



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



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### Editor's note

*This note is produced every Friday by [KPMG](#) 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](#).*

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### Healthcare regulatory news

President Biden [announced an Executive Order](#) to enhance US patients' data security; the order authorizes the Attorney General to prevent large-scale transfer of US healthcare data to countries of concern.

CMS released [final Part 1 guidance](#) on the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan established by the Inflation Reduction Act, providing key details to Part D plans about administering the monthly installment program.

The FDA [withdrew its approval](#) for multiple myeloma treatment Pepaxto due to clinical benefit and safety concerns; the withdrawal is the agency's first use of its power to rescind previously accelerated approvals... The FDA [approved](#) Xolair, the first treatment to reduce severe food-related allergic reactions after accidental exposure; Xolair was first approved in 2003 as an asthma treatment.





## Healthcare law and policy news

Congress is [considering a less comprehensive health package](#) that excludes proposed Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) reforms, price transparency legislation, and other health provisions after failing to reach agreement on key spending priorities.

The DOJ [initiated an antitrust investigation](#) into UnitedHealth and its subsidiary Optum Health for potentially anti-competitive activity.... A DOJ [report](#) found False Claims Act settlements resulted in a record high \$2.7B in 2023, a 54% increase from 2022.

A federal judge approved a [\\$385M antitrust settlement](#) between opioid manufacturer Indivior Inc. and drug wholesalers who claimed the manufacturer illegally suppressed generic competition for its treatment Suboxone... Sandoz agreed to a [settlement](#) in a PA pricing antitrust suit for \$265M.

Adventist Health to [acquire two CA-based hospitals](#) (\$550M) from Tenet Healthcare... Northwell Health and Nuvance Health [are merging](#) to form a 28-hospital health system in NY/CT.

A Reuters [analysis](#) found average US drug prices increased 35% from 2022-2023, citing the development of high-cost rare disease drugs and associated regulatory incentives such as market exclusivity, fee waivers, and tax credits as primary drivers.

Every Cure, a drug repurposing research non-profit [was awarded \\$48M](#) by the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) to develop an AI-powered drug repurposing database.

A CMS [report on national quality measures](#) found significant worsening in patient safety measures and persistent health equity gaps for historically disadvantaged populations during COVID-19; performance on 38% and 47% of quality measures were worse than expected in 2020 and 2021, respectively.



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