HEALTH PROVIDER NEWS – AUGUST 9, 2019

NATIONAL

- Best patient experience innovations at 17 health systems
- DaVita, Fresenius Broke Kickback Rules, Whistleblower Says
- CMS Finalizes Medicare Pay Increase for Rural Hospital Workers
- 4 major questions on HHS and FDA's drug importation action plan
- New CMS Pilot Program Gives Physicians Claims Data Access
- HHS Designates $20 Million for New Rural Residency Programs
- Health Data Breach Tally: The Latest Additions
- CMS eases breakthrough device path to reimbursement in final rule
- How buying a failing hospital can pay off
- CMS final rule seeks to unleash medical innovation
- 3 tips from hospital revenue cycle leaders
- Nearly 75% of Americans lack access to or have never used telehealth
- Drug distributors propose $10B settlement to end state opioid lawsuits
- Where AMA stands on surprise-billing legislation
- Hospital leaders, brace yourselves for new policy: July, August top months for HHS regulations
- Inpatient telehealth adoption spiked 31 percent since 2014, report finds
- CMS tackles antibiotic resistance with IPPS final rule: 4 things to know
- Private equity pushes into healthcare: 6 latest deals
- CMS' final inpatient payment rule for 2020: 8 things to know

NORTHEAST

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

CONNECTICUT

- Report shows growing demand for home care in Connecticut
- Connecticut launches online tool to compare cost, quality of local hospitals
- UConn Health first in Connecticut to use innovative technology for herniated disc repair.
- New CT health care rating system helps patients find doctors

MAINE

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- Emergency hospital admissions for drug overdoses have declined in Maine since 2017
- 3 Maine hospitals earn high ranks in U.S. News survey
- Northern Maine Medical Center earns Excellence in Patient Care Award
- Maine gets $6 million in federal funding to address opioid crisis
- What healthcare looks like for Maine's island dwellers
- Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center makes U.S. News and World Report ‘Best Hospitals’ list

MASSACHUSETTS

- South Shore Hospital’s president steps down
- South Shore (Mass.) Hospital President Pamela Daley Whelton resigns
- Steward Health to keep ER in Quincy despite planned development
- 3 Boston hospitals team up on low-income housing initiative
- Steward Health to keep ER in Quincy despite planned development
- Seacoast residents support hospitals merging, poll claims
- Sarepta moves beyond rare disease, eyes multiple sclerosis gene therapy
- Boston biotech Rhythm's stock jumps on success of drug for rare form of obesity

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Seacoast residents support hospitals merging, poll claims
- Lawsuit alleges understaffing 'crisis' at Portsmouth hospital
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock named best hospital in U.S. News & World Report
- At the Hospitals: Health care providers partner to focus on green products

NEW YORK

- Hospital gets $3M for improvements
- Kaleida hospitals to invest $4M at three hospitals
- Hospital adopts benefit to convert unused PTO to student loan assistance
- Columbia U medical center enlists 900 'super users' ahead of Epic go live
- How Hospital for Special Surgery prescribed 500K fewer opioid pills in 18 months
- Why this New York hospital hosts an annual 'teddy bear clinic'
- 3 New York City Hospitals Included In Top 20 Best Hospitals In The U.S.
- Home Health Industry Driving NYC Job Growth

RHODE ISLAND

- Tensions flare between R.I. hospital leaders after merger talks collapse
- Care New England CEO accuses Lifespan of retaliation after merger talks collapse

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- Lifespan extends its reach with urgent care clinics
- RI Ranked 3rd Best State for Healthcare in U.S.

