



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

CMS [suspended](#) its surprise billing independent dispute resolution (IDR) process after [a federal district judge](#) vacated the Administration's [IDR fee increase](#).

IRS will release [a proposed rule](#) on excise tax reporting/payment for drug manufacturers refusing to participate in the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program.

FDA approved the [first oral treatment for postpartum depression](#) and Merck's [pediatric Ebola vaccine](#).

DEA [may relax requirements](#) to allow [prescribing of some controlled substances via telemedicine](#) without in-person evaluation.

HRSA [awarded \\$100M](#) to grow the nursing workforce... BARDA [awarded Cue Health a contract](#) to develop a multiplex test for influenza, RSV, and COVID-19.

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Healthcare law and policy news

Supreme Court [blocked](#) Purdue Pharma's opioid [bankruptcy settlement protecting the Sackler family](#) from liability.

Healthcare merger and acquisition [volume in Q2 2023 was down](#) 7% from Q2 2022 and 41% from Q2 2021... Novo Nordisk is [acquiring Inversago Pharma](#) (\$1.1B)... Regeneron is [acquiring Decibel Therapeutics](#) (\$109M)... AstraZeneca will [partner with CanSino Biologics on developing/manufacturing](#) potential mRNA vaccines.

Novo Nordisk [reported its obesity drug, Wegovy, lowered cardiovascular risk](#) 20% in a clinical trial; Novo Nordisk will seek approval for expanded indication... Alliance for Regenerative Medicine [reported there are 1,600+ cell and gene therapy clinical trials](#) this year, up from 1,000 in 2018.

A [NIH-CDC study found](#) just 22.5% of Americans with opioid use disorder received medication to treat the condition in 2021... A [Health Affairs study found](#) 2022 median commercial health plan prices for 46 procedures/services were [1.8 to 2.7 times more expensive than Medicare Advantage](#) prices at the same hospital... A [JAMA study found](#) that while original patents for FDA approvals increased 15%, the ratio of continuation patents increased 200% between 2000-2015.

A [research paper found](#), between 2010 and 2020, hospitals on either side of a merger were [twice as likely to report a data breach](#) the year before and after close... KFF reported ACA marketplace insurers are [seeking median premium increases of 6%](#) for 2024.... AARP [reported the top 25 Medicare Part D drug by spend](#) increase 226%, on average, in price since market entry.

A [Bain survey found](#) 75% of health system leaders believe generative AI has reached a turning point in, but only 6% have a generative AI strategy.

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