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**

- President Trump has no public events scheduled
- Vice President Mike Pence visits Cape Canaveral, Fl

**CONGRESS**

- Negotiations on a stimulus package continue after Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin put a $916 billion relief plan on the table
- Senate meets at 10am; to vote on three nominees to FEC; then holds four hours of debate on motions that would disapprove of arm sales to the United Arab Emirates
- House meets at 10am; set to consider 10 bills including H.R. 8900, which would extend government funding through Dec. 18

**Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News**

- **Politico: Confusion Grips Capitol Amid Flurry Of Stimulus Plans**: No one seems to know what’s going on with coronavirus relief anymore. In the span of an afternoon, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell suggested dropping discussions on the two biggest sticking points. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin offered a new proposal to Speaker Nancy Pelosi. A bipartisan group of senators is still working to finalize language on a $908 billion package. And President Donald Trump endorsed new stimulus checks.

- **Associated Press: Pfizer Vaccine Moves Closer To Getting The OK In The US**: U.S. regulators Tuesday released their first scientific evaluation of Pfizer’s COVID-19 vaccine and confirmed it offers strong protection, setting the stage for the government to green light the biggest vaccination effort in the nation’s history. The analysis by Food and Drug Administration scientists comes ahead of a Thursday meeting where the agency’s independent advisers will debate if the evidence is strong enough to recommend vaccinating millions of Americans. A final FDA decision and the first shots could follow within just days. They are among a whirlwind of developments that are expected to make multiple vaccines available by early next year, in the U.S. and beyond.

- **AP: Studies Suggest AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine Safe, Effective**: New results on a possible COVID-19 vaccine from Oxford University and AstraZeneca suggest it is safe and about 70% effective, but questions remain about how well it may help protect those over 55 — a key concern for a vaccine that health officials hope to rely on around the world because of its low cost, availability and ease of use. Still, experts say the vaccine seems
likely to be approved, despite some confusion in the results and lower levels of protection than what some other vaccine candidates have shown.

- CNN: Officials Aiming to Have Covid-19 Vaccine Administered within 96 Hours of Authorization: Covid-19 vaccines will be distributed to vulnerable populations within days of an emergency use authorization (EUA), an official said, as the US wrestles with an all-time high of daily new cases. "We will start to have shots in arms within 96 hours of EUA," Gen. Gustave Perna, chief operating officer of Operation Warp Speed, said Tuesday. "That's what I believe with all my heart."

- Bloomberg Government: House to Vote on One-Week Stopgap, Health Extensions: The House is scheduled to vote today on a continuing resolution (H.R. 8900) to keep the federal government running for an additional week, ahead of a Friday night deadline. It also would extend several health provisions and other programs covered by the first CR and has a few other health provisions. Negotiations continue on a full omnibus spending measure for fiscal 2021. For more on the measure

- Bloomberg Government: House Floor: The House today is scheduled to consider an additional health-related measure:
  - Clinical Trial Participation: The Government Accountability Office would have to study how federal agencies address barriers to participation in federally funded cancer clinical trials by underrepresented populations under H.R. 1966. It would include trials that are largely funded by federal agencies such as the National Institutes of Health, Defense Department, and Veterans Affairs Department. The measure is named for Henrietta Lacks, whose cancer cells were used without her consent to develop treatments for multiple diseases and advance medical research. The measure was introduced in March 2019 by the late Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-Md.).

- Bloomberg Government: Dispute Processes for Discount Drugs Clear Review: The White House yesterday completed its review of a dispute process between low-income facilities and drug companies that sell them discounted products, meaning the policy could be published any time. Drug companies have to sell medications to facilities that serve primarily lower-income patients at steep discounts, commonly referred to as “340B” discounts.

- The Hill: Bipartisan Fix For 'Surprise' Medical Bills Hits Roadblock: A broad bipartisan effort to pass legislation protecting patients from massive “surprise” medical bills is now on life support as House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal (D-Mass.) digs in on a separate proposal. Democratic and Republican leaders of three committees in the House and Senate have been pushing for months to pass their measure, which would prevent Americans from unexpectedly getting hit with medical bills for thousands of dollars for common scenarios like treatment from a doctor outside their insurance network when they require emergency care.