



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

Center for Healthcare Regulatory Insight



October 14, 2022 | Issue 242

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.

[› Subscribe here](#)



Healthcare regulatory news

[FDA approved GlaxoSmithKline's Boostrix](#), a vaccine for mothers in the third trimester to prevent pertussis in infants... [FDA approved scPharmaceuticals' Furoscix](#), to treat chronic heart failure... [FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health launched its Total Product Life Cycle Advisory Program Pilot](#).

[IRS finalized a rule fixing the "family glitch" in the Affordable Care Act](#) by basing eligibility for premium tax credits on the employee's share of the cost of covering both self and family members.

CMS officials wrote that [the agency is considering an expedited coverage pathway for novel medical devices](#).

[USDA invested \\$110M](#) to help 208 rural health care organizations expand critical services.



Healthcare law and policy news

[President Biden will sign an executive order](#) directing HHS to outline how it will use new payment/care models to cut drug costs.

[NIH funded a research project to collect data and develop AI](#) to diagnose patients based on their speech.

[Walmart launched its Healthcare Research Institute \(WHRI\)](#) to help diversify clinical trials... Cost Plus Drugs, Mark Cuban's lower-cost prescription drug company, is [partnering with Capital Blue Cross](#)... [Illumina is partnering with AstraZeneca](#) to expand AI drug discovery... [Walgreens Boots Alliance will complete acquisition of CareCentrix](#) for \$392M... [Brave Health raised \\$40M in series C funding](#) to increase access to behavioral health for Medicaid populations... [Bright Health is discontinuing all plans on ACA exchanges and cutting MA offerings](#).

[Medical Group Management Association's \(MGMA\) annual regulatory burden report](#) showed that prior authorization and good faith estimate requirements were a top source of frustration for medical practices... [Kaufmann Hall reported](#) merger and acquisition transactions between hospitals and health systems remained low in Q3.

New studies found: (1) the [number of liver cancer deaths could increase](#) by over 55% by 2040; (2) [inflation could increase health benefit costs by 10% in 2023](#).

A Kaiser Health News investigation found [that very few hospitals have specialists to treat addiction or related conditions](#)... A New York Times review of federal lawsuits found that [8 of the 10 largest MA insurers faced federal lawsuits for overpayments](#).

The U.S. Preventative Services Task Force recommended [anxiety screenings for children 8 and older](#) and [depression screenings for children 12 and older](#).

Special Section: COVID-19 and Monkeypox News

Xavier Becerra, Secretary of HHS, [extended the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#) by 90 days.

An HHS report found that [COVID-19 vaccines prevented over 300,000 deaths in adult Medicare beneficiaries last year](#), saving the program over \$16B in medical costs.

Dr. Ashish Jha, head of the White House COVID Task Force, [said that there are three or four subvariants that the Task Force is closely monitoring](#) due to the variants having more immune invasiveness or their ability to render treatments ineffective.

[FDA authorized Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech Bivalent COVID-19 vaccines](#) for children aged 6 and older and 5 and older respectively.

[Novavax announced the booster dose of its COVID vaccine produced](#) antibodies against several Omicron variants.

The [FDA granted Emergency Use Authorization to Abbott's Alinity m MPXV test for monkeypox](#).

Questions or comments, please send to

us-hcinsight@kpmg.com.



kpmg.com/socialmedia



[Privacy](#) | [Legal](#)

This email was sent by KPMG LLP, 3 Chestnut Ridge Road, Montvale, NJ 07645

© 2022 KPMG LLP, a Delaware limited liability partnership and a member firm of the KPMG global organization of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Limited, a private English company limited by guarantee. All rights reserved. NDP295619-1A

The KPMG name and logo are trademarks used under license by the independent member firms of the KPMG global organization.