



Around the world of US 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 Trump administration released its FY 2026 HHS [regulatory agenda](#), with proposed actions concentrated primarily among FDA, CMS, and ACF and influenced by the “Make America Healthy Again” (MAHA) movement. The plan emphasizes chronic disease prevention, reducing administrative burden and expenses, and combatting fraud, waste, and abuse.

In its [proposed 2027 rule](#) for hospital outpatient departments and ambulatory surgery centers, CMS proposed a 2.4% net increase in payments and several significant policy changes. These include lowering payments for certain drugs purchased through the 340B program, accelerating the recovery of previous 340B overpayments, and removing 638 services from the inpatient-only list. Some stakeholders have [expressed concern](#) that the combined impact of the payment update, 340B payment changes, and other policies could increase financial pressure on hospitals.

CMS is also seeking to increase Medicare payments by an estimated 2.4% for [home health agencies](#) and 1.1% for [ESRD facilities](#) while implementing measures to reduce fraud. Notably, both proposed rules feature requests for feedback on improving end-of-life care for beneficiaries, specifically targeting access to community-based palliative care and tracking patient life goals.



Healthcare law and policy news

According to a Peterson-KFF [analysis](#) of preliminary rate filings across 16 states, ACA marketplace premiums are projected to rise by a median 14% in 2027. This second consecutive year of double-digit premium increases is reportedly driven primarily by escalating medical cost trends, federal regulatory changes, and sicker risk pools resulting from the expiration of enhanced premium tax credits.

The Supreme Court [elected](#) not to review a lawsuit concerning the authority of states to ban the compounding of FDA-approved medications, potentially empowering states to enforce their own rules on the marketing and labeling of FDA-regulated businesses.

The Senate HELP Committee has [scheduled](#) confirmation hearings on July 15 for CDC director nominee Erica Schwartz, a physician who previously served as deputy surgeon general, and ASPR assistant secretary nominee Sean Kaufman, an infectious disease expert. A hearing has not yet been announced for Nicole Saphier, who was [nominated](#) for the surgeon general role in April.



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