



Prime Healthcare Services, CottageHealth System Recognized in Thomson Reuters Study

Prime Healthcare Services and Cottage Health System were recognized in the Thomson Reuters 100 Top Hospitals study. Ontario-based Prime Healthcare Services was acknowledged in the category of medium health systems as one of the 15 Top Health Systems in the nation based on quality of care, efficiency and patient satisfaction. Santa Barbara-based Cottage Health System was recognized in the category of small health systems.

The Prime Healthcare hospitals included in this study were Centinela Regional Medical

Center, Chino Valley Medical Center, Desert Valley Hospital, Encino Hospital Medical Center, Garden Grove Medical Center, Huntington Beach Hospital, La Palma Intercommunity Hospital, Montclair Hospital Medical Center, Paradise Valley Hospital, San Dimas Community Hospital, Shasta Regional Medical Center, Sherman Oaks Hospital and West Anaheim Medical Center.

Cottage Health System operates Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, Cottage Children's Hospital, Cottage Rehabilitation Hospital,

Goleta Valley Cottage Hospital and Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital.

Study comparisons included the following factors: mortality index, complications index, patient safety index, core measures (mean percentage), AMI 30-day mortality rate, HF 30-day mortality rate, pneumonia 30-day mortality rate, AMI 30-day readmission rate, HF 30-day readmission rate, pneumonia 30-day readmission rate, average length of stay, HCAHPS score.

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CalOptima Board Approves Recommendation to Serve as Dual Eligibles Demonstration Site

The CalOptima Board of Directors approved staff's recommendation to move forward with an application to serve as a Dual Eligibles Demonstration site, with the expectation that CalOptima and the County of Orange will agree to language concerning the County's ongoing role in administering In-Home Supportive Services and Medi-Cal mental health services, and with the assurance that a definitive go/no-go decision can be made by the CalOptima Board once additional information about financial risks and program design is known.

Applications are due to DHCS on Feb. 24. If CalOptima is selected as a demonstration site, its OneCare program would likely transition into the demonstration project. The future of other (Kaiser Permanente and commercial) SNP programs operating in the county is unclear at this time. CalOptima would receive capitated rates for this population, and rates to hospitals are also unknown at this time. It would be expected that hospital volumes for this population would drop, as all efforts would be made to prevent hospitalization, reduce readmissions,

and expand community and in-home care support. Stakeholder engagement is required on access issues.

Additionally, the Board received a status report from staff on the CalOptima/UCI Intergovernmental Transfer Agreement. Board members again expressed interest in understanding options for use of the funds coming back to CalOptima. Staff will provide the Board with additional information in the coming weeks, and an action item will be scheduled for the March 1 Board Meeting.

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RN Leadership Skills Program Will Take Place Feb. 22

HASC presents *Leadership Skills for the Registered Nurse*, scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 22 at Los Robles Hospital & Medical Center.

The HASC hospital member rate is \$95 by Feb. 8. This annual program tends to fill up quickly. To register, visit [https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.](https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=LEAD452E&TID=TI1T1QWw%2bKR3%2fu8vQs8Avg%3d%3d)

[aspx?EID=LEAD452E&TID=TI1T1QWw%2bKR3%2fu8vQs8Avg%3d%3d](https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=LEAD452E&TID=TI1T1QWw%2bKR3%2fu8vQs8Avg%3d%3d).

The seminar will specifically cover the impact of emotions when making decisions and how to identify team behaviors known to produce better performance and improved outcomes.

The course will be led by Christine Horton, RN, chief clinical officer for Flex Ed who has more than 15 years of teaching experience as well as management background as a perinatal director.

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Role of the Charge Nurse Seminar Set for Feb. 27

Advanced leadership strategies, communication techniques, priority setting and conflict management will be the key topics for *Role of the Charge Nurse*, a half-day educational program scheduled for Monday, Feb. 27. This annual program fills up quickly and space is limited.

Participants will learn how to

assess patient care needs and match them with staff competence and ability, how to manage conflict, and will understand the importance of relationship management skills in interdepartmental communication.

The course leader, Mark Kaliher, RN, is trained in ER nursing, and has worked as a staff nurse and

relief charge nurse.

Program cost is \$95 for HASC member hospitals.

