

HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS - JANUARY 10, 2020

NATIONAL

- Hospitals Exploring Short-Term Housing For Homeless Patients To Free Up Beds
- VA drops its star ratings system for hospitals
- TEVA Agrees to Pay \$54 Million to Settle McEldrew Young False Claims Act Qui Tam Whistleblower Lawsuit
- 43% of older patients seek out physician ratings
- CMS releases 2021 Medicare Advantage risk adjustment payment changes
- Brad Smith to head CMS innovation center
- Study: Bundled payments lowered costs for hip, knee replacements, but not for other conditions
- Pharmacies: Prescribers Bear Responsibility In Opioid Crisis
- 15 things to know about Amazon's healthcare strategy heading into 2020
- 'No guarantee of payment': Healthcare cost-sharing ministries face growing scrutiny
- 4 new surprise medical billing laws to know
- Beyond the ACA: Healthcare legal fights to watch in 2020
- Medical paperwork costs \$812B per year in U.S.
- CMS Grants to Help States Use Telehealth, mHealth for Pregnant Moms, Kids
- The Sneaky Genius of Facebook's New Preventative Health Tool
- CMS releases MIPS results for 2018: 5 things to know
- Sen. Grassley renews drug-pricing battle

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- Denver company acquires one of CT's fastest-growing med-tech firms
- 6 Connecticut nursing homes fined \$30K+ by state
- Connecticut lawmakers pass settlement with state hospitals
- Raising hospital taxes not enough for CT to survive next recession
- Report: CT ranks 10th in healthcare affordability
- Newest Stats On Connecticut Behavioral Health

MAINE

- Maine Voices: Looming doctor shortage demands action

- After more than 20 years at the helm, Bar Harbor hospital's CEO to retire at end of year
- 2 Maine health systems will allow physicians to not participate in 'death with dignity' programs
- Brunswick hospital to participate in opioid care model
- Mills, Democrats unveil health care bill as lawmakers return
- Art Blank to retire as CEO of Maine hospital
- Maine Hospitals Are Tasked With Figuring Out How To Implement The State's Death With Dignity Law
- Federal grant will help pregnant women in Maine who have opioid use disorder
- Brunswick hospital to participate in opioid care model
- Bangor considers removing hospitals' exemption from city's polystyrene ban

MASSACHUSETTS

- The Massachusetts Medical Society declares 'health care is a basic human right'
- Trinity Health Of New England expands clinically integrated network of care
- Two Boston Health Systems Enter the Growing Direct-to-Consumer Gene Sequencing Market by Opening Preventative Genomics Clinics, but Can Patients Afford the Service?
- Newton-Wellesley Hospital plans \$58M expansion, renovation
- Trinity Health of New England expands CIN
- How UMass Memorial cut executive payroll in half
- Dr. Assaad Sayah is the new CEO of Cambridge Health Alliance

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Catholic Medical Center lands \$15M donation for new building
- The 2 Largest Health Care Providers File for Merger
- New Hampshire's 2 largest health care providers file for merger
- Frisbie's HCA hospital merger plan unveils \$20M foundation
- Report Details Widespread Use of Restraint Against Children In State Care
- With New State Funding in Place, Hospitals Add Mental Health Beds
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock and GraniteOne seek AG's approval

NEW YORK

- Nursing homes in New York grapple with Medicaid reimbursement reduction
- Catholic Health continues to build executive team
- New York hospital rankings: Why Empire State has worst quality, safety ratings in U.S.
- Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie has new president

- New York asked to approve sale of four nursing homes following bankruptcy filing
- Catholic Health Services plans \$525M expansion
- Kaleida Health wants to sell part of DeGraff Memorial to keep it afloat
- U at Buffalo launches EHR training program for medical students
- Meeting Monday Called By Mt Vernon Hospital Supporters
- Startup raises \$6.2M to give patients a lift
- Northern Westchester Hospital names new chief nursing officer
- Text reminders prompt fewer missed appointments at NYC Health + Hospitals

