



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

Center for Healthcare Regulatory Insight



June 25, 2021 | Issue 178

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.



Special Supplement: COVID-19 News

In light of the continuing daily volume of COVID-19 activity and news, we have summarized [COVID-19 news for the week in this special supplement](#).



Healthcare regulatory news

CMS announced over [80M individuals are enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP](#); 9.9M enrolled between February 2020-January 2021... CMS announced [\\$20M in state-based marketplace support funding](#).

HHS [withdrew an advisory opinion](#) requiring drug [manufacturers to provide 340B discounts](#) to contract pharmacies; however, enforcement against companies could continue... Biden Administration [appointed members to the 340B Administrative Dispute Resolution Board](#).

FDA approved the [first oral blood thinner for children](#)... FDA statisticians [opposed approval of Biogen's Alzheimer's drug, Aduhelm](#)... FDA granted [breakthrough therapy designation](#) to Biogen and Eisai's Alzheimer's therapy... Eli Lilly will [seek accelerated approval](#) of its Alzheimer's drug.

[HHS-OPM-Treasury-Labor are seeking employer/insurer input](#) on implementing prescription drug-reporting requirements.

OIG [reported on hospital internet-of-things cybersecurity](#) risks... FCC posted [Connected Care Pilot Program guidelines](#) and announced 36 qualifying projects.



Healthcare law and policy news

Senate [confirmed ASPR and SAMHSA Directors](#)... President Biden nominated [Christi Grimm as HHS Inspector General](#).

CMS revoked [Indiana](#) and [Arizona](#) Medicaid work requirements.

Supreme Court declined to hear an [Abbvie case over whether it violated antitrust law](#) by suing to block Androgel generic competition; an [Amarin bid to revive Vascepa patents](#); and a [case from insurers seeking reimbursement for unpaid ACA cost-sharing subsidies](#).

A Missouri judge ruled a voter-approved [measure to expand Medicaid was unconstitutional](#) because expansion lacked a funding source.

Biogen [may adjust the price](#) of Aduhelm after launch, depending on patient uptake... Teva [will pay Mississippi \\$925,000](#) to settle generic drug price-fixing charges.

LifePoint Health [will acquire Kindred Healthcare](#) and invest \$1.5B... Pear Therapeutics [will go public](#) through a \$1.6B SPAC... Health Catalyst [will acquire Twistle](#) (\$104.5M)... Amazon [launched](#) its [AWS digital health accelerator](#)... Blues plans launched a [startup to lower drugs costs through outcomes-based contracts](#) with manufacturers.

A [JAMA study found](#) 46% of the 250 highest spend Medicare Part D drugs in 2016 (33% of total spend) did not have cost-effectiveness analyses... KFF reported [51% of private insurance emergency ground ambulance rides](#) result in “surprise” out-of-network charges ... A study found that [23.7% of hospitals were fully compliant with price transparency requirements](#) in January/February.

Senate Finance Chair [Ron Wyden released principles for drug pricing reform legislation](#)... [Cures 2.0 legislation](#), including a \$6.5B agency to speed breakthrough therapies, was [circulated](#) by House sponsors.



Questions or comments, please send to us-hcinsight@kpmg.com.

Succeeding in the new reality

Visit the COVID-19 resource center for KPMG analysis, insights, and perspectives.

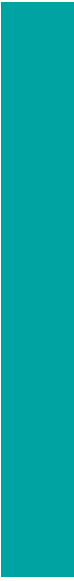


kpmg.com/socialmedia



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

You have received this message from KPMG LLP. If you wish to unsubscribe from Around the world of U.S. healthcare in 360 words or



less, please [click here](#). If you wish to unsubscribe from all KPMG communications, please [click here](#).

KPMG LLP, 3 Chestnut Ridge Road, Montvale, NJ 07645

© 2021 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.

NDP131714-1A

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