

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: November 18, 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
 - Reuters: Big Pharma may have to reveal government deals in WHO's draft pandemic rules - <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/big-pharma-may-have-reveal-government-deals-whos-draft-pandemic-rules-2022-11-17/>
 - Axios: Time running out on insulin cost caps - <https://www.axios.com/2022/11/18/time-running-out-on-insulin-cost-caps>
 - Health Affairs: Accumulators And Maximizers: A New Front In The Battle Over Drug Costs (Part 2) - <https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/accumulators-and-maximizers-new-front-battle-over-drug-costs-part-2>
 - Stat News (Opinion): Removing barriers to biosimilar adoption in the United States - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/11/18/removing-barriers-to-biosimilar-adoption-in-the-united-states/>
- Nurse staffing
 - No new items
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - Healio: Racial disparity exists in the waitlist and transplant processes for Black patients - <https://www.healio.com/news/nephrology/20221108/racial-disparity-exists-in-the-waitlist-and-transplant-processes-for-black-patients>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items

- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - American Medical Association: AMA offers new payment concept to reward high-value specialty care - <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/payment-delivery-models/ama-offers-new-payment-concept-reward-high-value>
 - Bloomberg: Coordination Called Key to Health-Care Estimates for Patients - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLI1SDWX2PS>
 - Politico: Physician fees in flux on the Hill - <https://www.politico.com/politicopulse/>
 - Inside Health Policy: CMS: Healthcare.gov Improper Payment Rate Less Than 1% - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/cms-healthcaregov-improper-payment-rate-less-1>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: No Surprises Act protected 9 million patients from surprise bills, new data shows - <https://www.beckerspayer.com/payer/no-surprises-act-protected-9-million-patients-from-surprise-bills-new-data-shows.html>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Skilled Nursing News: Remaining 'High and Unchanged' For A Decade, OIG Report Slams Nursing Home Psychotropic Use - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/11/remaining-high-and-unchanged-for-a-decade-oig-report-slams-nursing-home-psychotropic-use/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=bc84b2d411&mc_cid=bc84b2d411&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
 - Skilled Nursing News: 22 States Petition CMS to End Mandate As 76% of SNF Staff Behind on Vaccines - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/11/22-states-petition-cms-to-end-mandate-as-76-of-snf-staff-behind-on-vaccines/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=bc84b2d411&mc_cid=bc84b2d411&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
- Health equity-related items
 - No new items

- Hospital merger news
 - No new items
- Telehealth news
 - Inside Health Policy: At The Polls: Most Midterm Voters Support Free Telehealth Pre-Deductible - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/polls-most-midterm-voters-support-free-telehealth-pre-deductible>
 - mHealthIntelligence: Telehealth Availability at FQHCs Linked to Engagement in Mental Healthcare - <https://mhealthintelligence.com/news/telehealth-availability-at-fqhcs-linked-to-engagement-in-mental-healthcare>
 - mHealthIntelligence: Healthcare Stakeholders Urge Congress to Retain Telehealth Affordability - <https://mhealthintelligence.com/news/healthcare-stakeholders-urge-congress-to-retain-telehealth-affordability>
- 118th Congress and lame-duck news
 - Washington Post: Meet the new leaders of the Senate health panel: Bernie and Cassidy - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/11/18/meet-new-leaders-senate-health-panel-bernie-cassidy/>
 - Bloomberg: House Panel Will Punch Back on Biden Energy, Health Policies - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLHX1VDWX2PV>
 - Bloomberg: Sanders Seeks Gavel of Senate Health Committee After Shuffle - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLIF52TOAFB4>
 - Politico: Critical time for health care on the Hill - <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/future-pulse/2022/11/17/weighing-a-divided-congress-impact-on-care-00067884>
 - Inside Health Policy: Sanders, Cassidy-Led Health Panel Expected To Maintain Productive Dynamic - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/sanders-cassidy-led-health-panel-expected-maintain-productive-dynamic>
- ALS news
 - No new items