RHODE ISLAND

- Outgoing BHDDH director Rebecca Boss reflects on accomplishments, challenges
- New clinical study to test retinal screening processes for early detection of Alzheimer's disease
- St. Anthony's, Morton Plant launch \$5 million Alzheimer's study
- RIDOH mandates masks for unvaccinated health workers
- Rhode Island Hospital Tests mHealth Wearable to Track Eating Habits

VERMONT

- State settles with residential care home for \$120K over consumer protection violations
- Vermont psych hospital to close or be sold due to financial troubles
- Community Health Centers of Burlington announce national search for CEO
- Shortage of primary care doctors threatens Vt. health care reforms
- Fay Homan: Lack of primary care providers a looming crisis

MID-ATLANTIC/EAST

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

DELAWARE

- Nanticoke Health Services merges with Peninsula Regional
- Delaware, Maryland health systems merge
- ChristianaCare acquires Union Hospital in Elkton
- Mergers help save smaller hospitals in and near Delaware
- ChristianaCare makes its biggest expansion outside of Delaware

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- Advantia Health nabbed a \$45M investment to accelerate its expansion
- Vital signs: Checking in on DC's maternal health care crisis

- Participants in Ardent Health Services DC plan file ERISA suit

MARYLAND

- Harbor Hospital gets \$500,000 grant to connect bike, pedestrian paths in Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City
- UM Shore Regional Health purchases land to build new medical campus in Cambridge
- Delaware, Maryland health systems merge
- Union Hospital completes merger with ChristianaCare, changes name
- Suburban Hospital to open new building on March 2
- Former United Way exec with ties to Pugh takes on new role at UMMS
- Sinai Hospital president to step down, launch telemedicine startup
- LifeBridge Health Announces New President for Sinai Hospital of Baltimore

NEW JERSEY

- RWJBarnabas appoints behavioral health and addictions service line SVP
- RWJBarnabas Health taps Dr. Frank Ghinassi to lead behavioral health and addictions service line
- Prime Healthcare withdraws bid to buy Bayonne Medical Center

PENNSYLVANIA

- Tower Health adds 110 Drexel Medicine clinicians, support staff
- Philadelphia Hospital Bankruptcy Puts Doctors' Medical Licenses at Risk
- Retiring CEO John Morahan has shepherded St. Joseph through many changes
- Philadelphia hospital bankruptcy leaves 1,000 physicians scrambling
- State ordered to turn over nursing home chain's ownership records
- Report: Geisinger placed premature infants in 'immediate jeopardy'
- Jefferson said it would acquire Einstein Healthcare over a year ago. Why is it still pending?
- Philadelphia health tech firm raises \$1.75M, plans to double headcount
- Geisinger exec: How to make sure innovation is actually innovative
- Philadelphia health clinic pays \$1.65 million to settle fraud allegations
- Genesis HealthCare Centers recognized for improving long term care
- CBS21 News continues searching for answers as private health care workers remain unpaid
- Butler Health center coming to Ellwood City area
- Why a Philadelphia landlord says offering telehealth to tenants is a 'no-brainer'
- Pennsylvania hospital patients claim collector seeks bills they never received
- Holy Redeemer opens first Philadelphia outpatient care center, eyes further expansion

VIRGINIA

- CHS names new CFO, completes sale of 3 Virginia Hospitals
- Virginia says it closely monitors Ballad, but reports are not available to the public
- Newport News medical device company appoints new CFO
- Virginia Hospital Center is Now Operating As a Trauma Center
- Reston's SOC Telemed names new Chief Medical Officer
- Sentara to pay \$2.2M settlement for potential violations of patients' privacy rights
- Advantia gains \$45M for new women's health practice, more M&A

WEST VIRGINIA

- WVU Medicine Reynolds Memorial Hospital to offer outpatient psychiatry services
- West Virginia attorney general introduces law to ban healthcare restrictions

