



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 by the KPMG Center for Healthcare Regulatory Insight and is intended to be short and succinct, less than 360 words, to provide a digestible bite of news relevant to our clients and practices. Links are provided to source material (proposed and final regulations, agency guidance and press releases, reports, research, etc.) when available.

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Healthcare regulatory news

HHS [OIG released its request for information](#) on revisions to the anti-kickback laws and beneficiary inducement civil monetary penalties... ONC is [seeking comments](#) on criteria for the EHR Reporting Program mandated by the 21st Century Cures Act.

CMS will [allow Part D plans in 2020](#) to use "[indication-based formulary design](#)" to tailor on-formulary coverage of drugs predicated on specific indications... FDA will [withdraw 2014 guidance](#) on pain medicines and [issue new guidance](#) to encourage development of non-opioid pain medications; FDA also [proposed restricting compounding](#) of three bulk drug substances.

CMS [data show](#) that MSSP ACOs generated \$314 million in net Medicare savings in 2017; meanwhile [Next Generation ACOs](#) generated [\\$62 million in net Medicare savings](#) in 2016, the program's first year.



Healthcare law and policy news

Bipartisan leaders in both Congressional chambers [urged HRSA to finalize regulations](#) to improve administration of the 340B drug discount program... Republican Senators [introduced a bill](#) to preserve pre-existing condition protections; while [Senate Democrats attempt to force](#) a vote to block HHS' short-term, limited duration insurance (STLDI) plan rule.

CMS [will repay \\$468.5 million to New York and Minnesota](#) for the states' Basic Health Programs impacted by the Administration's decision to eliminate cost-shared reduction subsidies... [170 medical groups expressed concerns](#) about CMS' proposal to simplify evaluation and management codes for physician reimbursement.

South Dakota [submitted an 1115 waiver request](#) to impose Medicaid work requirements on able-bodied adults in two counties... Nebraska certified [enough signatures](#) to put a Medicaid expansion proposal on the ballot in November; a [judge dismissed efforts](#) to block the measure.

A [federal court ruled](#) that PhRMA lacks standing to challenge [California's drug pricing transparency law](#)... Morgan Stanley [predicted that 8% of hospitals are at risk of closure](#), and another 10% are in "weak" financial health... Clover Health [will launch Medicare Advantage plans](#) in six new markets next year... Cigna shareholders [overwhelming voted to approve](#) its proposed \$67 billion acquisition of Express Scripts... Stryker [will acquire](#) the medical device company K2M Group Holdings for \$1.2 billion.

[CDC reported](#) that 8.8% of all Americans, and 12.5% of Americans under age 65, were uninsured in Q1 2018; and that 47% of individuals had high-deductible plans, up from 43.7% in 2017.



Questions or comments, please send to us-hcinsight@kpmg.com

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KPMG LLP, 3 Chestnut Ridge Road, Montvale, NJ 07645

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