

## HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: August 10, 2022

### Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate is not in session.
- The House is not in session.

### Health policy update:

- BBB drug pricing and drug price negotiation items
  - Office of Senator Maggie Hassan (Press Release): Senator Hassan, AARP, & NH Health Care Leaders Discuss Historic New Measures to Lower Prescription Drug Prices - <https://www.hassan.senate.gov/news/press-releases/senator-hassan-aarp-and-nh-health-care-leaders-discuss-historic-new-measures-to-lower-prescription-drug-prices>
  - New York Times: For Older Americans, Health Bill Will Bring Savings and ‘Peace of Mind’ - <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/10/us/politics/prescription-drugs-medicare-health-bill.html>
  - Wall Street Journal: What’s in Joe Manchin and Chuck Schumer’s Reconciliation Deal on Climate, Health and Tax Policy? - [https://www.wsj.com/articles/whats-in-joe-manchin-and-chuck-schumers-reconciliation-deal-on-climate-health-and-tax-policy-11658973323?mod=series\\_inflationreductionbill](https://www.wsj.com/articles/whats-in-joe-manchin-and-chuck-schumers-reconciliation-deal-on-climate-health-and-tax-policy-11658973323?mod=series_inflationreductionbill)
  - Bloomberg: Drug Pricing Bill Highlights Limits of Democrats’ Majority Power - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RGE88ODWX2PS>
  - Bloomberg: Pharma Lobby Readies Legal Firepower for Drug Pricing Measures - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RGCWPADWLU6A>
  - Reuters: Pelosi to urge House to pass Biden inflation-reduction bill as is - <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/speaker-pelosi-will-ask-house-pass-biden-inflation-reduction-bill-is-2022-08-09/>
  - CBS News: Inflation Reduction Act could be “game-changing” for millions of U.S. seniors - <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/inflation-reduction-act-lower-drug-costs-medicare-seniors-cbs-news-explain/>
  - The Hill: Schumer: Senate will vote on \$35 insulin cap after GOP blocked it - <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/3594003-schumer-senate-will-vote-again-on-35-insulin-cap-after-gop-blocked-it/>
- Nurse staffing

- Forbes: Why Telehealth And Nurses Should Go Hand-In-Hand - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesbusinesscouncil/2022/08/10/why-telehealth-and-nurses-should-go-hand-in-hand/?sh=469c9a2b33b1>
- Health Leaders: 3 Ways CFOs Are Containing Staffing Costs While Investing In The Future - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/finance/3-ways-cfos-are-containing-staffing-costs-while-investing-future>
- McKights Senior Living: Major nursing home association urges COVID emergency extension, revised guidance - <https://www.mckights.com/news/major-nursing-home-association-urges-covid-emergency-extension-revised-guidance/>
- Colon cancer-related items
  - Oncology Nursing News: Molecular profiling Is a Necessity in Colorectal Cancer Treatment - <https://www.oncnursingnews.com/view/molecular-profiling-is-a-necessity-in-colorectal-cancer-treatment>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
  - Still looking for House Oversight report
  - US News & World Report: The Black and White of Organ Transplants: Equity in the Gift of Life - <https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2022-08-09/the-black-and-white-of-organ-transplants-equity-in-the-gift-of-life>
  - Healio: For-profit dialysis facilities correlate with increased time to wait-listing, transplant - <https://www.healio.com/news/nephrology/20220809/forprofit-dialysis-facilities-correlate-with-increased-time-to-waitlisting-transplant>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
  - Politico: DaVita helped craft new bill to fix “loophole” left by Supreme Court ruling, documents show - <https://www.politico.com/news/2022/08/09/davita-helped-craft-new-bill-to-fix-loophole-left-by-supreme-court-loss-documents-show-00050705>
- Physical rehabilitation
  - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items

- Bloomberg: What Medicare Part A's Belly-up Date Means for You - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RGEBWVTVI5MO>
- Health Affairs: Congress Poised To Extend Enhanced Marketplace Subsidies Through 2025 - <https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/congress-poised-extend-enhanced-marketplace-subsidies-through-2025>
- MedCity News: American Hospital Association turns up the heat on commercial insurers in scathing report - [https://medcitynews.com/2022/08/american-hospital-association-turns-up-the-heat-on-commercial-insurers-in-scathing-report/?utm\\_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=222372973&hsenc=p2ANqtz-bd07t347DHSvmoDRwLhPiA IRBtSW-wi2QGOLQYmnTtXaEmhr1p-MmvS40W1Ro8nqBL178hr5F9l\\_ywi0W9XLpsvKzg&utm\\_content=222372973&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://medcitynews.com/2022/08/american-hospital-association-turns-up-the-heat-on-commercial-insurers-in-scathing-report/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&hsmi=222372973&hsenc=p2ANqtz-bd07t347DHSvmoDRwLhPiA IRBtSW-wi2QGOLQYmnTtXaEmhr1p-MmvS40W1Ro8nqBL178hr5F9l_ywi0W9XLpsvKzg&utm_content=222372973&utm_source=hs_email)
- Modern Healthcare: Insurers to crack down on providers performing unscheduled procedures - [https://www.modernhealthcare.com/insurance/insurers-crack-down-unscheduled-procedures?utm\\_source=modern-healthcare-am-wednesday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20220809&utm\\_content=article3-headline](https://www.modernhealthcare.com/insurance/insurers-crack-down-unscheduled-procedures?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-wednesday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220809&utm_content=article3-headline)
- Modern Healthcare: CMS removes prior authorization for select orthopedic devices - [https://www.modernhealthcare.com/payment/cms-removes-prior-authorization-select-orthopedic-devices?utm\\_source=modern-healthcare-am-wednesday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20220809&utm\\_content=article4-headline](https://www.modernhealthcare.com/payment/cms-removes-prior-authorization-select-orthopedic-devices?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-wednesday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220809&utm_content=article4-headline)
- RevCycleIntelligence: ACO Participation Cuts Medicare Spending on Serious Mental Illness - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/aco-participation-cuts-medicare-spending-on-serious-mental-illness>
- Nursing home quality initiative
  - Skilled Nursing News: 4 Nursing Home Compliance Issues to Watch in 2022 and Beyond - [https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/08/4-nursing-home-compliance-issues-to-watch-in-2022-and-beyond/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm\\_source=snn-newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=569cb4745d&mc\\_cid=569cb4745d&mc\\_eid=e0557ca2d3](https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/08/4-nursing-home-compliance-issues-to-watch-in-2022-and-beyond/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=569cb4745d&mc_cid=569cb4745d&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3)
- Health equity-related items
  - Department of Health & Human Services: HHS Awards Nearly \$90 Million to Community Health Center to Advance Health Equity through Better Data -

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/08/08/hhs-awards-nearly-90-million-dollars-to-community-health-centers-to-advance-health-equity-through-better-data.html>

- RevCycleIntelligence: Total Medicaid Expansion Could Improve Uninsurance, Health Equity - <https://healthpayerintelligence.com/news/total-medicaid-expansion-could-improve-uninsurance-health-equity>