



# HospitalNews

## Members in the News – October 2016

### Robert Pretzlaff, MD, MBA, FAAP and Gary Mono, DO, MBA Named Physician Leaders of Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican



Robert Pretzlaff, MD,  
MBA, FAAP

**Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican** announced that Robert K. Pretzlaff, MD, MBA, FAAP, has been promoted to Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican's chief physician executive and president of Dignity Health Medical Group Nevada, and Gary S. Mono, DO, MBA, will assume the role of chief medical officer.

Dr. Pretzlaff joined St. Rose in 2014 from UC Davis Health System in Sacramento, Calif. Dr. Pretzlaff oversees key medical leadership departments, including quality, patient safety, regulatory, infection prevention and the medical staff office. In his new role, he assumes responsibility for Dignity Health Medical Group Nevada, which has grown rapidly over three years to 40+ providers and 7+ clinic sites, as well as for the St. Rose Quality Care Network, a clinically integrated network of 700+ physicians.



Gary Mono, DO, MBA

Dr. Mono joined the St. Rose Dominican leadership team in 2013 as the Vice President, Medical Staff Affairs, a position he held for three years prior to his promotion. In this role, he served as surgeon champion for American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP), oversaw the rollout of EMMI Solutions for patient education and served as physician champion for the ICD-10 rollout. He has been on the medical staff of St. Rose Dominican since 1992.

"Both Drs. Pretzlaff and Mono are very accomplished clinicians and administrators," said Brian Brannman, senior vice president of operations for Dignity Health Nevada. "I am grateful to both for their service, and appreciate their willingness to expand their roles."

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### Carson Tahoe Health's Healthcare Affiliate, University of Utah Health Care, Ranks No. 1 Nationally in Quality, Accountability

**Carson Tahoe Health** became an affiliate of University of Utah Health Care (UUHC) in 2013, and Carson Tahoe Cancer Center formed an affiliation in 2015 with the university's Huntsman Cancer Institute. Through these strategic alliances, our community can tap into the world-class research and educational resources associated with one of our nation's top academic institutions.

Vizient, Inc. (the largest member-driven health care performance company in the U.S.) announced UUHC finished in first place overall in its prestigious Quality and Accountability Study, besting more than 100 of the nation's most distinguished academic medical centers. Earning the No. 1 spot in this rigorous study means UUHC patients enjoy outstanding outcomes whether they're having a baby or undergoing heart surgery. It also means UUHC posts low



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mortality rates and that patients receive some of the safest care in the country. When discharged, they're less likely to need to be readmitted.

"Carson Tahoe Health is pleased to be an affiliate of UUHC and Huntsman, as they both share our dedication to ensuring our community has the best possible access to high quality care," said Ed Epperson, CEO at Carson Tahoe Health. "We want to congratulate UUHC on receiving this prestigious national award, and we are proud to be associated with our country's top-ranked academic medical center."

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## Fallon Surgeon Completes Healthcare Leadership Program



**Banner Churchill Community Hospital** surgeon Lisa Krupka, MD, FACS, has graduated from a Banner Health program and is poised to share her new leadership expertise to help other surgeons practicing in rural areas. Banner Health's Physician Advanced Leadership Program is a two-year program designed to:

- Grow physician leaders to lead health care transformation
- Encourage physicians to take on new leadership roles
- Increase opportunities for physicians to work effectively with other health care professionals in team settings.

Through the program, physicians participate in onsite sessions in Phoenix, where Banner Health is headquartered, and group coaching calls over six months. That is followed by 15 months of graduate tracks. Physicians learn and practice effective communication, finance, patient experience, health care transformation, leadership and coaching strategies.

"My goal is related to patient satisfaction and providing tools and resources for physicians and providers to improve their communication with patients," Dr. Krupka said. "As a group goal, we will share information we learned in the program to a wider group of physicians in the Banner Health rural communities."

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## Desert Springs Hospital Offers Naturally Dissolving Heart Stent to Patients with Coronary Artery Disease

**Desert Springs Hospital** interventional cardiology team, implanted a patient with the first FDA-approved dissolving Abbott's Absorb heart stent. Desert Springs Hospital is the first hospital in Nevada to offer patient with coronary artery disease a new treatment option that literally disappears over time.

Rafael Valencia, MD, an interventional cardiologist with Nevada Heart and Vascular, implanted a patient with the FDA-approved dissolving heart stent. The Absorb bioresorbable vascular scaffold is a major advance in the treatment of coronary artery disease, which affects 15 million people in the United States and remains a leading cause of death worldwide despite decades of therapeutic advances.



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While stents are traditionally made of metal, Abbott's Absorb stent is made of a naturally dissolving material, similar to dissolving sutures. It disappears completely in about 3 years, after it has done its job of keeping a clogged artery open and promoting healing of the treated artery segment. By contrast, metal stents are permanent implants.

To ensure optimal patient selection and implant technique, Desert Spring Hospital's interventional cardiology team underwent extensive training on the new device.

"It was a privilege to be given the opportunity to be part of the first interventional cardiology team in Southern Nevada to implant the new, fully bioresorbable Absorb coronary stent. In partnership with leading health industry companies can deliver innovative and advanced cardiac care to patients in Southern Nevada," said Dr. Valencia. "This technology promises to be a great addition to the treatment options we can offer our patients to improve their health and well-being."

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## **Centennial Hills Hospital Continues Building Expansion**

**Centennial Hills Hospital** has added another 36 private rooms on the fourth floor dedicated to patient care. The new nursing unit features 20 rooms for either medical or surgical patients, and 16 intermediate medical care (IMC) rooms for patients who require more medically advanced care. The addition increases the hospital's state licensed bed count to 226 beds.

The hospital is still undergoing construction on the third floor, adding another 24 rooms to be used for patients who are in an observation status, meaning physicians are awaiting test results or monitoring patients before they are either released home or admitted for additional care. Called an observation unit, it provides oversight and care for patients in a comfortable environment. It also helps decompress the Emergency department, allowing the ER staff to use the areas previously used by observation patients. The construction project will also add another 12 private rooms for additional needs.

"We're excited to add more private rooms, which increases access to care," said Sajit Pullarkat, CEO/Managing Director of Centennial Hills Hospital. "When we opened in January 2008, we built the hospital to accommodate future growth. We left these two floors unfinished, with plans to add more patient rooms as needed. Since our community is growing, our Emergency department is busy, and we continue to add more programs and surgical services, these rooms are a wonderful asset."

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## **MountainView Hospital Changing All Phone Numbers**

**MountainView Hospital** announced that their facility has gone through a phone systems upgrade. These new systems will help improve customer service to its patients and increased organization to the facility as it continues to grow and add services for the community.

For a complete list, click the link: <http://mountainview-hospital.com/about/phone-directory/>

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