

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: November 7, 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
 - The Hill (Opinion): How Medicare beneficiaries were duped by Rx reform - <https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/3720214-how-medicare-beneficiaries-were-duped-by-rx-reform/>
 - Health Affairs: Medicare Drug Price Negotiation: Key Decisions To Reach A “Fair Price” - <https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/medicare-drug-price-negotiation-key-decisions-reach-fair-price>
 - Inside Health Policy: Panel Backs FDA Plan To Expand KASA Platform To New Drugs, Biologics - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/panel-backs-fda-plan-expand-kasa-platform-new-drugs-biologics>
- Nurse staffing
 - Becker’s Hospital Review: The cost of hospital contract labor in 22 numbers - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/the-cost-of-hospital-contract-labor-in-22-numbers.html>
 - McKnight’s Senior Living: New law creates oversight of staffing agencies but doesn’t protect against ‘price-gouging’ - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/new-law-creates-oversight-of-staffing-agencies-but-doesnt-protect-against-price-gouging/>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - Healio: MMaT-3 policy decreases survival, increases recurrence after transplant in HCC patients - <https://www.healio.com/news/gastroenterology/20221106/mmat3-policy-decreases-survival-increases-recurrence-after-transplant-in-hcc-patients>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items

- Axios: Democrats get a small reason to smile - <https://www.axios.com/2022/11/04/medicare-dental-benefits-democrats>
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Health Care Briefing: Health Riders Eyed for Omnibus, NDAA - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RKZ729T0AFB4>
 - Bloomberg: Democrats Float Combined Omnibus, NDAA as Lame-Duck Riders Mount - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RKZ3VLT0AFB5>
 - Inside Health Policy: Insurers, Advocates At Odds On Standardized Plan Policy - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/insurers-advocates-odds-standardized-plan-policy>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Financial Challenges Persist for Hospitals, Physicians in September - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/financial-challenges-persist-for-hospitals-physicians-in-september>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Bloomberg: Nursing Home Residents' Rights Could Hang on SCOTUS Arguments - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RKZ2H1DWLU6D>
- Health equity-related items
 - Bloomberg: NIH to Fund Diversity, Equity Awards for Research Institutions - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RKTY0HTOG1KW>
 - Healio: 'We have to do better': Liver health equity demands research investment to match burden - <https://www.healio.com/news/gastroenterology/20221106/we-have-to-do-better-liver-health-equity-demands-research-investment-to-match-burden>
- Hospital merger news
 - Axios: More physicians unionize in the face of burnout, consolidation - <https://www.axios.com/2022/11/07/more-physicians-join-unions>
- Telehealth news

- Inside Health Policy: Warner Floats Requiring Cyber Controls To Participate In Medicare - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/inside-telehealth-daily-news/warner-floats-requiring-cyber-controls-participate-medicare>
- Inside Health Policy: Stakeholders: CMS' Refusal To Extend Audio-Only Care Will Hike Health Disparities - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/inside-telehealth-daily-news/stakeholders-cms%E2%80%99-refusal-extend-audio-only-care-will-hike-health>
- Inside Health Policy: PCORI To Study Telehealth Disparities, In-Person Versus Virtual Care - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/inside-telehealth-daily-news/pcori-study-telehealth-disparities-person-versus-virtual-care>
- Congress updates
 - The Hill: GOP majority's to-do list includes COVID-19 response, origins — and Fauci - <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/3716392-gop-majoritys-to-do-list-includes-covid-19-response-origins-and-fauci/>