CENTRAL

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

IOWA

- U of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics CEO: 'Everything in healthcare doesn't need to be done by a hospital CEO'
- UnityPoint leads funding for medical transportation platform
- Denison, Iowa hospital settles wrongful-death lawsuit for \$3.5 million
- Iowa medical school first to require coursework on mental healthcare
- Auditor decries 'bad data' on Iowa Medicaid home health care
- Iowa auditor slams state Medicaid program for "flawed" data
- Former Iowa medical center director sues, claims hospital permitted gender discrimination

KANSAS

- Best and worst south-central Kansas nursing homes: List reveals those cited for abuse
- KU Health announces new proton therapy center location
- Rural Kansas struggles to attract psychiatrists
- Horton hospital bankruptcy continues
- New Kansas proposal breaks impasse on expanding Medicaid
- Gov. Laura Kelly, Sen. Jim Denning announce bipartisan Medicaid expansion deal
- Prime Healthcare fills regional CEO's seat after 7-month vacancy

MINNESOTA

- There's a 25% pay gap in medicine. Here's how Mayo almost closed it.

- Minnesota hospital warns nearly 50,000 patients of data breach
- Medical Info of Roughly 50K Exposed in Minnesota Hospital Breach
- Mayo Clinic embarks on project to create genomic database
- Lifesprk Partnership Helps North Memorial Lower Its Re-Hospitalization Rate by 47%
- Report: We're struggling to pay for health care
- Rural western Minnesota hospitals looking to improve mental health care services
- Avera Marshall Medical Center buys Minnesota hospital
- Mayo Clinic, Sleep Number form \$10M collab to study link between sleep, heart health

MISSOURI

- Payroll delayed for St. Alexius Hospital employees following bankruptcy filing
- Mercy Springfield Communities names new health CEO
- Sports medicine group splits, joins competing hospitals
- Delayed hospital sales tax discussed in city council
- Siteman Cancer Center to open Metro East facility next week
- Missouri hospital ordered to stop performing surgery
- Health Forward Foundation Names Kansas City Native Qiana Thomason As Its New Leader
- Boone Hospital president to retire at year's end
- CFO David Prather retires from Missouri health system
- Craig McCoy is the new president of Mercy Springfield Communities

NEBRASKA

- Nebraska hospital relocating surgery center as part of \$6M project
- Pioneer Heart docs no longer able to do procedures at heart hospital
- How Nebraska Medicine Boosted Revenue Cycle Efficiency
- UNMC creates new division for Allergy and Immunology

NORTH DAKOTA

- Schools calling for health help
- EDA awards BSC Health Sciences with \$830,000 grant

SOUTH DAKOTA

- Sanford Health accused of patent infringement over giant inflatable heart
- South Dakota health system plans to open telehealth education center

- [South Dakota Lawmakers Eye Telehealth for Emergency Psych Consults](#)
- [USD Sanford School of Medicine Dean Announces Retirement](#)
- [New Sioux Falls VA director 'focused on patient care'](#)

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- [New Owner Is Selected After \\$146 Million Nursing Home Collapse](#)
- [Chicago Lakeshore Hospital plans to move patients from facility in January](#)
- [Advocate Health Care implements AI tech to detect stroke more quickly](#)
- [Molina expands Illinois footprint with \\$50M acquisition](#)
- [U of I hospital plans \\$191 million outpatient center](#)
- [Midwest Express Clinics Expands in Chicago](#)
- [Lawsuit: Doctor Fired After Blowing Whistle on Medicare Fraud, Other Violations](#)

INDIANA

- [Good Samaritan names CNO](#)
- [Community Health Network accused of filing false Medicare claims](#)
- [Indiana Health Facility Wraps Revamp](#)
- [Health care at forefront of Indiana's upcoming legislative session](#)
- [Hospitals set own policy on flu shots](#)
- [Shekhar Leaving IU Med School for Pitt](#)
- [Midwest Express Clinics Expands in Chicago](#)
- [Reid Health Opens Relocated Outpatient Services](#)

