



FOR PHYSICIANS INTEGRATION UPDATE

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Moving Forward – A Merger Update

On January 6, the creation of KentuckyOne Health was announced retroactive to January 1, 2012. This merger brought together two of the three original potential partners, Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare and Saint Joseph Health System. The week prior, Governor Beshear rejected the proposed merger that included University Medical Center. There still may be opportunities for collaboration with University Medical Center and the University Of Louisville School Of Medicine in the future.

With the announcement of KentuckyOne Health came the introduction of the CEO, Ruth Brinkley, FACHE. She is a nationally recognized health care leader and former executive at Ascension Health and Catholic Health Initiatives, and a nurse. This is a return to Kentucky for Brinkley. She was previously CHI's Louisville group vice president for five years, leading regional strategy development and operations improvement for six health care systems.

For now, there are no immediate changes being made related to the merger. Some decisions and changes may occur fairly quickly, others may take years. In comments to a group of hospital leaders, Brinkley was very specific in her direction that everyone "should continue to do the outstanding job they are currently doing." She went on to say that she will be very deliberate in thinking through any changes. Brinkley further explained that "deliberate" didn't mean slow, it simply meant that she wants to have all the information needed to make the best decisions for the organization moving forward. A transitional leadership team will be in place by early February.

The integration process includes developing plans to grow services lines as well as a continued focus on quality and safety. Within the next 90 days Brinkley will be meeting with physicians both individually and in groups.

Catholic Health Initiatives will contribute \$320 million to launch KentuckyOne Health. The new system plans to invest in an integrated electronic health record system and other IT improvements plus make additional facility equipment and telehealth investments in communities across Kentucky.

OneCare: The Electronic Health Record for KentuckyOne Health

In November, OneCare was introduced to KentuckyOne Health leaders and providers as one of the ways the new organization will transform health care in the Commonwealth. OneCare will enable the creation of a **universal electronic health record** for each patient regardless of where within the system they receive care. Patient records will be accessible to providers across KentuckyOne, and instantly updated with each provider encounter.

OneCare is organized into three major initiatives:

- Ambulatory Care, which includes new tools such as Allscripts for physician practice management and ambulatory electronic health records (AEHR).
(Note: Allscripts will be used only in physician practices within KentuckyOne Health.)
- Hospital Plus, which includes the standardization of clinical content, documentation, and physician orders for hospital electronic health records, using the Cerner tool.
(Note: Cerner will be used in all hospitals and ambulatory care center locations within KentuckyOne Health.)
- Access Plus, which includes a physician online portal, patient online portal, and the underlying infrastructure and security necessary to support all of the new technology.

As the following illustration indicates, there are multiple aspects to each of the three major initiatives. In all, OneCare will take about three years to complete, and require the involvement of nearly every employee and provider across KentuckyOne.



The two major OneCare projects currently underway within KentuckyOne are:

- Design and build of the **Cerner** platform that will be used to create the acute-care electronic health record. Clinical project managers, organizational team leads and subject matter experts from across KentuckyOne are now working in nine specific design teams to customize Cerner for the unique needs of KentuckyOne patients and providers. Teams are working on clinical care – orders and documentation, medication

management, health information management, lab, surgery, scheduling, emergency and radiology. Team representatives also participated in a system review at Cerner headquarters in Kansas City Jan. 9 –12.

- **AEHR**, which includes tools such as Allscripts and will be used in affiliated physician practices, specifically those within KentuckyOne. Advance teams, formed last fall, continue to conduct comprehensive readiness assessments, reporting and other planning in the areas of organizational effectiveness, communications, applications, infrastructure and technology.

Questions & Answers

Q. Will University of Louisville Hospital join us later?

A. We spent 18 months working on a merger that would have included University of Louisville Hospital and the James Graham Brown Medical Center. It was a great disappointment that the governor did not approve University Hospital being part of the merger. KentuckyOne Health will continue to look for ways to work with University Hospital. We are also very committed to working with the University of Louisville School Of Medicine to further academic relationships.

Q. What will the merger mean to the availability of reproductive services?

A: Most reproductive services will continue to be provided just as they were before the merger, as long as they are not performed for the sole indication of elective abortion, sterilization or contraception.

Therefore, the following are no longer offered:

- Elective sterilizations including tubal ligations, vasectomies, or Essure procedures
- Insertion of IUDs or diaphragms when contraception is the only indication
- Dispensing of contraceptives for the purpose of pregnancy prevention
- Artificial insemination and in-vitro fertilization

Q. What do we know about the shortage of health care providers in Kentucky?

A. 2007 physician workforce shortage study found Kentucky had a shortage of about 2,700 physicians at that time. The Kentucky Hospital Association projects that the shortage will reach 3,000 by 2020. That calculation does not take into account that some 500,000 Kentuckians will become insured in October of 2013 as a result of health care reform legislation.

Q. Who owns KentuckyOne Health?

A. As a nonprofit organization, KentuckyOne Health has sponsors – not owners. The two sponsors are:

- Jewish Hospital HealthCare Services (cosponsor of Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare)
- Catholic Health Initiatives (sponsor of Saint Joseph Health System and cosponsor of Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare).

The two-way merger includes Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare and Saint Joseph Health System.

KentuckyOne is governed by a 15-member board of directors. Jewish Hospital HealthCare Services appoints five members and Catholic Health Initiatives appoints 10 members.