

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: October 14, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate meets in a pro-forma session.
- The House meets in a pro-forma session.

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - Bloomberg: Biden to Order Exploration of Actions to Lower Drug Costs - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJQJYDT0AFBB>
 - Bloomberg: Biden Pushing Lower Prescription Drug Costs in Midterm Press - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJQKKGTP3SHS>
 - Reuters: Biden to sign order seeking new prescription drug cost savings - <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/biden-sign-order-seeking-new-prescription-drug-cost-savings-official-2022-10-14/>
 - ABC News: Biden pushing lower prescription drug costs in midterm press - <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/biden-pushing-lower-prescription-drug-costs-midterm-press-91497004>
 - Axios: New drug law attempts to marry prices to value - <https://www.axios.com/2022/10/14/medicare-drug-prices-value-negotiations>
 - Axios: The Biden administration's next challenge: Paying for discount drug mistakes - <https://www.axios.com/2022/10/14/biden-administration-discount-drug-mistakes>
 - Inside Health Policy: Biden Directs HHS To Lower Drug Prices With Policies Beyond New Drug Pricing Law - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/biden-directs-hhs-lower-drug-prices-policies-beyond-new-drug-pricing-law>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: AMA analysis finds 3 out of 4 states have 'highly concentrated' PBM markets - <https://www.beckerspayer.com/payer/ama-analysis-finds-3-out-of-4-states-have-highly-concentrated-pbm-markets.html>
- Nurse staffing
 - No new items
- Colon cancer-related items

- Cancer Network: Circulating Tumor DNA as a Marker of Minimal Residual Disease - <https://www.cancernetwork.com/view/journal-circulating-tumor-dna-as-a-marker-of-minimal-residual-disease>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - EurekAlert!: C-Path's transplant therapeutics consortium receives EMA draft qualification opinion for iBox scoring system - <https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/967891>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Covid Public Health Emergency Gets Last-Minute Extension by HHS - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJPPNYT0AFB5>
 - MedPage Today: The Medicare Advantage Trade-Off: Saving Money, Losing Access - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/special-reports/exclusives/101213>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: CMS extends bundled payment policy pilot by 2 years - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/cms-extends-bundled-payment-pilot-by-2-years.html>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Healthcare Utilization Lower for MA Beneficiaries with Complex Care Needs - <https://healthpayerintelligence.com/news/healthcare-utilization-lower-for-ma-beneficiaries-with-complex-care-needs>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Urethral Suspension Use Not Impacted by Medicare Payment Policy Changes - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/urethral-suspension-use-not-impacted-by-medicare-payment-policy-changes>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Skilled Nursing News: Where States Land on Making Nursing Home Medicaid Rate Increases Permanent - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/10/where-states-land-on-making-nursing-home-medicare-rate-increases-permanent/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-

newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=eb34e0cd4b&mc_cid=eb34e0cd4b&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3

- Health equity-related items
 - Bloomberg: EPA Finds Evidence of Disparate Impacts in 'Cancer Alley' - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJPLN1T1UM0W>
- Hospital merger news
 - No new items