



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

CMS released a state [toolkit](#) on applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy designed to help states protect children with autism and improve program integrity, according to the agency. The resource [provides](#) administrative strategies for states, including implementing prior authorization thresholds, capping care durations, and tracking clinic outcomes aiming to combat inconsistent clinical practices and potential fraud.

HHS has initiated the process to [decertify](#) Network for Hope, the organ procurement organization serving Kentucky and parts of Indiana, Ohio, and West Virginia, [due to](#) alleged patient safety failures identified in federal reviews. The action, which the organization plans to appeal, follows findings of improper donor evaluations and other safety lapses.



Healthcare law and policy news

According to a Harvard researcher, [exempting](#) all drug manufacturers with "most-favored nation" deals from new Medicare pricing models could reduce projected savings by 71%; specifically, excluding rare disease treatments from the [GUARD](#) model would eliminate approximately half of the remaining retail drug savings. These warnings come as biotech companies [lobby](#) the Trump administration to exempt rare disease treatments from the [GLOBE](#) and GUARD pilots, which aim to align US drug prices with lower international benchmarks.

A federal court ruling has [vacated](#) a 2023 regulation, allowing hospitals to include patients from uncompensated care pools in Medicare disproportionate-share hospital (DSH) payment calculations. The decision may lead to millions of dollars in increased annual payments for safety-net hospitals and could help them maintain eligibility for the 340B drug discount program.

According to a new [GAO report](#) assessing health-related wearables' use in clinical care, continuous, real-world data could support monitoring, diagnosis, and treatment decisions, but unreliable or nonrepresentative data, privacy and cybersecurity risks, interoperability barriers, and clinician workload may constrain adoption.

A federal judge [dismissed](#) an antitrust lawsuit filed by a compounding pharmacy against drug makers Eli Lilly and Novo Nordisk. The court found the pharmacy failed to plausibly show that the drug makers' exclusive telehealth deals illegally suppressed competition, [ruling](#) that antitrust laws protect overall market competition, not individual competitors.

Dr. Erica Schwartz was [confirmed](#) by the Senate as the new director of the CDC, filling a leadership position that was vacant for nearly a year. Her confirmation was passed with a 51-44 vote.



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