

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: October 27, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

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

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - Office of Representative Buddy Carter (Press Release): ICYMI: What's behind PBMs' curtain? Abuses, wealth, and barriers to health - <https://buddycarter.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=10716>
 - AARP: State Biosimilar Substitution Laws Could Reduce Consumer Access and Savings - <https://www.aarp.org/ppi/info-2022/state-biosimilar-substitution-laws-could-reduce-consumer-access/>
 - Axios: Mark Cuban's bid to disrupt the drug supply chain - <https://www.axios.com/2022/10/27/mark-cuban-drug-supply-chain>
 - Healthcare Dive: Satisfaction with pharmacy benefit managers declined in 2022, report shows - <https://www.hrdive.com/news/satisfaction-with-pharmacy-benefit-managers-down/635038/>
- Nurse staffing
 - Healthcare Dive: Over 200,000 healthcare workers quit jobs last year - <https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/covid-pandemic-healthcare-burnout-providers-quit-jobs/634946/>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Nursing groups update guidance on mitigating workplace violence - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/nursing/nursing-groups-update-guidance-on-mitigating-workplace-violence.html>
 - Staffing Industry Analysts: Travel Nurse: Staffing Word Of The Week - <https://www2.staffingindustry.com/Editorial/Daily-News/Travel-nurse-Staffing-Word-of-the-Week-63438?cookies=disabled>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report

- Newsweek: HIV-positive Patient Gets Kidney Transplant From HIV-Positive Donor - <https://www.newsweek.com/groundbreaking-hiv-positive-kidney-donation-hiv-patient-1755140>
- CNBC: More than 100,000 Americans are waiting for an organ transplant - <https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/26/how-organ-donation-works-in-the-united-states.html>
- Healio: Letermovir prevents CMV disease in kidney transplant patients — a ‘less toxic’ alternative - <https://www.healio.com/news/infectious-disease/20221026/letermovir-prevents-cmv-disease-in-kidney-transplant-patients-a-less-toxic-alternative>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Health Care Briefing: Health Premiums Could Surge Amid Inflation - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RKEQ4FT0AFB4>
 - Bloomberg: Inflation Threatens to Send Health-Care Premiums Surging in 2023 - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RKEMCQT0G1KX>
 - Politico: Congress has a plan for endangered rural hospitals. Most aren’t interested - <https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2022/10/congress-has-a-plan-for-endangered-rural-hospitals-most-arent-interested-00063658>
 - Healthcare Dive (Opinion): The American healthcare system is broken — here’s what we can do to fix it - <https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/american-healthcare-system-is-broken-value-based-care-kevin-spencer-premier-family-physicians/634572/>
 - Inside Health Policy: Admin Unveils Exchange Plan Info, Opens Window Shopping - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/admin-unveils-exchange-plan-info-opens-window-shopping>
 - Becker’s Hospital Review: Hospitals on track for worst financial year in decades - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/hospitals-on-track-for-worst-financial-year-in-decades.html>

- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Skilled Nursing News: Why Special Focus Facilities Could Give Turnaround Experts Pause After CMS Program Changes - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/10/why-special-focus-facilities-could-give-turnaround-experts-pause-after-cms-program-changes/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e990cda9f3&mc_cid=e990cda9f3&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3

- Health equity-related items
 - Health Affairs: Healthcare Equity Requires Standardized Disability Data In The EHR - <https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/healthcare-equity-requires-standardized-disability-data-ehr>
 - Stat News: ‘If I were a hospital, I’d be reading the tea leaves’: Pressures grow on the health care industry to reduce its climate pollution - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/10/27/health-care-hospitals-climate-pollution/>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: AHA: Metropolitan Anchor Hospitals Serve More Vulnerable Populations - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/aha-metropolitan-anchor-hospitals-serve-more-vulnerable-populations>

- Hospital merger news
 - No new items

- Senate HELP news
 - Inside Health Policy: Kaine: Sanders, Paul Likely To Lead Senate Health Next Congress - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/inside-telehealth-daily-news/kaine-sanders-paul-likely-lead-senate-health-next-congress>