

## HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: November 3, 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
  - Office of Representative Katie Porter (Press Release): New Report by Rep. Katie Porter Exposes Big Pharma's Launch Price Abuse - <https://porter.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=508>
  - Bloomberg: Medicare Drug-Pricing Hiring Binge Gets Under Way at CMS - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RKQD5STOG1KW>
  - The Hill: Corporations dominated lobbying on anti-price gouging bills: analysis - <https://thehill.com/business-a-lobbying/business-lobbying/3717308-corporations-dominated-lobbying-on-anti-price-gouging-bills-analysis/>
  - Axios: Pharma's revenge: Why pharmacy benefit managers could be the next drug pricing battle, *see attached PDF*
  - Fierce Healthcare: CMS locks in court-ordered 340B drug payment rates for 2023, though back payments still to come - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/cms-locks-court-ordered-340b-drug-payment-rates-2023-though-back-payments-still-come>
- Nurse staffing
  - No new items
- Organ donation and transplantation items
  - Still looking for House Oversight report
  - No new items
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
  - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation

- Skilled Nursing News: Worrying 4.4% Cut Leaves Nursing Home Therapy Providers in Limbo - [https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/11/worrying-4-4-cut-leaves-nursing-home-therapy-providers-in-limbo/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm\\_source=snn-newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=d0285b4782&mc\\_cid=d0285b4782&mc\\_eid=e0557ca2d3](https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/11/worrying-4-4-cut-leaves-nursing-home-therapy-providers-in-limbo/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=d0285b4782&mc_cid=d0285b4782&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3)
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
  - American Hospital Association: Addressing Commercial Health Plan Challenges to Ensure Fair Coverage for Patients and Providers - <https://www.aha.org/guidesreports/2022-11-01-addressing-commercial-health-plan-challenges-ensure-fair-coverage-patients-and-providers>
  - Politico: How Medicare is changing in 2023 - <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/politico-pulse/2022/11/02/how-medicare-is-changing-in-2023-00064551>
  - Axios: GOP floats Medicare changes while ducking details - <https://www.axios.com/2022/11/03/gop-floats-medicare-reform>
  - Axios: Hospitals have a target on their backs, *see attached PDF*
  - Kaiser Family Foundation: Hospital Charity Care: How It Works and Why It Matters - <https://www.kff.org/health-costs/issue-brief/hospital-charity-care-how-it-works-and-why-it-matters/>
  - MedCity News: AMA: CMS' 2023 Physician Fee Schedule Would Create 'Financial Instability' - [https://medcitynews.com/2022/11/ama-cms-2023-physician-fee-schedule-would-create-financial-instability/?utm\\_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsmi=232382838&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-93Sy4L2u6qpxnN8G1BbKnjcdsvhKzAQSiSK1o5iOTs9RiZNfbMqZbZwO7FWkhQSO8s5h\\_hshGeZDDp43pjjCddPQIPeg&utm\\_content=232382838&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://medcitynews.com/2022/11/ama-cms-2023-physician-fee-schedule-would-create-financial-instability/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=232382838&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-93Sy4L2u6qpxnN8G1BbKnjcdsvhKzAQSiSK1o5iOTs9RiZNfbMqZbZwO7FWkhQSO8s5h_hshGeZDDp43pjjCddPQIPeg&utm_content=232382838&utm_source=hs_email)
  - Healio: AMA calls on Congress to prevent cuts to Medicare physician payment system - <https://www.healio.com/news/primary-care/20221102/ama-calls-on-congress-to-prevent-cuts-to-medicare-physician-payment-system>
  - Inside Health Policy: AHCA To HHS: Extend PHE, Continuous Medicaid Enrollment - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/ahca-hhs-extend-phe-continuous-medicaid-enrollment>
- Nursing home quality initiative

- No new items
- Health equity-related items
  - Health Affairs: The Equity-First Vaccination Initiative's Challenges And Successes - <https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/equity-first-vaccination-initiative-s-challenges-and-successes>
  - Stat News (Opinion): HHS's proposed rule prohibiting discrimination via algorithm needs strengthening - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/11/03/strengthening-hhs-proposed-rule-prohibiting-discrimination-by-algorithms/>
  - Patient Engagement HIT: Pediatric Studies Exclude LEP Patients, Driving Health Disparities - <https://patientengagementhit.com/news/pediatric-studies-exclude-lep-patients-driving-health-disparities>
- Hospital merger news
  - Fierce Healthcare: Healthcare Dealmakers—UHG wraps up Change Healthcare deal; Rural systems eye 25-hospital merger and more - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/healthcare-dealmakers-uhg-wraps-change-healthcare-deal-rural-systems-eye-25-hospital>
- Telehealth news
  - McKnights Senior Living: Nursing home telehealth 'cliff' avoided with pay rule adjustments - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/nursing-home-telehealth-cliff-avoided-with-pay-rule-adjustments/>