



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](#).

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Healthcare regulatory news

CMS finalized CY2024 payment increases for [hospital-based \(3.1%\) and freestanding \(2.0%\) ESRD facilities](#), [home health agencies \(0.8%\)](#), and [hospital outpatient services \(3.1%\)](#); a payment [decrease for physicians \(3.4%\)](#); and [\\$9B in remedy payments](#) to 340B providers.

CMS [proposed "disincentives"](#) for [healthcare providers engaged in information blocking](#), including estimated median financial penalties of \$394,000 and \$686 for hospitals and individual clinicians, respectively.

HHS-Labor-Treasury [proposed](#) refinements to the *No Surprises Act* [independent dispute resolution process](#).

OMB [is reviewing](#) a [CMS interoperability and prior authorization](#) final rule.

FDA [approved Eli Lilly's](#) first-in-class ulcerative colitis treatment... An FDA advisory committee [concluded safety of a CRISPR gene-editing technology](#)

had/can be adequately assessed, setting up an FDA [approval decision](#) on the sickle cell treatment by December 8.

OCR [settled its first ransomware cyber-attack](#) investigation of a HIPAA data breach.

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Healthcare law and policy news

President Biden [signed an AI Executive Order](#), including establishing an HHS AI Task Force and [a safety program for remedying harmful/unsafe uses](#) in healthcare and OMB [released draft implementation](#) guidelines... White House and Department of Education [encouraged schools to keep opioid overdose reversal](#) drugs on school grounds and to train staff/students on use.

AHA [sued HHS](#) over an OCR bulletin [restricting use of third-party web tracking](#) technologies.

IKS Health [acquired AQuity Solutions](#) (\$200M)... Gentiva [completed its acquisition](#) of ProMedica's home health/palliative/hospice business... Eli Lilly [will pay up to \\$600M](#) to acquire Beam Therapeutic's stake in Verve Therapeutics and its [cardiovascular gene therapy programs](#).

JAMA studies found (1) [greater tele-mental health use](#) by Medicare beneficiaries with serious mental illness was associated with more mental health visits during the pandemic, with no change in care quality; and, (2) [wide geographic variation in negotiated rates](#) for seven healthcare procedures.

CDC reported the [US infant mortality rate rose 3%](#) from 2021-2022, the first year-to-year increase since 2001-2022... KFF data show [10M+ people have been disenrolled](#) from Medicaid since April.. A Lown Institute [analysis estimated 22% of stents](#) placed for Medicare beneficiaries between 2019-2021, costing \$2.44B, were unnecessary... ATI Advisory [data](#) show [25% of 2024 Medicare Advantage plans will offer food/produce benefits](#), up from just 2% in 2020.

CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety [launched a campaign/initiative to address](#) healthcare worker burnout.

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