



Around the world of U.S. healthcare in 360 words or less



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Editor's note

[This series](#) is produced by KPMG Healthcare and is intended to be short and succinct, less than 360 words, to provide a weekly digestible bite of healthcare regulatory, policy, and industry news relevant to our clients. Links are provided to source material (proposed and final regulations, agency guidance and press releases, reports, research, etc.) when available. Please share this email with colleagues and other interested individuals, and encourage them to [subscribe to our mailing list here](#).

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Healthcare regulatory news

CMS finalized three annual payment rules for [physicians](#), [hospital outpatient and ambulatory surgical centers](#), and [home healthcare](#); as part of these updates, CMS reduced physician payments by an average 2.9% and increased Medicare home health payments by 0.5% for 2025... On Tuesday, a group of bipartisan House members [introduced a bill](#) that would increase physician pay by 4.73%, more than offsetting the fee schedule cut.

HHS OIG [found](#) Medicare Advantage plans received an additional \$7.5B in risk-adjusted payments from CMS by leveraging home visits and medical chart reviews to diagnose patients with conditions that do not exist, a practice known as upcoding.

HHS, along with its counterparts in Canada and Mexico, released the [North American Preparedness for Animal and Human Pandemics Initiative](#), which aims to strengthen regional health security by promoting a [OneHealth](#) framework and building on lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) generated \$2.1B in savings for the Medicare program in 2023, and ACOs within the program earned \$3.1B in performance payments, [according](#) to CMS.

CMS [postponed](#) the Increasing Organ Transplant Access Model, a six-year mandatory initiative aimed at enhancing access to kidneys, beyond its anticipated start date of January 1, 2025... The delay amidst the government attempts to [overhaul](#) the organ transplant system, with over [100,000 individuals](#) awaiting an organ transplant.



Healthcare law and policy news


Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass) [urged](#) the FTC to evaluate drug wholesalers McKesson and Cardinal Health's acquisitions of oncology practices, adding to the growing trend of [vertically integrated healthcare entities](#).

According to [KFF](#), Medicaid enrollment is expected to decline by 4% in FY 2025 while state Medicaid spending is projected to increase by 7% ... The projected decline in enrollment is driven by ongoing effects from the unwinding of continuous enrollment provision following the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

GlaxoSmithKline has [acquired](#) CMG1A46, an experimental T-cell engager immunotherapy, for \$300M and will investigate its potential to treat lupus and certain types of blood cancers... Preliminary studies suggest [immunotherapy treatments](#) could

potentially alleviate symptoms of hard-to-treat autoimmune disorders.



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