KENTUCKY

- [Molina Healthcare Pursues Passport's West End Site Along With State Contract](#)
- [New Inspector General named at KY Cabinet for Health and Family Services](#)
- [Baptist Health Louisville Holds Nursing Expo Amid Nationwide Shortage](#)
- [Nashville's HCA Healthcare completes deal to buy Galen College of Nursing in Louisville](#)
- [Methodist Hospital in Henderson Launches Home Visiting Program](#)
- [Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital names new COO](#)
- [Passport Health Plan restarting stalled west Louisville health campus](#)
- [Humana sets membership expectations ahead of investor meetings](#)

- Publicly traded company moves HQ out of Louisville area

MICHIGAN

- Summa, Beaumont Health enter agreement over Akron hospital system
- McLaren Greater Lansing purchases majority stake in 2 ASCs
- Hospital creates SVP of operations role
- Jose Kottoor is Lake Huron Medical Center's new CEO
- Michigan Medicine AI boosts accuracy, precision of brain tumor diagnosis
- New Lake Huron Medical Center CEO brings more than 20 years of experience to role
- ProMedica Coldwater Regional Hospital president to retire
- Michigan Republican pushes to deregulate health care. Some hospitals call foul.
- Top MI Health Information Exchange Networks Complete Integration
- State health department distributes \$17.5 million to help Michigan's opioid epidemic
- 'Remote' pharmacies bill OK'd by Michigan Legislature

OHIO

- Summa, Beaumont Health enter agreement over Akron hospital system
- Cincinnati Shriners Hospital takes next steps in relocation to Dayton
- Cincinnati hospital finalizes plan to close
- MetroHealth Adding Telehealth to Discount Drug Retail Health Clinics
- Cleveland Clinic names first chief research information officer
- Mercy Health Hospital investigating patient data breach
- Pure Healthcare unveils new facility in Centerville
- Developer sets timeline for \$12M senior living facility near Dayton
- Cleveland Clinic's Hillcrest and Fairview hospitals earn new stroke center designation
- Adena Health System: 2019 delivers achievements, expands advancement of partnerships for close-to-home care
- Judge won't compel health system to fund Husel's defense
- Cleveland Clinic names first chief research information officer
- Former nurses sue Mount Carmel, defend physician charged with murder

WISCONSIN

- Fond Du Lac Hospital Settles \$10M Federal Lawsuit
- Study: WI hospitals & health systems critical for state, local economies
- Agnesian HealthCare in Fond du Lac to pay \$10 million to settle whistleblower case

- See construction of Advocate Aurora's \$228M medical center near Foxconn project
- Addressing a shortage of physicians in rural Wisconsin
- Plans move forward for \$35 million Ladysmith hospital
- Aurora Health Care reflects on its 2019 commitment in Manitowoc County
- Bill would increase access to alternative health care

SOUTH/SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- Rural health care a priority in 2020 Ala. legislative session
- Brookwood Baptist Health System names new chief strategy officer
- Health clinic to take space in Homewood

FLORIDA

- South Florida hospital develops novel approach to coronary bypass surgery
- Citrus Memorial Hospital gets new CEO
- Here are 3 health care trends to watch in Orlando this year
- Tampa General Hospital sets new record with nearly 600 organ transplants in 2019
- Palmetto Bay hospital zoning battle in court
- Here's how many people AdventHealth will hire when this \$13M project is completed
- AdventHealth hospital names new CEO
- Bay hospital ended 2019 with more beds, workers as planned
- Golisano Children's Hospital was gifted \$3 million for new pediatric eye institute
- Orlando Health acquires local orthopedic firm, to build \$250 million downtown hospital
- Florida community hospital CEO Ginger Carroll leaving for new job
- Florida faces \$70.4 million drop in Medicaid money for hospitals
- AdventHealth taps Justin Birmele to helm Winter Park hospital
- Tampa General to deploy new platform for mobile scheduling, provider matching

GEORGIA

- CTCA hospital in Newnan names new president
- Doctor at Rush performs Mississippi's first spine surgery with patient specific spinal implant
- Piedmont joint venture acquires 9 urgent care centers
- Baptist Health executive named to innovation C-suite job at Augusta University Health

