

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: August 18, 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
 - Office of Senator Sherrod Brown (Press Release): Two Million Ohioans Stand To Benefit From New Drug Price Provisions From Inflation Reduction Act - <https://www.brown.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/sherrod-brown-two-million-ohioansbenefit-new-drug-price-provisions-inflation-reduction-act>
 - Washington Post: The Inflation Reduction Act reflects the changing politics of RX drugs - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/made-by-history/2022/08/17/inflation-reduction-act-reflects-changing-politics-rx-drugs/>
 - Stat News: Pharma's likely to sue over Medicare negotiation. Here are the arguments they might use - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/08/18/medicare-negotiation-legal-arguments/>
 - Inside Health Policy: Employer Plans Worry IRA Will Hike Their Drug Prices, Seek Future Reforms - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/employer-plans-worry-ira-will-hike-their-drug-prices-seek-future-reforms>
 - MedCity News: 3 ways to reform the pharmacy benefits industry - <https://medcitynews.com/2022/08/3-ways-to-reform-the-pharmacy-benefits-industry/>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Pharma giants slam Medicare drug price negotiation - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/pharmacy/pharma-giants-slam-medicare-drug-price-negotiation.html>
- Nurse staffing
 - Skilled Nursing News: LPNs Are Asking For Leadership Positions and Staff-Strapped Operators Are Happy to Comply - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/08/lpns-are-asking-for-leadership-positions-and-staff-strapped-operators-are-happy-to-comply/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=8d8c88e046&mc_cid=8d8c88e046&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3

- Becker's Hospital Review: 5 revenue cycle leaders weigh in on staffing challenges - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/5-revenue-cycle-leaders-weigh-in-on-staffing-challenges.html>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - Pharmacy Times: New Therapeutic Targets Could Treat Colon Tumors, Inflammatory Bowel Disease - <https://www.pharmacytimes.com/view/new-therapeutic-targets-could-treat-colon-tumors-inflammatory-bowel-disease>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - Stat News: Organ transplantation is at a crossroads. Major reform is needed - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/08/18/organ-transplantation-is-at-a-crossroads-major-reform-is-needed/>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Inside Health Policy: Exchanges Cheer IRA; CA Asks Insurers to Resubmit Final Rates - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/exchanges-cheer-ira-ca-asks-insurers-resubmit-final-rates>
 - Inside Health Policy: CMS Gives States More Time To Finalize Rates Due To IRA - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/cms-gives-states-more-time-finalize-rates-due-ira>
 - Inside Health Policy: Advocates Weigh Using Enhanced FMAP As Continuous Coverage Payor - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/cms-gives-states-more-time-finalize-rates-due-ira>
 - Healthcare Dive: Payers, hospitals pleased as Biden signs sweeping health bill into law - <https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/biden-signs-inflation-reduction-act-aca-subsidies-payers-hospitals/629865/>
 - Healthcare Finance News: Ambulatory surgery centers compete with hospitals for outpatient dollars -

<https://www.healthcarefinancenews.com/news/ambulatory-surgery-centers-compete-hospitals-outpatient-dollars>

- RevCycleIntelligence: High Out-of-Pocket Costs Led to Low Patient Collection Rates - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/high-out-of-pocket-costs-led-to-low-patient-collection-rates>
- Becker's Hospital Review: CMS home health payment update 'woefully inadequate,' hospital group says - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/cms-home-health-payment-update-woefully-inadequate-hospital-group-says.html>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - McKnight's Senior Living: 'Real solutions' for long-term care needed from legislators, industry leader says - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/real-solutions-for-long-term-care-needed-from-legislators-industry-leader-says/>
- Health equity-related items
 - Health Leaders: Hospital Payment Data Highlights Racial Biases In Healthcare - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/finance/hospital-payment-data-highlights-racial-biases-healthcare>