The following information comes from directly from news sources including Bloomberg Government, Kaiser Health News, and other news sources.

Schedules: White House and Congress

WHITE HOUSE

- 12:30pm: President Trump departs White House for Michigan, Wisconsin and Nebraska for campaign rallies
  - 2:30pm: Trump holds rally in Lansing, Mich.
  - 5:45pm: Trump holds rally in West Salem, Wisconsin
  - 9pm: Trump holds rally in Omaha, Nebraska
- Trump then travels to Las Vegas, Nevada where he’ll stay overnight
- VP Mike Pence travels to N.C., S.C. for re-election campaign events despite his chief of staff testing positive for Covid-19

CONGRESS

- Senate has adjourned until Nov. 9
- House out

Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News

- **Bloomberg Government: Senate Confirms Barrett**: The Senate confirmed Amy Coney Barrett on a partisan 52-48 vote, and Justice Clarence Thomas administered the first of two required oaths to Barrett on the South Lawn of the White House a short time later with Trump looking on. Chief Justice John Roberts will administer the second oath in a private ceremony at the Supreme Court today, letting Barrett begin work as a justice and solidifying the court’s 6-3 conservative majority just eight days before the presidential election.
  - With the clearest anti-abortion record of any high court nominee in decades, Barrett’s appointment is a major victory for Evangelical Christian groups that have loyally supported Republicans and are a crucial voting bloc for Trump. The court is scheduled to hear arguments on the ACA a week after the election. The Trump administration is urging the court to declare the law invalid, including its protections for people with pre-existing health conditions.

- **The Wall Street Journal: Study Shows Covid-19 Antibodies Waning Over Time, Suggesting Immunity Might Wear Off**: A large English study showed the number of people with Covid-19 antibodies declined significantly over the summer, suggesting that getting the virus might not confer long-lasting immunity from future infection. The survey of 365,000 adults in England who tested themselves at home using a finger-prick test showed the proportion of people testing positive for Covid-19 antibodies declined by 26.5% between June 20—12 weeks after the peak of infections in the country — and Sept. 28.
• **The New York Times: CDC Says Nurses Are At High Risk For Covid-19**: Among health care workers, nurses in particular have been at significant risk of contracting Covid-19, according to a new analysis of hospitalized patients by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The findings were released Monday as a surge of new hospitalizations swept the country, with several states hitting record levels of cases.

• **Bloomberg Government: States Get More Time to Report Bad Small-Batch Drugs**: States have more time to report complaints about medications made in small batches thanks to an outline of their reporting expectations updated yesterday. States can enter in formal agreements with the Food and Drug Administration to report information about small-batch drug manufacturing going on within their borders. Those agreements are not legally binding, but provide a window into the local pharmaceutical trade and help the FDA spot potentially contaminated medicines.

• **The Washington Post: Hospitals In Nearly Every Region Report A Flood Of Covid-19 Patients**: Hospitals in many regions of the country — the Upper Midwest, the Mountain West, the Southwest and the heart of Appalachia — are seeing record levels of patients suffering from covid-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus. More than 42,000 people were hospitalized nationally with the virus Monday, a figure that is steadily climbing toward the midsummer peak caused by massive outbreaks in the Sun Belt. In the places hit the hardest, this is nudging hospitals toward the nightmare scenario of rationing care.

• **Politico: Medicare And Medicaid To Cover Early Covid Vaccine**: The Trump administration this week will announce a plan to cover the out-of-pocket costs of Covid-19 vaccines for millions of Americans who receive Medicare or Medicaid, said four people with knowledge of the pending announcement. Under the planned rule, Medicare and Medicaid will now cover vaccines that receive emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration, the people said, which is a change from current policy. The regulations, which have been under development for weeks, are likely to be announced by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on Tuesday or Wednesday.