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Saturday, Nov. 5, 2022

## Today's Headlines

- [IHA advocacy team weekly round up](#)
- [IHA releases latest hospital data trends](#)
- [Interim CEO named for Ottumwa Regional Health Center](#)
- [Thank you to the 2022 Iowa Hospital Heroes](#)
- [Registration still open for IHC Patient Safety Conference](#)

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### IHA advocacy team weekly round up

The comment period is open for the psychiatric intensive care reimbursement rate. The IHA advocacy team attended Iowa Health and Human Services work group meetings where the reimbursement rate was set. [Email Jamie Horbach](#) at IHA for more information about submitting comments.

The advocacy team this week also:

- Attended the tertiary care work group.
- Met with Rep. Ann Meyer, chair of the Human Resources Committee, to discuss IHA's 2023 legislative priorities.

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### IHA releases latest hospital data trends

IHA had collected data trends from [100 hospitals for January-August 2022](#) as compared with the same time frame in 2021:

- Acute discharges decreased 2% as acute patient days increased 3.8%.
- Hospital-based ambulatory surgery visits increased 3.4%.
- Average facility paid hours increased 8.9%.
- Average length of stay increased 6.1%.
- Average physician paid hours increased 21.3%.
- Births increased 4.7%.
- Charity care decreased 8.9%.
- Emergency department visits increased 5%.
- Facility employment (excluding physicians) increased 8.9%.
- Inpatient admissions from the emergency department decreased 1.7%.
- Inpatient surgeries decreased 16.9%.
- Medicaid acute discharges decreased 5% and Medicaid acute patient days increased 1.8%.

- Net patient revenue (collected charges) increased 4.3%.
- Outpatient utilization increased 9.7%.
- Payroll and benefits expense increased 12.2%.
- Total average paid hours increased 12.2%.
- Total expenses increased 7.6%.
- Uncompensated care (bad debts) increased 17.7%.

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

### **Interim CEO named for Ottumwa Regional Health Center**

William Keifer was appointed interim CEO of Ottumwa Regional Health Center starting Monday, Nov. 7. He replaces Dennis Hunger. Contact [Chief Nursing Officer Lori Bailey](#) at 641-684-2725 with immediate questions.

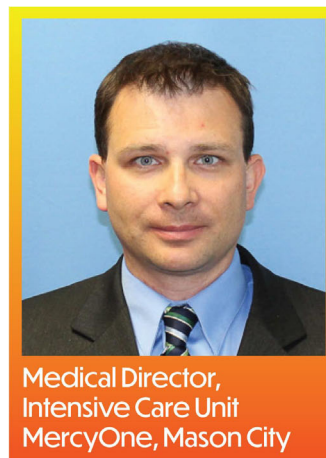
### **Thank you to the 2022 Iowa Hospital Heroes**

IHA and Iowa hospitals are grateful to our hospital staff who ensure hospitals provide quality care every day. Twelve hospital heroes were recognized at IHA’s 2022 Annual Meeting, and each is being highlighted in IHA Today. This issue features Douglas Summerfield, M.D., from [MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center in Mason City](#). Thank you to all the 2022 heroes and hospital staff for your work and compassion.

If you have someone you want to [nominate as a hospital hero](#), take note for next year’s recognition at the 2023 IHA Annual Meeting scheduled from Oct. 10-11. [Email Craig Borchard](#) at IHA with questions.

## **Dr. Douglas Summerfield**

Dr. Summerfield specializes in critical care medicine at MercyOne, and has served his country for more than 20 years in the Air National Guard Critical Air Transport Team transporting wounded and critically ill soldiers. Most notably, he helped rescue more than 100 Syrian refugees. Dr. Summerfield played a lead role in creating crisis protocols for treating patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. His participation in a video to educate the public allowed viewers an inside look into what health care professionals were dealing with.



Medical Director,  
Intensive Care Unit  
MercyOne, Mason City

### **Registration still open for IHC Patient Safety Conference**

The [Iowa Healthcare Collaborative's Patient Safety Conference](#) highlights best practices and innovations for health care quality improvement and patient safety. Conference presenters will share patient safety tips that directly affect outcomes in patient safety and equity.

Participants will learn and be inspired to engage in quality activities that improve patient safety and quality across the health care continuum. The conference is scheduled from 8:45 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, at the Meadows Events and Conference Center in Altoona.

## NewsStand

### Iowa news

- [Report shows 24% of Iowa's rural hospitals at risk of closure](#)
- [MercyOne restores all hospital and clinic information systems](#)
- [Voters in Kossuth County hear EMS essential service pitch](#)

### National news

- [Medicare fines for high hospital readmissions drop](#)
- [No evidence of link between COVID-19 vaccines, cancer spike](#)
- [Thousands of kids hospitalized by RSV annually. That could soon change.](#)

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### Online education

- [Swing-bed Fundamentals](#): Tuesday, Nov. 8
- [Health Care: Embracing Environmental, Social and Governance Issues](#): Wednesday, Nov. 9
- [2022 IHA Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, Nov. 15
- [Getting Ready for Joint Commission and CMS Health Equity Requirements](#): Tuesday, Nov. 15
- [Patient Rights: An Overview](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29
- [COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#): Thursday, Dec. 1
- [Pharmacy Conditions of Participation](#): Tuesday, Dec. 6
- [CMS Updates](#): Thursday, Dec. 15

### In-person meetings

- [340B Day](#): Tuesday, Nov. 8
- [IHA Leadership Development Program](#): Wednesday, Nov. 16 - Tuesday, May 16
- [2022 CPHQ Review Course](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29 - Wednesday, Nov. 30
- [Grant Writing Workshop](#): Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023

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The IHA Digital on Demand store offers:

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- [CEO podcasts](#).
- Previously recorded [webinars and presentations](#) including project presentations from the Advanced Leadership Academy.
- [Trustee resources](#).

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## 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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