VERMONT

- Vermont hospital looking for ways to ease nurse shortage
- Vermont Hospitals with the biggest losses seeking large rate increase
- U of Vermont seeks to expand $150M Epic EHR implementation
- Some Vermont hospitals seek rate bump amid financial losses

MID-ATLANTIC / EAST

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

DELAWARE

- Newark-based biopharmaceutical institute partnering with FDA for research
- Senate bills nail down ACA health care protections under Delaware law
- New medical model offers relief to rushed doctors — for a fee

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- Report details alleged patient abuse by staff members at DC psychiatric hospital
- 'Very disturbing': Report details alleged abuses at St. Elizabeths Hospital
- Adventist HealthCare in talks to take over Howard University Hospital's operations
- GW Hospital ranked among D.C.'s top hospitals for first time in at least three years

MARYLAND

- MedStar Health researchers to assess patient safety trends with machine learning
- Inside Adventist HealthCare's soon-to-open White Oak hospital
- Maryland health system to acquire 3rd hospital
- A VA Maryland Health Care System Researcher Recognized with the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers

NEW JERSEY

- NJ partners with hospitals to develop affordable housing
- N.J.'s largest health care chain is growing again
- A home health care nursing shortage is looming in Jersey
- Morristown Medical Center number 1 hospital in New Jersey
- RWJBarnabas Health's new regional CFO talks value-based care, access
- Specialized ICU pharmacy team cuts wait for meds at RWJBarnabas Health
- Jersey Shore University Medical Center Foundation Welcomes New Trustee
- Statewide Business Group Honors New Virtua Health Center in Camden

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- Hospital housing initiative grows beyond expectations, funding too

PENNSYLVANIA

- Union wants city to rezone Hahnemann property so it can't be flipped
- MedStar Health researchers to assess patient safety trends with machine learning
- Pennsylvania health systems to merge
- Primary Health, Geisinger to build $8M medical complex in Shamokin
- Lower Bucks Hospital opens urgent care center
- With UPMC gone, local health care undergoing changes
- Ellwood City Medical Center starts in-patient physician program
- Union wants Hahnemann rezoned so site remains dedicated to health care
- How buying a failing hospital can pay off
- Philadelphia ASC honored
- Lehigh Valley Health Network Plans New hospital near Lehighton
- Eagleville Hospital Will Pay $2.85 Million to Resolve Allegations of Medicare and Pennsylvania Medicaid Fraud Involving Fraudulent Billing
- Tower Health now live on Epic at 5 more hospitals
- Cedar Haven nursing home owner files for bankruptcy, owes millions of dollars
- Pittsburgh Health Data Alliance partners with Amazon Web Services
- Mon Health joins WVU Medicine in moving into Fayette County

VIRGINIA

- Sentara Healthcare adopts AI system to predict sepsis
- Valley Health announces addition of services in Wayne County
- How West Virginia's Largest Health Systems are Prepping for the Future
- Hospital chief to receive community-service award in Arlington
- Virginia regulatory agency considers stepping in to stop surprise medical bills

WEST VIRGINIA

- W. Virginia county lacks access to after-hours medical care
- Mon Health Hospitals achieve highest ranking in WV in report
- 5 W.Va. Hospitals Recognized as High Performers in Annual Report
- 2 hospitals to close in Ohio, West Virginia
- Mon Health joins WVU Medicine in moving into Fayette County
- End date put on more than 100 years of health care at Ohio Valley Medical Center

CENTRAL

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

IOWA

- Marshalltown hospital will close obstetrics unit
- UI Hospitals has 'healthy appetite' for improving low marks from patients
- Iowa hospital will be 34th in state to close birthing center
- UnityPoint Health names Jeanine Spain Central Illinois COO
- Rod Schlader named MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center president/CEO

KANSAS

- Kansas ranks high in report on quality health care
- Kansas has most hospitals at high risk of closure under public option scenarios
- Kansas threatens termination of Aetna's Medicaid contract
- Medicaid Fraud in Kansas? Inspector General Reveals Dozens of Misconduct Emails Were Ignored
- LifeSave announces new helicopter base in Salina
- Recently renamed Kansas Children's Foundation hires new executive director

MINNESOTA

- Minnesota's Best Hospitals: Latest U.S. News Rankings
- Minnesota's health care ranked tops in the nation by new study
- Minnesota Health Care Company Promises Financial Relief To Diabetics
- Minnesota’s health care ranked tops in the nation by new study
- Essentia plans Cloquet clinic

