



# FYI Weekly

HEALTHCARE NEWS FOR VIRGINIA'S  
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS

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## FEATURED CONTENT

### [VHHA in Action](#)

### [News Updates](#)

- [CMS Solicits Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Medicare Data Reporting Requirements](#)
- [White House Shares Artificial Intelligence Policy Framework, Calls on Congress to Take Action](#)
- [Study Published in British Medical Journal Indicates GLP-1 Use Linked to Reduced Risk of SUD](#)
- [Veterans Administration Offers Suicide Prevention Grant Funding for Community-Based Organizations](#)
- [Heart Health Organizations Update Guidelines on Cholesterol Screening](#)
- [CMS to Move to Independent Dispute Resolution Process Gateway Under No Surprises Act](#)

### [Events](#)

- [Register for the Virginia Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Summit on April 22 in Richmond](#)
- [Register for the Virginia Healthcare Workforce Development Summit, a Virtual Event on May 19](#)
- [Register for April 15 Pediatric Pandemic Network Virtual Exercise](#)
- [Register for VASHRM Spring Conference April 23-24 in Richmond](#)

### [Podcast](#)

- [VHHA Patients Come First Podcast Features UVA Health Global Health Education Physician Leader](#)

[Around the State](#)

## VHHA in Action

Each day, VHHA actively works on behalf of its members, their employees, and Virginians to advance the interests of Virginia's hospitals and health care systems. In the past week, these are some developments of interest to Virginia hospitals and health systems:

### VHHA Board Members Selected as Virginia Business C-Suite Award Recipients

- **Mark Nantz**, President and CEO of Winchester-based **Valley Health** and the Chair of the **VHHA Board of Directors**; and **Mike Lutes**, Market President for **Bon Secours Richmond**; have been named recipients of the 2026 Virginia C-Suite Awards, which celebrates top corporate executives who consistently demonstrate remarkable leadership skills, integrity, values, vision, commitment to excellence, company performance, and community engagement.

### VHHA in the News

- VHHA actively engages with the news media to share public messaging and coordinate member media appearances to showcase the important work done by Virginia hospitals. That work is reflected in recent coverage from [VPM](#).

## News Updates

### CMS Solicits Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Medicare Data Reporting Requirements

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** (CMS) is seeking public comments on its proposed revisions to data reporting requirements for Medicare Advantage and Part D plans in contract year 2027. The comment deadline is May 11. The proposed changes include new requirements clarifying definitions of certain contracts and plans. Read more [here](#).

### White House Shares Artificial Intelligence Policy Framework, Calls on Congress to Take Action

The **White House** recently issued an artificial intelligence (AI) [policy framework](#) that includes several recommendations calling on **Congress** to pursue regulatory action to promote AI development and oversight. Earlier this year, the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** (HHS) issued a request for information to seek public comments on accelerating the adoption and use of AI as part of clinical care.

### Study Published in British Medical Journal Indicates GLP-1 Use Linked to Reduced Risk of SUD

A [study recently published](#) in *The BMJ* found that patients who take glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists have a reduced risk of experiencing substance use disorder (SUD) involving alcohol, cannabis, cocaine, nicotine, and opioids, among others.

### Veterans Administration Offers Suicide Prevention Grant Funding for Community-Based Organizations

The **U.S. Veterans Administration** (VA) recently [published](#) a notice of funding opportunity for the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program (SSG Fox SPGP) that will award up to \$112 million to eligible community-based organizations across the United States and in U.S. territories. The program supports non-clinical, innovative and community-driven approaches to suicide prevention – particularly for veterans who may not yet be connected to VA care and those living in under-resourced or high-risk areas. The application deadline is 4:59 p.m. ET on June 12, 2026, and award notifications will be issued by Sept. 30, 2026. Read more [here](#).

### **Heart Health Organizations Update Guidelines on Cholesterol Screening**

Several heart health organizations including the **American College of Cardiology** and the **American Heart Association** recently released [updated guidelines](#) on managing cholesterol. Among the updated recommendations is guidance related to lowering the age for initial cholesterol screening and treatment to age 30.

### **CMS to Move to Independent Dispute Resolution Process Gateway Under No Surprises Act**

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** (CMS) recently [announced](#) that in the latter half of 2026, the Federal Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR) process will transition from single-use web forms to the new IDR Gateway. This will provide a secure, centralized platform that parties can use to manage disputes. The IDR process was established under the No Surprises Act of 2022 intended to protect patients from surprise medical bills when patients unknowingly receive care from out-of-network providers. The CMS notice said additional information will be shared soon.

## **Events**

### **Register for the Virginia Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Summit on April 22 in Richmond**

Register now for the **Virginia Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Summit**, which is scheduled for April 22, 2026 at The Westin-Richmond. “The Preparedness Crossroads: Integrating Legacy Challenges with Emerging Global Threats” is the theme for the Summit being hosted by the **Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association** (VHHA) and the **VHHA Foundation**. Summit programming will feature local, state, and national speakers sharing insights on topics related to strengthening the Commonwealth’s preparedness for threats to the healthcare delivery system including cyber-attacks, outpatient center safety and preparedness, continuing operations during a water interruption, department level business continuity, tracking costs during disasters, and supply chain management during disasters. Visit this [link](#) to register and view additional program information.

