



# 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

A new [Executive Order](#) from the Trump Administration directs Treasury, Labor, and HHS to take steps to enforce and improve healthcare [price transparency regulations](#) finalized in 2020 by the previous Trump administration. The rules mandate that hospitals and insurers disclose actual prices about the cost of care and improve efforts to make prices comparable across hospitals and insurers.

CMS [announced](#) the public engagement events for the second cycle of negotiations as part of the [Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program](#).

The sessions will provide an opportunity to incorporate stakeholder input on the [15 drugs selected](#) for the second negotiation cycle.

The semaglutide injection product shortage is resolved, [according to the FDA](#). These GLP-1 medications, known by brand names Ozempic and Wegovy and used to treat diabetes and obesity, have been in shortage since 2022 due to increased demand. [Compounded](#) versions have maintained care continuity, although the FDA has [raised concerns](#) about their safety and effectiveness.

The FDA [canceled](#) an upcoming vaccine advisory committee meeting about next season's flu vaccine; the committee was to select which strains of the flu virus manufacturers should target.

ARPA-H recently [announced awards](#) to teams for its Platform Accelerating Rural Access to Distributed & InteGrated Medical care (PARADIGM) program, which aims to improve rural health access by providing hospital-level care in a mobile platform.

The FDA approved [Journavx](#), a novel non-opioid medication, for treating moderate to severe acute pain in adults. The first in its class drug targets certain channels in the nervous system to reduce pain before pain signals reach the brain.



## Healthcare law and policy news

The Senate HELP Committee [scheduled](#) a confirmation hearing on March 5 for Dr. Jayanta Bhattacharya to serve as NIH Director. The committee also scheduled a hearing for Dr. Martin Makary to be FDA Commissioner, slated for March 6.

Wisconsin's [2025-2027 state budget](#) proposes expanding Medicaid to cover low-income residents who earn up to 138% of FPL, which would extend eligibility to ~96K individuals and save the state \$1.9B.

An [outbreak of measles](#) in West Texas has infected 146 people and resulted in one death. Despite the [disease being officially eliminated](#) from the United States in 2000, measles rates have been rising in recent years.



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