MISSOURI

- System outage forces many Affinia Healthcare locations closed for remainder of the week
- Bayer backs St. Louis hub for bioscience, innovation with $1.5M grant
- SSM Health launches health plan in St. Louis
- Siteman Cancer Center north location nears completion
- Anderson breaks ground at new medical office campus
- LHC Group Joint Venture Completes Missouri Acquisitions
- Truman Medical Center hit with ransomware, pays to get system access back
- MU Health Care reports data breach
- 'Happy hour' improves EMR usability: Q&A with MU Health Care's Dr. Jeffrey Belden
- Mo. doctor, his wife indicted for health care fraud
- U of Missouri directs millions toward precision medicine research

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- Mercy Joplin announces a new hospital President

NEBRASKA

- Nebraska Medicine officials say campus activities are back to normal
- Work begins on free hotel for families of sick vets at Omaha VA. 'This is an answer to a prayer'

NORTH DAKOTA

- Trinity Health Expands Primary Care Access
- Coteau des Prairies Health Care System COO Greg Weaver to resign
- Report critical of Cass Lake IHS handling of opioids
- Dressler Returns to North Dakota to Work with Sanford
- Appeal filed in Supreme Court for North Dakota's opioid lawsuit

SOUTH DAKOTA

- Medical error settlements in South Dakota jump in 2018
- State community health centers' economic impact tops $91 million

MIDWEST

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

ILLINOIS

- To get a better view of children's health, this Chicago health system conducted hundreds of face-to-face surveys
- Chicago Hospital Turned Away Shooting Victims Because It Was At Capacity
- Heartland of Galesburg fined $25,000 by state
- Illinois hospital files for bankruptcy
- How an Illinois hospital overcame revenue cycle challenges by enhancing its EMR system
- OSF Healthcare's CIO: 4 unconventional characteristics to a successful IT team
- UnityPoint Health names Jeanine Spain Central Illinois COO
- Little Company of Mary Hospital launches $25 million expansion
- Owners of hospital set for closing file for bankruptcy
- $8.5M building to feature Anderson Surgery Center, SSM Health clinic

INDIANA

- Report: Elanco, Bayer Deal Could Come Soon
- IU Simon Cancer Center Earns Key Designation
- Hand to Shoulder Center Building Sold
- Lilly Announces Leadership Changes
- IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital Ranked Among Indiana's Top Hospitals For 2019-2020

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- How Health Intelligence Goes Beyond Health Analytics
- Telehealth expansions, new offerings help connect instant healthcare to Indiana schools
- Indiana University Health builds a supply chain (and a distribution center)
- Indiana University Health's operating income jumps to $307.9M in first half of 2019

KENTUCKY

- Kentucky health system acquires 13th hospital
- Kentucky Hospital Eyes Telehealth For Follow-Up Care for Burn Patients
- Kindred Healthcare, Billings Clinic and St. Vincent Healthcare Announce Opening of Rehabilitation Hospital
- Appalachian Regional Healthcare finalizes purchase of 192-bed Prestonsburg medical center
- Baptist Healthcare's operating income is way up — why it's doing better
- Humana's employee wellness plan showed real results — which isn't typical
- Rural Kentucky hospital loses city funding
- Louisville hospital ties for third in U.S. News rankings for Kentucky
- Kosair Charities donates $100,000 for care of Hardin County's tiniest patients
- Louisville hospital delivers record number of babies in one month
- Beacon Health System appoints Dr. Sam El-Dalati chief clinical officer
- Norton Healthcare's Jim Meyers to revenue cycle leaders: 'Reach out and network with your peers'

MICHIGAN

- Providers to pay nearly $2M over labor law violations
- New plans for Michigan psychiatric facility raise more concerns about care
- Beaumont Health to Acquire Summa Health
- Hiring up at 3% this year at Beaumont Health
- Trinity Health adds CXO, CIO to leadership team
- Henry Ford Health CXO David Duvall on creating memorable journeys for patients
- Q&A: Jaime Counterman, Metro Health-University of Michigan Health Hospital Foundation
- Professional services, health care top industries for U-M graduates
- 2 top Beaumont executives resign, unrelated layoffs continue
- Michigan health providers must enroll by Oct. 1
- These Detroit doctors help people with no insurance, high deductibles
- Michigan AG joins fight in removing barriers for opioid use disorder treatment

