



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

USDA [announced](#) a new spillover of a second H5N1 avian flu strain into dairy cattle, though the agency stated the detection does not change its [containment](#) strategy. H5N1 bird flu has been spreading rapidly in wild birds and [transmitted](#) to dairy cattle beginning in March 2024... [66 Americans](#), most of whom worked closely with livestock, were infected with H5N1 in 2024.

A new [infusion treatment](#) for advanced Parkinson's disease received FDA approval. The prescription medicine, ONAPGO, is a wearable device that treats motor fluctuations in adults with the condition.

The NIH will impose a [15% cap](#) on “indirect costs”, which include overhead and administrative expenses, in research grants with the goal of directing more money toward direct research costs; the announcement has [raised concerns](#) about the impact of the funding change on scientific research.



Healthcare law and policy news

The Senate Finance Committee voted to [advance](#) Robert F. Kennedy Jr.’s nomination as HHS Secretary, and a full vote on his confirmation may occur as early as this week.

Maryland Governor Wes Moore [announced](#) the appointment of Dr. Meena Seshamani as the state’s Department of Health Secretary. Dr. Seshamani formerly served as Director of Medicare and Deputy Administrator at CMS under the Biden administration.

A nonprofit healthcare advocacy group filed a [lawsuit](#) against the Trump administration for removing webpages and datasets from the websites of the CDC, FDA, and HHS. Plaintiffs [argue](#) that the action violates the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) and the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), and request the restoration of all webpages and datasets.

According to a new [poll](#) from Gallup and Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health, healthcare access and affordability remain key concerns for Americans. [Out of pocket healthcare expenditures](#) continue to rise annually for most Americans and [23% of Americans](#) are considered underinsured.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development [sent a report](#) to the state legislature urging lawmakers to set cooling standards for residential dwellings at 82 degrees, citing the negative effects from long-term heat exposure. Recently, [local](#), [state](#), and [federal](#) lawmakers have introduced policies to reduce exposure to extreme temperatures.





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