

## September 30, 2022 | Issue 240

### 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.

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\*\* Correction: In last week's edition of ATW 360 (September 23, 2022), we reported on "a bipartisan Senate bill to increase funding and training for mental health care providers to address workforce shortages". The legislation is still being discussed; our note referenced the "proposed provisions for Senate Finance Committee (SFC) Bipartisan Mental Health Workforce discussion draft".



# Healthcare regulatory news

A federal judge ruled that HHS must restore full Medicare drug reimbursement to 340B hospitals for the remainder of the year.

CMS announced 2023 Medicare Part A and B premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance amounts and Part D income-related monthly adjustment amounts.

FDA approved Amylyx Pharmaceuticals' drug, Relyrio, to treat Lou Gehrig's disease.

FDA proposed new rules revising requirements for using "healthy" in food labeling... FDA issued final guidance clarifying its regulatory oversight on Clinical Decision Support (CDS) software functions... FDA released a report stating that aspects of its adaptive regulatory approach, the Software Precertification Pilot Program, are not practical to implement under current statutory or regulatory authorities.

The <u>Biden Administration announced: (1)</u> \$1.5B in funding to support states', tribal lands', and territories' efforts to address the opioid crisis; (2) \$20.5M to increase access to community resources, (3) \$104M to expand access to substance use treatment; and, (4) <u>more than \$8B from over 100 organizations to address hunger and nutrition.</u>



# Healthcare law and policy news

Senate and House leaders <u>agreed to reauthorize FDA user fee programs through 2027, with FDA policy riders deferred for consideration as part of the year-end appropriations package.</u>

Stat News reported on CMS' <u>plans</u> to <u>establish a new division</u> to implement the Medicare drug price negotiation and inflation rebate provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act... <u>AHA and AMA, and others requested</u> that HHS postpone implementation of electronic health information blocking rules.

Biogen will pay \$900M to settle False Claims Act allegations that it provided kickbacks to physicians... Centene will pay \$14M to Massachusetts to resolve claims it overcharged for Medicaid pharmacy services... a federal judge allowed an anti-poaching class-action lawsuit against Surgical Care Affiliates, DaVita and Surgical Partners International to proceed.

New studies found: (1) telemedicine was associated with significantly better (or no difference) in 13 of 16 quality measures as compared to "in office" care; (2) double bonuses in Medicare Advantage are not associated with improvements in clinical or administrative plan performance; (3) 43% of working-age adults were under-insured in 2022.

A <u>report from the American Association for Cancer Research</u> predicted increased incidence of latestage cancer next year due to a decline in early detection during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Special Section: COVID-19 and Monkeypox News

The <u>CDC updated guidance</u> on masking in hospitals and nursing homes; facilities in communities with low levels of COVID-19 transmission can choose not to require doctors, patients, and visitors to wear a mask.

The <u>FDA updated its policy on Emergency Use Authorization</u> (EUA) for COVID-19 tests, stating that they will only review a small subset of new EUA requests.

Pfizer and Moderna asked the FDA to authorize their omicron boosters for children aged 5 to 11.

The White House announced the <u>expansion of the National Monkeypox Vaccine Strategy</u> to include pre-exposure prophylaxis.

New <u>CDC data showed</u> that eligible individuals who did not receive the monkeypox vaccine were 14 times more likely to become infected.



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