health care help Nevada's rural economies?](#)