

2nd Annual Health Care Predictions:

***2019 will be "the year of coalitions
in health care"***

Rob Watilo, Chief Strategy Officer SE Washington

DIVERSE COALITIONS WILL FORM TO TACKLE THE TOUGHEST ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE

Amazon, Berkshire Hathaway and JP Morgan creating an independent healthcare company for their employees.

In 2018 PSJH and 6 other major healthcare systems came together to form Civica Rx, a not-for-profit generic drug company to address the national crisis around surging drug prices and shortages.



HEALTH SYSTEM MEGA-MERGERS WILL COOL DOWN IN 2019

After several recent years of high profile mergers, health systems are focusing on integration and delivering quality and value across scale. Community partnerships will be critical.



A POTENTIAL RECESSION WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON HEALTH CARE

Hospitals already operate on very narrow margins, a recession could decrease revenue even further. Downgrades by the ratings agencies are likely, and more hospitals may be forced to close, especially smaller, rural facilities.



IN THE MOVE TO THE CLOUD DATA SECURITY WILL BE THE TOP CONCERN FOR PROVIDERS

Cloud computing will make it easier for providers to aggregate and leverage data to support more informed clinical decision making. It will also require new partnerships with big tech companies to ensure patient data is secure.



MORE TECH INDUSTRY TALENT WILL JOIN HEALTHCARE

Delivery of healthcare through technology is rapidly increasing (telemedicine; online appointments, etc.)



TRADITIONAL PROVIDER ROLES WILL BLUR AS DRUGSTORES, INSURERS OFFER DIRECT PATIENT CARE

The recent mergers between CVS and Aetna, as well as Cigna and the retail pharmacy Express Scripts are partnering to deliver patient care. Some consider this disruption happening in both directions as providers are reinventing themselves by expanding into retail; health and wellness etc.



THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY WILL COME UNDER HEIGHTENED PUBLIC SCRUTINY

With soaring drug prices and frequent shortage, RX companies will feel the heat from consumers, legislators and regulators in 2019.



HOMELESSNESS, SUICIDE AND OPIOIDS WILL BE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVING HEALTH

The social factors that affect health will take on great strategic significance for health care systems.



IMPROVING QUALITY AND REDUCING COSTS IN THE MEDICAID PROGRAM WILL BE A KEY FOCUS

Medicaid is a critical program and vital safety net for 1 in 5 Americans. Not-for profit providers will continue to be a strong voice for preserving Medicaid expansion.



UNCERTAINTY AND VOLATILITY IN HEALTHCARE POLICY AND REGULATION WILL CONTINUE

Recently a federal judge in Texas ruled the Affordable Care Act unconstitutional which will be a hot topic of debate as the case makes its way through the appeals process.



Questions / Thoughts

