



## Around the world of U.S. healthcare in 360 words or less

Center for Healthcare Regulatory Insight



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Editor's note

*This note is produced every Friday by the [KPMG Center for Healthcare Regulatory Insight](#) and is intended to be short and succinct, no more than 360 words, to provide a digestible bite of healthcare and life sciences news from the past week. Please share this email with colleagues and other interested individuals, and encourage them to [subscribe to our mailing list here](#).*

We welcome your feedback. Let us know if KPMG can help. Please [reply here to me](#), **Larry Kocot**, principal and national leader, KPMG Center for Healthcare Regulatory Insight or simply reply to this email with any comments or requests.

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### Healthcare regulatory news

The [Biden Administration released a memorandum on countering biological threats and enhancing pandemic preparedness](#).

The Office of Management and Budget is reviewing the HHS/CMS [Interoperability and Prior Authorization Proposed Rule](#) that aims to streamline processes related to prior authorization... [CMS will release Medicare Advantage RADV audits conducted from 2011 through 2013](#) to settle a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit filed by Kaiser Health News in 2019.

[FDA delayed review of Biogen's ALS drug](#), Tofersen, by three months.

A [Government Accountability Office \(GAO\) report](#) found HHS' management of the strategic national stockpile needs updating; current stockpiles hold most of the recommended medical supplies, but not in appropriate amounts.

[HHS announced a \\$15M funding opportunity](#) to address the mental health crisis.

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## Healthcare law and policy news

[U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data showed the price of health insurance increased 28.2%](#) from September 2021 to September 2022.

A [Definitive Healthcare report](#) estimated 333,942 healthcare providers left the workforce in 2021; internal medicine and family practice specialties lost the most providers.

New studies found: (1) [enrollment growth in Medicare Advantage plans is projected to surpass 50% by 2025](#), with inclusion of additional benefits cited as a key driver; (2) in 2021, [16.5% of adults skipped, delayed, or used less insulin than needed](#) to save money; (3) [life expectancy at birth in neighborhoods with very low opportunity for children was on average 7 years lower than life expectancy in very high opportunity neighborhoods](#); (4) [65% of hospitals have published negotiated rates](#) in machine-readable files.

The [U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear cases](#) contesting whether whistleblowers that accuse providers of defrauding the government have to provide details about the alleged false claims... [DOJ filed a False Claims lawsuit against CIGNA](#), alleging the insurer submitted false diagnosis codes to inflate payments.... [DOJ has asked CVS](#) for more [information on its acquisition of Signify](#).

[GoodRx launched a tool](#) to assist providers in finding affordable solutions for medications they prescribe... The [Private Equity Stakeholder Project showed 27 private equity deals in medical staffing](#) during 2021, up from 11 in 2020... [Eyenuk raised \\$26M in series A funding](#) to expand access to AI eye screening... [GSK is partnering with Tempus](#) to improve clinical trial design.

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## Special Section: COVID-19 and Monkeypox News

A [report from the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis](#) found the Trump Administration attempted to compromise the scientific integrity of CDC communications.

The [FDA issued an EUA to Aptitude Medical for Metrix COVID-19](#), an over-the-counter saliva-based molecular test.

[CDC recommended Novavax's monovalent COVID-19 booster](#) for people ages 18 and older.

The [CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) unanimously voted to add COVID vaccines to the Vaccines for Children program](#) that provides free vaccination for Medicaid-covered or uninsured children... [ACIP voted unanimously to add COVID-19 vaccines to the agency's recommended immunization schedules](#) for children and adults.

The [seven-day average of U.S. monkeypox cases hit the lowest point](#), 48 cases on October 19, since June 28.

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Questions or comments, please send to

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