

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: October 21, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate is not in session.
- The House meets in a pro-forma session.

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - American Hospital Association: CMS to pay all eligible 340B drug claims for CY 2022 at ASP plus 6% due to AHA's legal victory - <https://www.aha.org/news/headline/2022-10-20-cms-pay-all-eligible-340b-drug-claims-cy-2022-asp-plus-6-due-ahas-legal-victory-result-ahas-successful>
 - Bloomberg: AARP Boosted Lobbying Push Around Drug Pricing Law - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RK3LBNT1UMOW>
 - Axios: The next step in Biden's effort to lower drug prices - <https://www.axios.com/2022/10/21/bidens-effort-lower-drug-prices>
 - Inside Health Policy: Amgen: Biosimilars Saved \$21 Billion In Six Years, Trend Likely To Continue - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/amgen-biosimilars-saved-21-billion-six-years-trend-likely-continue>
 - MedCity News: States should be allowed to regulate PBMs according to 35 state AGs advocating in Oklahoma case - https://medcitynews.com/2022/10/states-should-be-allowed-to-regulate-pbms-according-to-35-state-ags-advocating-in-oklahoma-case/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&hsmi=230661360&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9MNz_Ns2RJlbYdehOpoJihNsKbGPz5zezWjcXPwz-IDrvzWvBk5b9OJZBDAbeNmkzialhv5qPMpcz7lnOTI8VK1-kHtQ&utm_content=230661360&utm_source=hs_email
- Nurse staffing
 - Forbes: What's Driving Workplace Satisfaction For Nurses Today — And How Hospitals Can Respond - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2022/10/21/whats-driving-workplace-satisfaction-for-nurses-today-and-how-hospitals-can-respond/?sh=6edd2a486c99>

- RevCycleIntelligence: 85% of Facilities Are Facing Allied Healthcare Professional Shortages - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/85-of-facilities-are-facing-allied-healthcare-professional-shortages>
- McKnight's Senior Living: Nurse leaders identify emotional health, retention as top workforce challenges - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/business-daily-news/nurse-leaders-identify-emotional-health-retention-as-top-workforce-challenges/>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - No new items
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - MedPage Today: Older, Sicker Patients Benefit From ECMO Bridge to Lung Transplant - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/meetingcoverage/chest/101325>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - American Hospital Association: AHA, AMA brief supports No Surprises Act dispute resolution challenge - <https://www.aha.org/news/headline/2022-10-20-aha-ama-brief-supports-no-surprises-act-dispute-resolution-challenge>
 - Forbes: Hospital Productivity Growth Is Flatlining But More Competition Would Revive it - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/adammillsap/2022/10/20/hospital-productivity-growth-is-flatlining-but-more-competition-would-revive-it/?sh=5d8c4c8d6b2c>
 - Forbes: To End Medical Debt, Start By Fixing The Billing Process - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesbusinesscouncil/2022/10/21/to-end-medical-debt-start-by-fixing-the-billing-process/?sh=739c92c11c92>

- Health Affairs: Payment Policy And The Challenges Of Medicare And Medicaid Integration For Dual-Eligible Beneficiaries - <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hpb20220923.93608/full/>
- Stat News: Medicare is going to cap patients' spending on drugs. But there's no such limit for hospital or doctor bills - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/10/21/medicare-will-cap-patients-drug-spending-no-limit-for-hospital-doctor-bills/>
- MedCity News: Geisinger CEO: Price variability won't be solved unless payers & providers get on the same page - https://medcitynews.com/2022/10/geisinger-ceo-price-variability-wont-be-solved-unless-payers-providers-get-on-the-same-page/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&hsmi=230661360&hsenc=p2ANqtz--3JbY4FH67UAUItwh-ssAjyaFbHKyr0tLaQIJPLXZSyfQ6RCeXrUdp3inIspeTz0VEvNtXazq5YaH8rRMBmJrtOFJDQ&utm_content=230661360&utm_source=hs_email
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - MedCity News (Opinion): Stop cuts to Medicare and preserve access to home health services - https://medcitynews.com/2022/10/stop-cuts-to-medicare-and-preserve-access-to-home-health-services/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&hsmi=230661360&hsenc=p2ANqtz--2kqRUyobjDVaxXJd2F-wjbgvIP_3r7YfYPIC30qeChvwH4kmN9BSvbzJlqlu7WP_FZoLeGckb7ar8e9iXAZut2_2dBgQ&utm_content=230661360&utm_source=hs_email
 - McKnights Senior Living: Worry over nursing standards increases, but hope emerges in new survey - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/worry-over-nursing-standards-increases-but-hope-emerges-in-new-survey/>
 - McKnights Senior Living: Trauma care, drug-reduction prove 'scary' tasks as guidance deadline approaches - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/trauma-care-drug-reduction-prove-scary-tasks-as-guidance-deadline-approaches/>
- Health equity-related items
 - Bloomberg: FDA to Focus on Equity in Breakthrough Medical Device Reviews - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RK2FQQT0AFB4>
- Hospital merger news
 - Fierce Healthcare: The FTC and DOJ have vowed to scrutinize private equity deals. Here's what it means for healthcare -

<https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/regulatory/ftc-doj-promise-heavier-scrutiny-pe-deals-healthcare>