- Piedmont Quitting Georgia Hospital Association
- Georgia Hospital Association disputes writer's claims
- CTCA hospital in Newnan names new president
- Christ Community acquires Belz shopping center for expansion, revitalization effort
- 200,000 Georgia medical center patients affected by data breach may file class-actions
- Reducing drug costs is goal of Georgia proposal to rein in pharmacy benefit managers
- Georgia high court stalls Augusta University Health's 100-bed county hospital
- Atlanta health system building \$113M ASC
- St. Francis Hospital entering joint venture with Emory Healthcare
- Lawmakers struggle to buoy pharmacies
- Richmond Hill man charged with creating scheme to cause HIPAA violations
- Grady Memorial still diverting patients after flood, affecting local hospitals and ERs

MISSISSIPPI

- Rural hospital improves meds reconciliation via AI automation into EHR
- Mississippi Medicaid director staying in new administration
- Mississippi to vote on medical marijuana in 2020
- As \$180 million children's clinic opening nears, PGA event makes record donation

NORTH CAROLINA

- Horton hospital case continues
- Upstate Carolina Radiology Joins US Radiology, Expanding National Physician Practice
- Commercial attacks Mission Hospital for its billing practices
- 2 cars destroyed in fire at Cone Hospital parking deck in Greensboro
- Cape Fear Valley Health System CEO Mike Nagowski returns from medical leave
- Nurse Family Partnership programs guide first-timers through transition to motherhood
- NC health trends and policies to watch for in 2020
- Union ad targets North Carolina hospital's billing practices
- NC dentists join AG Josh Stein in effort to fight opioid epidemic

SOUTH CAROLINA

- Clemson and MUSC: Working to improve health in rural South Carolina
- Upstate Carolina Radiology joins national group
- Hospital Not Liable for Physician's Lack of Adequate Insurance

TENNESSEE

- Ballad Health says it will expand access to free and discounted care
- THA names former TennCare director as COO
- CEO Greene leaving Dickson's Horizon hospital for Skyline
- Nashville pharma company could reduce opioid use with its newest creation: ibuprofen in an IV bag
- CHS reaches \$53M deal in class-action stock drop lawsuit
- Nashville's HCA Healthcare completes deal to buy Galen College of Nursing in Louisville
- HCA names CEO for Skyline Medical
- Nashville hospital companies back challenge to transparency rule
- Ballad Health to absorb more out-of-pocket expenses

SOUTH-CENTRAL/SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

- Washington Regional names new chief operating officer
- Arkansas hospital names Birch Wright COO
- Northwest Arkansas hospitals struggle to add neurosurgeons
- LHC Group finalizes transactions expanding joint ventures in Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana
- Arkansas Department of Human Services brings new CFO on board
- Arkansas hospital adds 1st neurosurgeon in years, 2nd to follow
- Arkansas Business Names Finalists for Health Care Heroes Awards

ARIZONA

- Arizona urgent care to launch Epic EHR at 100+ clinics
- Banner Health integrates AI-powered digital triage tool to improve patient experience
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona enters Medicaid market with health plan purchase
- Arizona's Banner Health offers unique, life-saving kidney donor program
- University of Arizona to use big data to seek Alzheimer's insights
- Arizona hospital introduces GPS-guided spine surgery robot — 5 highlights

LOUISIANA

- Louisiana Health Chief Leaving as Edwards Starts New Term
- Louisiana continues Medicaid services with emergency deals
- LHC Group finalizes transactions expanding joint ventures in Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana

- Emergency deals keep Louisiana Medicaid services on life support
- Rebekah Gee, Louisiana health department head, resigns; read her letter to John Bel Edwards
- Tulane Health System removes 'interim' from CEO Dr. Bob Lynch's title: 4 things to know
- Health Inequity in New Orleans: An Ongoing Issue

NEW MEXICO

- UNM HSC Health Hackathon now accepting applications
- Program meant to curb repeat hospital stays fails big test

OKLAHOMA

- Sports medicine group splits, joins competing hospitals
- Oklahoma hospital implements telehealth program for critical care patients
- More cutting edge technology is coming to Wagoner Community Hospital