For more information and to register, visit

<https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=ROLE287E&TID=J699Jbgml0DUfHbsYE%2fBBw%3d%3d>.

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Nurses for a Healthy California Townhall Meeting Feb. 27

A townhall meeting titled *Partner with Nurses for a Healthy California* at the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce is scheduled to take place Monday, Feb. 27. Hosted by the California Action Coalition, this meeting is a special discussion of ways to improve health care in California and will feature an opportunity for consumers to meet and talk with nurses, health care leaders and policy makers about current issues and concerns.

The event is part of efforts to develop and implement long-term sustainable actions for nurses to improve health in California. The movement is a result of the *Future*

of Nursing report the Institute of Medicine released in October. A blueprint to optimize the contribution of nursing to the health of the nation's population, the report includes eight recommendations that address a range of system changes. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in partnership with the Center to Champion Nursing in America at AARP, appointed the California Action Coalition as one of 36 states to lead implementation of these recommendations. The coalitions are the driving force of the overall initiative to move key issues forward at local, state and national levels.

The three-hour townhall meeting

will include lunch, a presentation by nurses who promote health in communities, and a panel discussion with a variety of the state's health care leaders to identify priorities to improve California's health. The event begins with registration and lunch from 11 to 11:30 a.m. followed by the town-hall meeting from 11:30 to 2 p.m. at the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

Register online at <http://events.signup4.com/future-ofnursingtownhallmeeting>, by phone, (213) 538-0705, or by fax, (213) 482-8537.

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PDS University Session Will Focus on Competitive Service Lines

Register now to attend PDS University's next webinar titled *Play to Your Strengths: Identifying Your Most Competitive Service Lines*.

This 20-minute interactive webinar will focus on how to use PDS data to identify your most competi-

tive service lines. Learn about the ways to use this information to help offset projected losses due to declining government reimbursement and fewer inpatient days. Use this information to market high quality and high performance service lines.

The session will take place Wednesday, Feb. 29 at 1:00 p.m. To register, visit <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/950534530>.

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Web Seminar on Organized Labor Set for Feb. 29

Register now for *State of the Union: Organized Labor Review* webinar, on Wednesday, Feb. 29 from 10 to 11 a.m.

A product of the HASC Labor Resource Library, this informative seminar will present labor union trends in the United States and the California health care industry. Hear about the pending changes that will drastically affect the way

the NLRB will conduct elections. Faculty will also identify top labor union organizations in health care.

The online program will be led by Susan Connelly, who began her career with PTI Labor Research in 1998; Douglas R. Hart, one of the leading class action litigators in the country; and Susan Harris, who has led The Burke Group's Healthcare Division for more than

13 years.

This webinar allows you to attend and participate without ever leaving the office. The seminar is presented live, via the Internet. Multiple staff can participate from one location for one tuition fee. Program cost is \$110 for HASC members and \$125 for non-members.

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HASC COO Network Group Meeting March 7

The HASC COO Network Group will meet on March 7, focusing on Enhancing the Patient Experience.

Topics will include:

- *Enhancing the Patient Experience*
- Keynote speakers from Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and

University of California – Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center

- *Generating Value for your Customers: A Lean Framework*
- Jennifer Wortham, DrPH, Institute for Performance Excellence Group
- *Group Discussion and*

Brainstorming: Identifying the Service Excellence Drivers

For more information, visit <http://www.hasc.org/board-committee-meeting/coo-network-2>.

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Top HR Issues Highlighted at Annual HASC Conference

HASC's interactive seminar *2012 HR Issues - Are You Ready?* offered timely, critical information on issues that impact human resources within hospitals and health systems. Experts presented the most recent information on the Safe Patient Handling legislation and attendees learned how local hospitals are responding. Another hot topic was top labor union strategies and tactics as well as the current regulatory climate of the

National Labor Relations Board. The program also discussed Health Care Reform and the significant impact to HR professionals beyond the changes needed to health insurance plans. HR practitioners from local hospitals shared their stories of HR excellence.

Panel discussions focused on the following topics:

- Shifting the Culture to Prepare for Hospital-Wide Safe Patient Handling

- Best Practices – “Up Close and Personal”

Session topics highlighted information in these timely areas:

- Federal Regulations, Labor and Employment Developments and Important Issues to California Hospitals
- Healthcare Reform and the Impact on HR

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