

## HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: November 21, 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
  - Bloomberg: Health Care Briefing: CMS Official Central to Drug Price Law - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLP33MDWX2PV>
  - Bloomberg: Meet the Surgeon-Economist at Heart of Democrats' Drug Price Law - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLP1XOTOAFB4>
  - Bloomberg: US Seeks Input on Expanding Drug Patent Extensions to 5 Years - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLJYPUDWRGG0>
  - Managed Healthcare Executive: Inflation Reduction Act and the Impact on Pharmaceutical Pricing and Investment Decisions - <https://www.managedhealthcareexecutive.com/view/inflation-reduction-act-and-the-impact-on-pharmaceutical-pricing-and-investment-decisions>
- Nurse staffing
  - McKights Senior Living: Healthcare staffing crisis isn't pandemic-related phenomenon, union says - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/business-daily-news/healthcare-staffing-crisis-isnt-pandemic-related-phenomenon-union-says/>
  - McKights Senior Living: Do sign-on bonuses work for healthcare employers? - <https://www.mcknights.com/marketplace/marketplace-experts/do-sign-on-bonuses-work-for-healthcare-employers/>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
  - Still looking for House Oversight report
  - Healio: Disproportionate impact of mass incarceration affects health disparities, transplantation - <https://www.healio.com/news/nephrology/20221121/disproportionate-impact-of-mass-incarceration-affects-health-disparities-transplantation>

- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
  - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
  - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
  - New York Times: What if You Could Go to the Hospital ... at Home? - <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/19/health/medicare-home-hospital.html>
  - Stat News: Patient groups push federal government to enforce health care price estimates - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/11/21/patient-groups-push-federal-government-to-enforce-health-care-price-estimates/>
  - Inside Health Policy: Biden Touts 40% Increase In ACA Enrollment - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/biden-touts-40-increase-aca-enrollment>
  - Modern Healthcare (Opinion): Rural healthcare needs a lifeline that only Congress can provide - [https://www.modernhealthcare.com/opinion/rural-hospitals-closing-congress-chip-kahn-alan-morgan?utm\\_source=modern-healthcare-am&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20221118&utm\\_content=article6-headline](https://www.modernhealthcare.com/opinion/rural-hospitals-closing-congress-chip-kahn-alan-morgan?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20221118&utm_content=article6-headline)
  - Becker's Hospital Review: 'Enough is enough': AMA pushes prior authorization fix - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/enough-is-enough-ama-pushes-prior-auth-fix.html>
- Nursing home quality initiative
  - Skilled Nursing News: Infection Control in Nursing Homes is 'Inadequate', Needs Major Change - [https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/11/why-infection-control-in-nursing-homes-is-inadequate-needs-major-change/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm\\_source=snn-newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=ee871666d1&mc\\_cid=ee871666d1&mc\\_eid=e0557ca2d3](https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/11/why-infection-control-in-nursing-homes-is-inadequate-needs-major-change/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ee871666d1&mc_cid=ee871666d1&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3)
- Health equity-related items

- RevCycleIntelligence: Fewer Patients Have Usual Source of Care, Primary Care Provider - <https://patientengagementhit.com/news/fewer-patients-have-usual-source-of-care-primary-care-provider>
- Hospital merger news
  - Modern Healthcare: Feds, states appeal UnitedHealth-Change Healthcare merger - [https://www.modernhealthcare.com/legal/unitedhealth-change-healthcare-merger-doj-states-appeal?utm\\_source=modern-healthcare-am&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20221118&utm\\_content=article1-headline](https://www.modernhealthcare.com/legal/unitedhealth-change-healthcare-merger-doj-states-appeal?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20221118&utm_content=article1-headline)
- Telehealth news
  - American Medical Association: Senior patients happy with telehealth and want it as care option - <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/digital/senior-patients-happy-telehealth-and-want-it-care-option>
  - Bloomberg: Biden Lays Path to Cyber Regulations for Critical Infrastructure - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLP0RQTOAFB5>
- 118<sup>th</sup> Congress and lame-duck news
  - Stat News (Opinion): Congress: Confront the superbug crisis and pass PASTEUR - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/11/21/congress-confront-the-superbug-crisis-and-pass-pasteur/>
  - Inside Health Policy: Mental Health Advocates Outline Possibilities For End-of-Year Package - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/mental-health-advocates-outline-possibilities-end-year-package>
  - Fierce Healthcare: Sanders, Cassidy in line to lead pivotal Senate HELP committee in next Congress - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/payers/sanders-cassidy-line-lead-pivotal-senate-help-committee-next-congress>
- ALS news
  - No new items