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Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2022

## Today's Headlines

- [Pediatric surge starting in Iowa](#)
- [IHA releases latest hospital data trends](#)
- [Review regulatory issues from 2022 in new webinar](#)
- [November Medicaid town hall meeting rescheduled](#)
- [COPIC releases booklet about navigating law enforcement encounters](#)

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### Pediatric surge starting in Iowa

IHA is convening a weekly pediatric surge partner meeting to discuss concerns about the pediatric surge seen in the state. Many children are being treated for RSV, flu and COVID-19.

The pediatric surge group is identifying strategies to help with bed management, patient transfers and public education. [Email Jennifer Nutt](#) at IHA with questions.

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### IHA releases latest hospital data trends

IHA has collected data trends from [99 hospitals for January-September 2022](#) as compared with the same time frame in 2021:

- Acute discharges decreased 2.4% as acute patient days increased 2.1%.
- Hospital-based ambulatory surgery visits increased 3.1%.
- Average facility paid hours increased 8%.
- Average length of stay increased 4.1%.
- Average physician paid hours increased 19.6%.
- Births increased 3.9%.
- Charity care decreased 8.5%.
- Emergency department visits increased 3.6%.
- Facility employment (excluding physicians) increased 8.1%.
- Inpatient surgeries decreased 17.7%.
- Inpatient admissions from the emergency department decreased 2.2%.
- Medicaid acute discharges decreased 5.1% and Medicaid acute patient days decreased 0.5%.
- Net patient revenue (collected charges) increased 3.6%.
- Outpatient utilization increased 7.5%.
- Payroll and benefits expense increased 11.9%.
- Total average paid hours increased 11.1%.

- Total expenses increased 7.5%.
- Uncompensated care (bad debts) increased 14.4%.

[Email Allison Martin](#) at IHA with questions.

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### **Review regulatory issues from 2022 in new webinar**

IHA members have another opportunity to participate in the highest rated breakout session at this year's IHA Annual Meeting.

Michael Chase, J.D., with Baird Holm is leading a webinar reviewing major health care regulatory and case law developments from the past year. Chase will highlight state and federal actions shaping health care policy and provide strategies to prepare for implementation and compliance.

The webinar qualifies for up to one hour of preapproved ACHE-qualified education credits and one hour of continuing board education for trustees seeking [Iowa Hospital Board and Trustee Certification](#).

The [Regulatory Year in Review for the C-Suite webinar](#) is scheduled from 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7. [Email Autumn McGill](#) at IHA with questions.

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### **November Medicaid town hall meeting rescheduled**

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, Iowa Medicaid is rescheduling its [November Medicaid town hall meeting](#) to Thursday, Dec. 1. [Providers will meet from 4-5 p.m.](#) and [members will meet from 5-6 p.m.](#)

The regularly scheduled town hall meetings are for Iowa Medicaid members and health care providers to give feedback about the program and provide suggestions for improvement.

[Future meetings are scheduled](#) for:

- Thursday, Dec. 29, 2022.
- Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023.
- Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023.

Email [IMETownHall@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:IMETownHall@dhs.state.ia.us) with questions.

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### **COPIC releases booklet about navigating law enforcement encounters**

There are many situations in which medical providers navigate complex regulations, requirements and other legal issues. [COPIC](#), a medical liability insurance provider, has published a [Law Enforcement Interactions booklet](#) designed to educate providers

about dealing with law enforcement personnel and their responsibilities to patients, including the duty to protect patients' privacy. The booklet includes:

- Disclosures under HIPAA and for law enforcement purposes.
- Key considerations for any law enforcement interaction.
- Reporting requirements for situations involving criminal violence, sexual abuse or child abuse and neglect.
- Requests for drug and alcohol testing.

Email [Ford Singbush](#), [Anne MacFarland](#) or [Cameron James](#) at AssuredPartners with questions about COPIC coverage.

*[AssuredPartners](#), a ServiShare-endorsed partner, teamed with COPIC to provide medical liability insurance to help hospitals manage the changing demands of health care.*

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## NewsStand

### Iowa news

- [What is the rural emergency hospital designation? Does it work with CMS?](#)
- [UnityPoint Health hosting virtual and in-person hiring events](#)
- [Mercy acquires tool for screening and diagnostic colonoscopies](#)

### National news

- [Hospitals losing billions to rising costs, denials and takebacks](#)
  - [HHS to maintain COVID-19 public health emergency past January](#)
  - [14 states report 'very high' flu activity](#)
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### Online education

- [Patient Rights': An Overview](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29
- [COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#): Thursday, Dec. 1
- [Pharmacy Conditions of Participation](#): Tuesday, Dec. 6
- [Regulatory Year in Review for the C-Suite](#): Wednesday, Dec. 7
- [Leading During Times of Crisis](#): Monday, Dec. 12
- [CMS Updates](#): Thursday, Dec. 15

### In-person meetings

- [IHA Leadership Development Program](#): Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2022 - Tuesday, May 16, 2023
- [2022 CPHQ Review Course](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29 - Wednesday, Nov. 30
- [Physician Business Leadership Certificate Program](#): Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023 - Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2023
- [Grant Writing Workshop](#): Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023

### Visit IHA's Digital on Demand store for webinars and videos

Members are encouraged to visit IHA's Digital on Demand store to catch up on webinars or informational videos they may have missed.

The IHA Digital on Demand store offers:

- [Demonstration and training videos](#) for DataGen, DATABANK and Dimensions dashboards.
- [CEO podcasts](#).
- Previously recorded [webinars and presentations](#) including project presentations from the Advanced Leadership Academy.
- [Trustee resources](#).

Click [HERE](#) to visit the IHA Digital on Demand store.

### Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [HospitalCareers.com](#) can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.



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