OHIO

- UC seeks dismissal of discrimination suit brought by trauma surgeon

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- Beaumont Health to Acquire Summa Health
- Patients unable to access records after Ohio medical center closes for fraud
- Janice Murphy named CEO of St. Vincent Charity Medical Center
- OhioHealth to raise minimum wage to $15
- 2 hospitals to close in Ohio, West Virginia
- Trauma Team at Dayton Hospital Had Never Seen So Many Casualties at Once
- Dept. of Health and Human Services awards Ohio $21,504,550 to combat opioid crisis
- Gov. DeWine, Ohio Children's Hospital Association announce pediatric mental health summit
- Ohio's Best Hospitals: Latest U.S. News Rankings

WISCONSIN

- First look inside Aurora Health Care's new health center at 84South: Slideshow
- Construction underway on Advocate Aurora medical center in Sheboygan County
- MACC Fund names new president and CEO
- Jump Start: Health care software developer Otologic Technologies chooses to locate in Milwaukee
- Aurora opens health center at 84South in Greenfield
- Aurora St. Luke’s ranked as best hospital in Milwaukee area

SOUTH / SOUTHEAST

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

ALABAMA

- Rule change expected to give struggling hospitals another lifeline
- Lawmakers praise rule change to help Alabama’s struggling hospitals
- Huntsville Hospital preps for big disasters, mass shootings with extensive training
- Hospital takes new name; reflects regional services

FLORIDA

- Broward Health changes governing board and bylaws at turbulent meeting
- Supporting Next steps At Gulf Coast Medical Center
- Kendall Regional Medical Center committed to improving patient care areas
- UNC receives $3.75M grant to integrate geriatrics in NC primary care
- Ascension Sacred Heart taps Dawn Rudolph as president of Florida hospital
- Flagler Health to launch 'virtual health village' for telehealth, medical records access
- HCA needs 2 administrators to run Florida ASCs
- AdventHealth sued for anti-competitive practices in Volusia, Flagler

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- Incoming NCH Healthcare System CEO starts networking in community
- Weems Memorial Hospital CEO H.D. Cannington to resign
- Tampa General Hospital CEO John Couris: Show your team you care
- Oncology group sues AdventHealth for anticompetitive practices

GEORGIA

- Georgia has among highest hospital prices, new review suggests
- Emory University Hospital ranked No. 1 hospital in Georgia
- Georgia's Best Hospitals: U.S. News Rankings For 2019
- The challenge of scaling care experience programs: Q&A with Piedmont Healthcare's Katie Logan
- Report: Georgia hospital prices among nation's highest
- Q&A with Piedmont Healthcare's Dr. Patrick Battey, 2019 Most Admired CEO
- New medical college opens in South Georgia

MISSISSIPPI

- Baptist Golden Triangle receives award for treatment of heart attack patients
- Mississippi VA hospital cited over patient's death
- Martin proud to be a part of No. 1 health-care job in America

NORTH CAROLINA

- UNC Children's in compliance, 'significantly different' after heart program concerns, regulators find
- NC Children's Hospital 'in compliance,' but complex pediatric heart surgeries still on hold
- Carolinas near bottom of the list when it comes to healthcare in the U.S., study says
- Nash UNC Health Care is on the mend
- Hospital targets readmission rates
- Tensions rise between UNC Health Care, Vidant Health
- Construction for NHRMC new orthopedic hospital expected to end late 2020
- Atrium Health rebrands Concord hospital
- UNC System head, former UNC Health Care CEO didn't disclose corporate board seats that paid millions on ethics forms
- War of words intensifies between hospitals, treasurer over SHP pricing
- Triad health system offers patients interest-free payment plans
- Wilmington's hospital looks like it's on the block
- Triad company's innovative approach to clinical research fosters growth
- 1 system joins North Carolina's controversial reimbursement plan in 2nd sign-up period
- Randolph Health outlines turnaround plan

