

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: August 26, 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
 - Washington Post: Democrats face challenges as they run on law tackling drug costs, climate - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/08/26/kelly-democrats-prescription-drugs-climate/>
 - Axios: Democrats tout their health care bonafides in midterm stretch run - <https://www.axios.com/2022/08/26/democrats-health-care-bonafides-midterm-stretch>
 - Inside Health Policy: FDA: Investigational Drug Costs May Be Spread Out - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/fda-investigational-drug-costs-may-be-spread-out>
 - Modern Healthcare: Insulin cap for Medicare patients signals hope for others - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/medicare/insulin-cap-medicare-patients-signals-hope-others?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-friday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220825&utm_content=article6-headline
 - National Law Review: The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022: Key Health Care Provisions - <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/inflation-reduction-act-2022-key-health-care-provisions>
 - JAMA Network: The Inflation Reduction Act Is a Foot in the Door for Containing Health Care Costs - <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama-health-forum/fullarticle/2795835>
- Nurse staffing
 - Health Leaders (Opinion): We're Running Out Of Nurses. Here's What We Must Do - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/nursing/opinion-were-running-out-nurses-heres-what-we-must-do>
 - McKnight's Senior Living: Expense pressures overtake workforce issues as top challenge for operators: NIC -

<https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/expense-pressures-overtake-workforce-issues-as-top-challenge-for-operators-nic/>

- McKights Senior Living: Rising operating expenses surpass staffing as top provider concern: NIC - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/business-daily-news/rising-operating-expenses-surpass-staffing-as-top-provider-concern-nic/>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - EurekaAlert!: Mayo Clinic study shows AI may improve prediction of colorectal cancer recurrence - <https://www.eurekaalert.org/news-releases/962851>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - EurekaAlert!: CU surgery faculty member receives DOD grant to study transplant rejection biomarkers - <https://www.eurekaalert.org/news-releases/962927>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - Health Leaders: Are Expanded Supplemental Benefits The MA Skeleton Key? - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/payer/are-expanded-supplemental-benefits-ma-skeleton-key-0>
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Medicare's Cancer Treatment Payment Model Pushed Back Once Again - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RH6UU6DWX2PS>
 - MedPage Today: Docs Likely to See Pay Raise From Private Insurers in 2023, Expert Says - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/practicemanagement/reimbursement/100395>
 - Modern Healthcare: CMS new quality measure requirements worry some health systems - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/safety-quality/cms-new-quality-measure-requirements-worry-some-health-systems?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-friday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220825&utm_content=article2-headline

- Modern Healthcare: CMS finalizes indefinite delay of Radiation Oncology Model - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/medicare/radiation-oncology-model-indefinitely-delayed?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-friday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220825&utm_content=article4-headline
- Fierce Healthcare: KFF: Medicare Advantage enrollment reaches more than 28M in 2022, nearly half of total Medicare population - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/payers/kff-medicare-advantage-enrollment-reaches-more-28m-2022-nearly-half-total-medicare>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Skilled Nursing News: Medicaid Rate Increases Open Doors For Nursing Homes to Finally Plan for Future - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/08/medicaid-rate-increases-open-doors-for-nursing-homes-to-finally-plan-for-future/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=dc57e4b3fd&mc_cid=dc57e4b3fd&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
 - MedCity News: CMS calls on states to tie Medicaid payments to quality measures for nursing homes - https://medcitynews.com/2022/08/cms-calls-on-states-to-tie-medicaid-payments-to-quality-measures-for-nursing-homes/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&hsmi=224066348&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9UeqYgiAnfNp2ce-1WGMOMghHJ2kufa6nmleMR5g57GZKo1UhmqM3uiM9sDIB40PiznAldiVnda7CvIja-hexFQJPBlw&utm_content=224066348&utm_source=hs_email
- Health equity-related items
 - Forbes: How CMS Missed An Opportunity To Advance Health Equity And What Can Be Done About It - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2022/08/25/how-cms-missed-an-opportunity-to-advance-health-equity-and-what-can-be-done-about-it/?sh=375a8f143fbf>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: 10 states with highest coding rates for social-determinants-of-health diagnoses - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/10-states-with-highest-coding-rates-for-social-determinants-of-health-diagnoses.html>