TEXAS

- A Texas judge says hospital can take 11-month-old girl off life support despite her family's wishes
- LHC Group finalizes transactions expanding joint ventures in Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana
- Dallas startup raises \$25.7 million to launch hospital readmission-reducing software nationwide
- OSF HealthCare, Children's Health join \$25M funding for social determinants software
- Texas children's healthcare provider alerts patients of ransomware attack
- Hospital in Houston's Texas Medical Center to close
- Baylor Scott & White to open its first Austin hospital this month
- Texas A&M awards technical assistance to St. Luke's
- University Health System facing lowest blood supply in 14 years
- Houston health systems seek to fill nearly 3,000 jobs

NORTHWEST

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

IDAHO

- St. Luke's first in Idaho for accredited allogeneic stem cell transplants (access required)
- St. Luke's Cancer Institute gets accreditation
- Tim Trottier is Idaho hospital's new CEO
- HAZMAT team responds to East Idaho hospital to investigate 'unknown white substance'
- Idaho health insurance enrollment down as expected
- Rules outlining Medicaid expansion approved

MONTANA

- Kalispell hospital faces second lawsuit over data breach
- Shodair Children's Hospital opens new clinic in Missoula
- BCBS of Montana accused of providing kickbacks to municipal leaders

OREGON

- Oregon hospitals, first responders launch augmented reality program
- Oregon healthcare provider warns 25,000 patients of malware attack
- Nurses Association calls for more funding for financially strapped Unity Center
- Oregon Dives Into Thicket of Rising Health Care Costs
- Governor Brown Commends Smooth Transition To CCO 2.0 On Southern Oregon Health Care Tour

WASHINGTON

- Northwest Hospital changes name, integrates with UW Medical Center
- Strike threat looms at Providence sites in Washington state
- New COO Hired At EvergreenHealth
- Family awarded \$24M from Washington hospital after infant was born with brain damage
- Providence Sacred Heart reaches tentative agreement with nurses, healthcare workers
- Seattle's Northwest Hospital rebranded as second UW medical campus
- Deadly mold infestation spurs class-action lawsuit against Seattle Children's Hospital
- Yakima to lose 1 of 2 hospitals; Astria closing Regional as part of bankruptcy
- Astria Regional Medical Center in Yakima to close
- Providence expands investment in patient-provider matching startup

WYOMING

- Wyoming Department of Health seeks creative healthcare solutions
- Hospital getting mental health machine

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- Two San Diego doctors pay \$950,000 to settle Medicare billing fraud allegations
- St. Vincent Hospital teeters on closure after sale falls apart
- Sutter Santa Rosa Regional Hospital names Dan Peterson CEO
- Owner petitions court to close Los Angeles hospital

- Hospital known for glamorous patients opens new doors to its neediest
- Dan Peterson named CEO of Sutter Santa Rosa Regional Hospital
- Bright Health to buy California health plan, further growing its MA reach
- California governor to announce state-run generic drug company
- Patient sues San Francisco over hospital's abuse scandal

COLORADO

- VA Western CO Health Care System virtual health care
- How a Colorado hospital's IT department prevented a ransomware attack
- New healthcare scorecard evaluates Colorado's cost-saving policies
- Denver company acquires one of CT's fastest-growing med-tech firms
- Colorado law to protect patients from surprise medical bills went into effect on Jan. 1
- 23 rural Colorado hospitals could close under public option, report suggests
- Former Colorado Hospital Association CEO named president of Healthcare Institute

HAWAII

- HMSA pays \$180K to settle disability discrimination lawsuit
- Medicare Trims Payments To 8 Hawaii Hospitals
- Investigation reveals violations at Molokai Community Health Center

NEVADA

- CES 2020 health gadgets support remote exams, stroke patients
- More than 77,000 sign up for insurance on Nevada health site

UTAH

- Intermountain Healthcare CEO: Civica Rx could be a game changer for Utah patients
- Steward Health Care late paying property taxes in Utah
- Utah Valley Hospital replacement project wins construction award