



**Christopher D. Howard**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
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Chris Howard is president and chief executive officer of Sharp HealthCare. In his role as President and CEO of Sharp, Howard oversees a workforce of more than 19,000 employees, 2,700 affiliated physicians and 1,800 volunteers. Sharp provides care and services in a fully integrated not-for-profit system that includes four acute-care hospitals, three specialty hospitals, three affiliated medical groups, six urgent care centers, three skilled nursing facilities, hospice, state-of-the-art outpatient facilities and a health plan.

Howard, whose career spans over 30 years, has worked extensively with integrated care delivery systems, hospitals, medical groups and health plans. Prior to joining Sharp HealthCare, Howard served as chief operations officer for SSM Health where he ensured SSM's hospital, medical group and major business operations in Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and Oklahoma delivered exceptional clinical quality, safety and service for all. He also oversaw SSM's Performance Excellence Organization, system facilities/real estate as well as pharmacy, laboratory, and environmental/food services across the system. Prior to joining the system office, Howard held roles as president of SSM Health's St. Louis and Oklahoma markets.

Howard's early career work was dedicated to medical group management, clinically integrated network administration and risk-based insurance. In these roles, he held accountability for large-scale medical group operations, clinically integrated network formation and development, as well as health plan development/partnerships.

Howard holds a Master of Science Health Care Administration degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Public Health, as well as Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts degrees from the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.