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- State documents show UNC president didn't report board seats

SOUTH CAROLINA

- Carolinas near bottom of the list when it comes to healthcare in the U.S., study says
- Berkeley hospital expected to lift Roper St. Francis' finances
- MUSC tops rankings of S.C. hospitals
- Trident Medical allowed to add beds for psychiatric patients after paying a fine for health violation

TENNESSEE

- Doctors at children's hospital successfully reconstruct a voice box for first time in history
- At Vanderbilt, Electronic Health Records Are Beginning To Talk Back
- The state of Covenant Surgical Partners — CEO Lew Little offers 5 insights
- Brentwood company led by former Change Healthcare CEO raises $22.5M
- CHS posts bigger Q2 net loss, but still beats Wall Street forecasts
- HCA defeats false claims lawsuit over office deals
- Ballad Health announces organizational changes
- Troubled Franklin-Based Hospital Chain Touts Strongest Quarter In Years
- Appeals court throws out lawsuit against HCA
- Vanderbilt tests virtual assistant that can voice patient EHR data to physicians
- Promises Behavioral Health Names John Hart as CFO
- HCA says it's open to rule on publishing hospital rates, welcomes competition
- Former CHS, Jarrard exec named CEO of primary care venture
- TriStar to open urgent care in North Gulch
- Ballad Health taps 13 new leaders, including 9 physician executives
- CHS shares close below $2 for first time
- CHS' net loss doubles in first half of 2019

SOUTH-CENTRAL / SOUTHWEST

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

ARKANSAS

- Baptist Health Reports $20.9M Operating Loss
- Arkansas medical center launches Apple health records feature
- Mercy, Baptist Health & more to partner with health tech startups in Arkansas accelerator program

ARIZONA

- Rural Hospitals Get A Boost With The Help Of A Partnership With Banner Health

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- Arizona's doctor shortage keeps getting worse. Here's how we're tackling it
- Banner Health to acquire Colorado hospital
- Abrazo West Campus taps Noomi Hirsch as COO
- CEO of Scottsdale health care firm stepping down
- Phoenix-based health care network rolling out new diabetes care service
- Kingman Regional Medical Center CEO Brian Turney to retire in 2020
- Arizona 3rd worst in US for per-person health care spending

LOUISIANA

- Louisiana picks companies for Medicaid managed care deals
- West Jefferson Medical Center selects Rob Calhoun as CEO
- Ochsner Ranked #1 Hospital in Louisiana by U.S. News & World Report
- Christus St. Frances Cabrini Health System appoints Sherman Fookes COO
- Louisiana physician network alerts 116,000 patients of ransomware attack
- Ochsner Opens New Health Center on Lakefront
- Prairieville Family Hospital holds ribbon-cutting

NEW MEXICO

- Presbyterian alerts 183,000 patients of data breach
- Bill Would Expand Health Care For Native Veterans, New Mexico Seeks Concussion Safeguards For Youth
- Covenant Health to build new hospital in New Mexico
- First AMA president from NM addresses country’s health issues

OKLAHOMA

- Oklahoma lawmakers look to tackle Medicaid
- Oklahoma City hospital placed on lockdown following text message threat
- Woman Says She Was Banned From Mother's Nursing Home In OKC After Reporting Abuse
- The 27 Oklahoma hospitals that have sued former patients the most over medical bills
- Integris eliminates 171 jobs
- Oklahoma hospitals sue thousands each year over unpaid medical bills

TEXAS

- Texas Children's, Houston Methodist & more to partner with woman-led digital health startups
- Tenet posts modest gains in Q2, Conifer revenues dip 8%
- New study rates Texas among the 10 worst states for healthcare
- Medical Center Health System names a new President/CEO

