



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

The FDA is [launching “Operation Stork Speed”](#), a set of actions aimed at improving the safety and nutritional adequacy of infant formula, including testing for heavy metals in infant formula and other foods for young children. A [recent investigation](#) by Consumer Reports found that some infant formulas may contain potentially harmful levels of heavy metals, including lead and arsenic, although most tested formulas did not pose these risks.

All manufacturers for the 15 drugs selected for the second cycle of Medicare price negotiations have agreed to participate in negotiations,

according to CMS. The agency will propose an initial offer for each selected drug no later than June 1, 2025, following discussions with manufacturers and public engagement sessions with patients and caregivers.

HHS Secretary Kennedy renewed the [opioid crisis public health emergency \(PHE\)](#) for another 90 days, emphasizing the ongoing severity of opioid-involved overdoses despite declining overdose deaths in recent years.



Healthcare law and policy news

The federal government will spend around 20% (\$84B) more on Medicare Advantage beneficiaries than those in traditional Medicare in 2025, according to [MedPAC's most recent annual report to Congress](#), primarily due to favorable selection into MA and coding intensity. The commission recommended options to improve the program, including reassessing the MA benchmark policy and enhancing the accuracy and completeness of encounter data.

[Legislation advanced](#) by the Indiana House Public Health Committee would seek federal approval to implement work requirements in Medicaid for certain managed care enrollees. Similarly, the Kentucky legislature passed the [Medicaid Work Requirements Bill](#), which would add work requirements and establish further oversight to improve budgeting.

Researchers [found](#) that amyloid-lowering therapy may delay the onset of Alzheimer's symptoms in individuals with a genetic predisposition to the disease; however, experts note the study's limitations, such as its small sample size and lack of a control group.

A Tennessee cancer clinic is [pioneering a new telehealth model](#) that uses hologram technology to remotely connect doctors with patients in rural areas...Their approach offers a more immersive experience compared to traditional video conferencing and allows doctors to appear as lifelike holograms, enhancing patient interaction and access to specialized care.



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