

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: August 24, 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 Patty Murray (Press Release): Senator Murray, Rep. Schrier Highlight How the Inflation Reduction Act Will Lower Prescription Drug Costs for East King County Seniors - <https://www.murray.senate.gov/senator-murray-rep-schrier-highlight-how-the-inflation-reduction-act-will-lower-prescription-drug-costs-for-east-king-county-seniors/>
 - Office of Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (Press Release): Cortez Masto In Las Vegas: The Inflation Reduction Act Will Lower Prescription Drug Costs For Nevadans - <https://www.cortezmasto.senate.gov/news/press-releases/cortez-masto-in-las-vegas-the-inflation-reduction-act-will-lower-prescription-drug-costs-for-nevadans>
 - Washington Post (Opinion): Drug pricing reforms can hurt innovation. Here are 3 ways to prevent that - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/08/22/medicare-drug-prices-negotiation-innovation/>
 - Bloomberg: Prognosis: The Most Expensive Drug in the US is a Game Changer - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RH46GGT0G1KZ>
 - Axios: New drug pricing laws put cancer drugs in the spotlight - <https://www.axios.com/2022/08/24/cancer-drugs-medicare-negotiations-prices>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: AstraZeneca CEO expects slower drug rollouts, unclear on vaccine long game - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/pharmacy/astrazeneca-ceo-expects-slower-drug-rollouts-unclear-on-vaccine-long-game.html>
 - RealClearHealth: Who Is Profiting from Prescription Drugs? - https://www.realclearhealth.com/articles/2022/08/23/who_is_profiting_from_prescription_drugs_111394.html
- Nurse staffing

- Skilled Nursing News: Why Immigrations Falls Short as a Nursing Home Workforce Solution — And How to Fix It -
https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/08/why-immigration-falls-short-as-a-nursing-home-workforce-solution-and-how-to-fix-it/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=415ce7ac90&mc_cid=415ce7ac90&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
- Kaiser Family Foundation: A Look at Nursing Facility Characteristics Through July 2022 - <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/a-look-at-nursing-facility-characteristics-through-july-2022/>
- Becker's Hospital Review: 7 travel nurse pay trends for healthcare leaders to know - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/compensation-issues/7-travel-nurse-pay-trends-for-healthcare-leaders-to-know.html>
- Becker's Hospital Review: Hospitals cutting services over staffing shortages - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/care-coordination/hospitals-cutting-services-over-staffing-shortages-3.html>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - 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
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Inside Health Policy: Stakeholders Respond To Surprise Billing Reg; Status Update On Deck - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/stakeholders-respond-surprise-billing-reg-status-update-deck>

- Inside Health Policy: Advocates Confident States Will Maintain Medicaid Rolls Into 2023 - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/advocates-confident-states-will-maintain-medicaid-rolls-2023>
- Modern Healthcare: Insured patients become top reason for bad debt at providers - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/finance/insured-patients-become-top-reason-bad-debt-providers?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-wednesday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220823&utm_content=article1-headline
- Fierce Healthcare: Providers scored big wins in new rule governing out-of-network charge disputes, experts say - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/providers-scored-big-wins-new-rule-governing-out-network-charge-disputes-experts-say>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Skilled Nursing News: OIG Launches Investigation into Nursing Home Medicare Payments to Related Parties - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/08/oig-launches-investigation-into-nursing-home-medicare-payments-to-related-parties/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=415ce7ac90&mc_cid=415ce7ac90&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
 - McKnights Senior Living: CQAPI: A modern process born from a pandemic - <https://www.mcknights.com/blogs/guest-columns/cqapi-a-modern-process-born-from-a-pandemic/>
- Health equity-related items
 - American Medical Association: Q&A: When fighting climate change, don't overlook health equity - <https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/public-health/qa-when-fighting-climate-change-don-t-overlook-health-equity>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: 5 recent health equity partnerships - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/health-equity/5-recent-health-equity-partnerships.html>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Viewpoint: Health equity can't be achieved without nurses - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/health-equity/viewpoint-health-equity-can-t-be-achieved-without-nurses.html>