

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: October 13, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate is not in session.
- The House is not in session.

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - American Medical Association (Press Release): AMA examines PBM market competition and integration with insurers - <https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/ama-examines-pbm-market-competition-and-integration-insurers>
 - Bloomberg: Medicare Drug Negotiation and Rebate Group Formally Organized - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJNSR4DWRGG0>
 - Bloomberg: Eisai CEO Bets on Alzheimer's Drug Approval, Medicare Coverage - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJMU0ST0AFB4>
 - Bloomberg: Medicare Plans Draft Rule to Accelerate Medical Device Coverage - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJNM84DWLU68>
 - Forbes: The Inflation Reduction Act: What The Healthcare Provisions Mean For Your Business - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/rhettbuttle/2022/10/13/the-inflation-reduction-act-what-the-healthcare-provisions-mean-for-your-business/?sh=635f84ad7afa>
 - Politico: The campaign elixir that wasn't - <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/west-wing-playbook/2022/10/12/the-campaign-elixir-that-wasnt-00061495>
 - Stat News (Opinion): Why the U.S. needs a public benefit biopharma industry - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/10/13/why-the-u-s-needs-a-public-benefit-biopharma-industry/>
 - Stat News: FDA and large compound pharmacies settle a long-running dispute over a key list for ingredients - <https://www.statnews.com/pharmalot/2022/10/12/fda-compound-pharmacies-ingredients/>
- Nurse staffing

- RealClearHealth: Domestic Shortage of Nurses Requires Regulatory Support for Innovative Strategies - https://www.realclearhealth.com/articles/2022/10/12/domestic_shortage_of_nurses_requires_regulatory_support_for_innovative_strategies_111421.html
- McKnight's Senior Living: Senior care workers' needs go beyond compensation: survey - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/business-daily-news/senior-care-workers-needs-go-beyond-compensation-survey/>
- Fierce Healthcare: Personal care aides supporting patients at home are in high demand but nearly 3 times more likely to live in poverty - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/personal-care-aides-who-support-americans-living-self-care-disabilities-are-hot-commodity>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - MedPage Today: U.S. Experts Weigh in on Colonoscopy Status in Wake of European Trial - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/gastroenterology/coloncancer/101196>
 - Healio: AGA speaks out on controversial NordICC data citing modest colonoscopy benefit for CRC - <https://www.healio.com/news/gastroenterology/20221013/aga-speaks-out-on-controversial-nordicc-data-citing-modest-colonoscopy-benefit-for-crc>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - Healio: Hearts from SARS-CoV-2-positive donors safe for transplant - <https://www.healio.com/news/cardiology/20221012/hearts-from-sarscov2positive-donors-safe-for-transplant>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Employers Target Expensive Surgeries to Cut Health-Care Costs - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJOQNJTOAFB4>

- Kaiser Health News: As Giant Hospitals Get Bigger, An Independent Doctor Feels the Pinch - <https://khn.org/news/article/hospitals-independent-doctors-squeeze/>
- MedCity News: CMS is proposing a national provider directory. Here's what AHIP thinks it should look like - https://medcitynews.com/2022/10/cms-is-proposing-a-national-provider-directory-heres-what-ahip-thinks-it-should-look-like/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&hsmi=229550481&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9HwF5BECHfWAlwAqEQLIY2wAjKr8lI9heoIKeS3wOxdzkHZMOS00xecxufR XR7Ub7Fe8960lHoeNPcltDymXBG2QPgnw&utm_content=229550481&utm_source=hs_email
- Becker's Hospital Review: USDA awards \$110M toward improving rural healthcare - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/usda-awards-110m-toward-improving-rural-healthcare.html>
- Becker's Hospital Review: 89% of medical practices see significant increase in regulatory burden, survey says - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-physician-relationships/89-of-medical-practices-see-significant-increase-in-regulatory-burden-survey-says.html>
- Fierce Healthcare: MGMA survey: New good faith estimates causing extreme burdens for physician practices - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/mgma-survey-new-good-faith-estimates-causing-extreme-burdens-physician-practices>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Axios: Home health patients, advocates sue Becerra - <https://www.axios.com/2022/10/12/home-health-patients-advocates-becerra>
- Health equity-related items
 - No new items
- Hospital merger news
 - Health Leaders: Essentia Health, Marshfield Clinic In Merger Talks - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/strategy/essentia-health-marshfield-clinic-merger-talks>
 - Fierce Healthcare: Hospital and health system transactions remain infrequent but hefty in Q3 2022: report - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/hospital-and-health-system-transactions-remain-infrequent-hefty-q3-2022-report>