### **Register for the Virginia Healthcare Workforce Development Summit, a Virtual Event on May 19**

Registration is now open for the 2026 **Virginia Healthcare Workforce Development Summit**, which is scheduled to be held May 19 as a virtual event. “Reimagining the Healthcare Workforce: Innovation, Engagement, and the Future of Work” is the theme of this year’s Summit, which will explore innovative strategies for hospitals to adapt their practices, focusing on developing, recruiting, retaining, and supporting team members in a rapidly changing workplace. Visit this [link](#) to register and view additional program information.

## Register for April 15 Pediatric Pandemic Network Virtual Exercise

Register now for an April 15 virtual table-top exercise that is part of the Pediatric Pandemic Network series in which the **Virginia Healthcare Emergency Management Program (VHEMP)** is participating. The upcoming exercise will be facilitated by the **VHHA Emergency Preparedness Department**. The exercise will focus on the scenario for a response to an infectious disease surge that involves pre-hospital, hospital, and interagency partners. The virtual exercise will be hosted from 1-4 p.m. Participants will receive exercise materials and a record of participation. Register through this [link](#). Following registration, the exercise link and materials will be shared. Questions may be directed to [preparedness@vhha.com](mailto:preparedness@vhha.com).

## Register for VASHRM Spring Conference April 23-24 in Richmond

The **Virginia Chapter of the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management (VASHRM)** is hosting its 2026 Spring Conference April 23-24 in Richmond. “Risk at the Crossroads: Navigating a Changing Healthcare Landscape” is the theme for the conference whose agenda includes a legislative update, clinical event debriefing and analysis, AI in clinical risk, service animals in healthcare settings, standardizing documentation of workplace violence risk, litigation risks, defense against malpractice claims, and more. Register through this [link](#).

## Podcast

### VHHA *Patients Come First* Podcast Features UVA Health Global Health Education Physician Leader

This episode of VHHA’s *Patients Come First* podcast features **Dr. Amita Sudhir**, an emergency medicine physician at **UVA Health** and the inaugural director for global health training at the University of Virginia’s Center for Global Health Equity, where she’s helping build international clinical training opportunities for students and residents. Listen to the episode [here](#) and hear past episodes through this [link](#). Podcast episodes are also available through these podcast apps and networks: [Apple Podcast](#), [Amazon Music](#), [Spotify](#), [Pandora](#), [Stitcher](#), [TuneIn](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Blubrry](#), [iHeart Radio](#), [Deezer](#), [Podbay](#), [Pocket Casts](#), the [Virginia Audio Collective](#), [Podcast Health](#), and the [World Podcast Network](#). The podcast can also be heard on the radio airwaves – episodes air Sundays at 9 a.m. on 100.5 FM, 107.7 FM, 92.7 FM, and 820 AM across Central Virginia and 1650 AM in Hampton Roads. Send questions, comments, feedback, or guest suggestions to [pcfpodcast@vhha.com](mailto:pcfpodcast@vhha.com).



## Around the State



*Cronin*



*Feely*



*King*



*Roxer*



*Sawyer*

**Gina M. Cronin**, Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer for **Children’s National Hospital**; **Terri Feely**, Chief People Officer for **Inova**; **Kristin King**, Chief Human Resource Officer (CHRO) for **VCU Health**; **Mary Roxer**, CHRO for **Valley Health**; and **Becky Sawyer**, Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer at **Sentara Health**; have been named to the *Becker’s Hospital Review* 2026 list of 140 hospital and health system CHROs and chief people officers to know list. Read more [here](#).



**Nicole Dockery** has assumed the role of Vice President and President of **Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital**. Dockery will also continue in her role as Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer. Dockery succeeds **David Masterson**, who served as interim hospital President since July 2025 and retired from Sentara in March. Dockery began her career at Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital in 2009 as an intensive care unit nurse. In 2012, she transitioned into leadership, serving as Director of Patient Care Services before being appointed Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer in 2021. Dockery earned a bachelor of science in nursing degree and a master of science in nursing administration degree from Old Dominion University, along with a master of business administration degree from Western Governors University. She also holds a Nurse Executive board certification through the American Nurses Credentialing Center and serves on the American Nurses Association Committee for Honorary Awards. Read more [here](#).

**Taylor Medley**, Volunteer Manager with **Carilion Clinic**, has accepted a nomination to serve on the board of the **Virginia Society for Directors of Healthcare Volunteer Services** (VSDHVS) as the Southwest District Representative. Medley has served as Volunteer Manager since 2023 and is an MSW candidate at Virginia Commonwealth University.

