



## 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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**Happy Veterans Day!**

**To all who have served and are currently serving... we honor you for your sacrifice and we are eternally grateful to you for your service to our country.**



### Healthcare regulatory news

The [CMS Innovation Center updated its strategic vision for implementing value-based care](#), now considering incentivizing greater care coordination between primary care doctors and specialists.

[FDA and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office announced a public listening session and request for comments](#) on initiatives to promote competition and greater access to medicines.

An HHS delegation to the United Nations Climate Conference [announced over 100 health care organizations signed the White House/HHS Health Sector Climate Pledge](#).

[HHS issued a proposed rule](#) to modify HIPAA electronic transaction standards for some retail pharmacy transactions and extend applicability of subrogation standards beyond state Medicaid agencies.

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## Healthcare law and policy news

[GAO found that, in 2019 and 2020, three or fewer health insurers held at least 80%](#) of the market share in no less than 42 states.

[Kaiser Family Foundation found half of U.S. hospitals spent 1.4% or less](#) of their total operating expenses on charity care.

A group of [medical organizations asked the Biden Administration](#) to convene a summit to identify solutions to “boarding,” the practice of keeping admitted patients in emergency departments due to lack of inpatient beds which is contributing to the exodus of health care professionals.

New studies found: (1) [use and willingness to use video telehealth increased since the beginning of COVID-19](#), rising sharply among Black Americans and people with less education; (2) [55% of the 1,500 hospitals targeted for a merger between 2010 and 2019 were located in a different commuting zone than the acquirer](#); (3) [Medicare Advantage plan spending on two-sided risk value-based care payment models increased in 2021](#).

[Andreessen Horowitz \(a16z\) Bio + Health fund partnered with Bassett Healthcare Network](#), enabling a16z portfolio companies to address inequities within the rural populations of the network... [Insilico Medicine entered a multi-year, up to \\$1.2B research collaboration with Sanofi](#).

Walgreens Boots Alliance's [VillageMD will acquire Summit Health-CityMD](#) for \$8.9B with additional investment from Evernorth, a Cigna subsidiary... [Juvena Therapeutics raised \\$41M in series A funding](#) to explore turning secreted proteins into tissue regenerating drugs... [RH Capital, a VC firm and fund of Rhia Ventures focusing on early-stage women's health startups, closed its second fund](#) with \$38.5M... [Elevance Health will acquire BioPlus](#), a comprehensive specialty pharmacy.

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## Special Section: COVID-19 and Monkeypox News

A study found that [lifting masking requirements in the Boston area was associated with an additional 44.9 COVID-19 cases per 1000 students and staff](#).

An [FDA Panel voted against authorizing Veru's drug for treating hospitalized COVID-19 patients](#) because of concerns over efficacy and safety... [FDA granted Emergency Use Authorization to Swedish Orphan Biovitrum's Kineret to treat hospitalized COVID-19 adults with pneumonia](#) who are at risk of progressing to severe respiratory failure.

[Pediatric COVID-19 cases have risen nationwide for two consecutive weeks](#).

[COVID-19 deaths have declined nearly 90% since February 2022's high](#) of 75,000 weekly deaths.

[The seven-day average of reported U.S. monkeypox cases hit 23 cases](#) on November 9th.

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