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- Sheppard Pratt Health System Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer to Take Role as President and CEO of The Menninger Clinic
- Jones County rural hospital closes, 23rd in Texas since 2013
- Frisco diagnostic firm lays off workers, files for bankruptcy after feds yank payments
- 3 Austin-area hospitals rank among the best in Texas
- Van Zandt Regional Medical Center closes its doors, reopening under discussion
- Sweeny Community Hospital CEO Scott Briner to depart

NORTHWEST

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

ALASKA

- Health care group completing merger with Alaska hospital
- Bartlett Hospital CEO talks to Chamber of Commerce
- Health organizations 'gravely concerned' over governor's mental health services cuts

IDAHO

- Primary Health to open 3 new clinics in Boise, Kuna
- Saint Alphonsus marks opening of new rehab hospital in Boise
- Clearwater Valley, St. Mary's Hospital plan to transfer ownership to Kootenai Health
- HHS Awards $2,395,067 to Idaho to Combat the Opioid Crisis

MONTANA

- St. Vincent Healthcare Rehab Center Closes After 40 Years
- Kindred Healthcare, Billings Clinic and St. Vincent Healthcare Announce Opening of Rehabilitation Hospital
- Montana families receive assistance to resolve nursing home disputes on discharges
- Montana hospitals partner to open rehabilitation facility
- CPSI Signs Another Hospital in Montana
- Great Falls, Rocky Boy part of pilot health care program
- Billings Clinic planning new partnership at Townsend hospital

OREGON

- Oregon hospital to build $235M medical tower
- Sprinklers extinguish fire at Salem Health Hospital
- Oregon Hospital Workers' Contract Places Patient Needs at Its Center
- Hospital workers voting during union negotiations
- Transportation providers complain again about Health Share contractor

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- Portland medical device maker raises $2M

WASHINGTON

- Local nurses cry ‘patients before profit’
- Providence St. Peter Hospital's cafeteria shut down due to presence of rats
- Jefferson Healthcare opens retail specialty pharmacy
- Report shows Washington health care is average, depending on category
- Seattle Swedish Hospital hires first canine employee
- Adaptive Biotechnologies to Triple Seattle Footprint with New HQ

WYOMING

- WMC leaders confident in financial strength of hospital in wake of Moody's report, financial filings
- Wyoming hospital plans security upgrades after shooting
- Riverton moves closer to new hospital
- Wyoming outpatient facility with ASC readies to open

WEST

(California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah)

CALIFORNIA

- California hospitals question 2030 earthquake standards
- California hospital to implement Cerner EHR
- Optum, John Muir Health talk partnership: 'The best of both worlds'
- Fire at LA children's hospital prompts mass evacuation
- California hospital earthquake regulations could cost billions, forcing closures, officials say
- Why a lawmaker withdrew surprise-billing legislation prompted by Zuckerberg hospital
- AmerisourceBergen to close California distribution center, cut 100 jobs

COLORADO

- Banner Health to buy full control of North Colorado Medical Center for $328.4M
- Colorado To Get $64M in Federal Funds for Health IT Infrastructure
- DaVita, Fresenius Broke Kickback Rules, Whistleblower Says
- Rural Hospitals Get A Boost With The Help Of A Partnership With Banner Health
- Colo. Children's Hospital ED Opens Pediatric Behavioral Health Unit
- Banner Health to acquire Colorado hospital
- Study ranks Colorado 11th for health care
- Children’s Hospital opens ‘first-of-its-kind’ pediatric mental health suite

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- UCHealth launches conversational AI-powered virtual assistant for Amazon Echo
- Polis' Vision For Colorado's Health Care Future Is Underway, But An ACA Court Challenge Could Upend The Effort

HAWAII

- CMS approves Hawaii's 1115 waiver extension
- MDX Hawai'i has new technology
- Hale Nani health care workers to strike Friday over low wages, understaffing

NEVADA

- Health and Human Services awards Nevada $1.66M to assist with opioid crisis
- Renown Health, Anthem agree on network deal
- How UHS' Alan B. Miller built a successful hospital in the middle of nowhere

UTAH

- University Hospital trains for mass casualty event with 150 shooting victims
- A hospitality company that provides healthcare
- Same-day surgery clinic gives Utahns quick relief

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