

## September 9, 2022 | Issue 237

Editor's note

This note is produced every Friday by the <u>KPMG Center for Healthcare Regulatory Insight</u> 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 <u>subscribe to our mailing list here</u>.

We welcome your feedback. Let us know if KPMG can help. Please <u>reply here to me</u>, **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



Department of Homeland Security (DHS) <u>finalized regulations removing consideration of use of</u> <u>public health benefits</u>, such as Medicaid, from legal immigration determinations.

An FDA advisory committee <u>voted to approve an Amylyx Pharmaceuticals drug to treat ALS</u>, reversing the same group's vote against the drug in March.

Office of the Inspector General (OIG) identified <u>over 1,700 providers with first-year-pandemic</u> <u>telehealth billing practices posing a high risk of fraud, waste, or abuse to FFS Medicare</u>, totaling \$127.7M in payments.

The <u>FTC will investigate Amazon's \$3.9B acquisition</u> of One Medical, possibly delaying completion of the deal.



<u>Walmart and UnitedHealth Group agreed to 10-year collaboration</u> to expand value-based-care through Walmart Health locations, including launch of a co-branded Medicare Advantage plan.

<u>CVS Health will acquire</u> home health provider Signify Health for \$8B...<u>Novo Nordisk will acquire</u> <u>Forma Therapeutics</u> for \$1.1B to expand its Sickle Cell Disease portfolio...<u>Roche will acquire Good</u> <u>Therapeutics</u> to bolster immuno-oncology offering...UAE-based <u>Pure Health will invest \$500M in</u> <u>Ardent Health Services</u>, the fourth-largest acute care hospital operator in U.S...European Commission ordered Illumina to <u>unwind its \$7B acquisition of cancer startup Grail contrary to last</u> <u>week's U.S.-court ruling</u> in favor of Illumina.

A federal judge ruled that the <u>Affordable Care Act coverage mandate for HIV prevention</u> medications violates religious rights.

A *JAMA* study found that <u>private-equity-controlled physician practices charged 20% more per claim</u> and saw 26% more unique patients, compared to control group of independent practices.

New studies found: (1) <u>Google's new AI model performed on par with radiologists at detecting</u> <u>tuberculosis</u> on chest X-rays; (2) <u>Similarities between common chronic pain and lung cancer</u> <u>metabolic pathways</u>, opening the possibility to research new treatments for both; (3) <u>Pharmaceutical</u> <u>companies may be violating the federal anti-kickback statute</u> by potentially profiting from charitable donations to subsidize patients' drug costs.

<u>CDC data show nearly 22% of U.S. adults received mental health treatment</u> in 2021, compared to 19% in 2019.

<u>Virginia's Advanced Pharma Manufacturing (APM) cluster was awarded \$53M</u> to expand the domestic supply chain for essential medicines and active ingredients.

Bayer will pay \$40M to settle whistleblower lawsuits alleging the company violated the False Claims Act.

## Special Section: COVID-19 and Monkeypox News

A new study (not yet peer-reviewed) found that two doses of the <u>Monkeypox vaccine induce</u> <u>relatively low levels of neutralizing antibodies</u>, although the protective role of neutralizing antibodies is unclear.

The Biden Administration signaled that <u>majority of individuals will only require an annual COVID-19</u> <u>booster</u> moving forward.

<u>The Biden Administration is requesting \$22.4B in emergency funding</u> as part of the short-term continuing resolution (CR) to meet immediate domestic needs and ongoing COVID-19 research and response.



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.