



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

Center for Healthcare  
Regulatory Insight



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## Editor's note

**ATW 360 will not be published on Friday, July 7th. We will resume publication on Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. Best wishes for an enjoyable 4th of July holiday!**

*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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## Healthcare regulatory news

CMS released [revised guidance](#) on the [Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program](#).

CMS [proposed increasing](#) 2024 [ESRD facility payments](#) 1.6%.

OIG [finalized](#) civil monetary penalties [up to \\$1M per information blocking violation](#) by health IT developers, exchanges, and networks.

HHS [released evidence-based physical activity guidelines](#) for adults 65+.

FDA approved the [first cell therapy for type 1 diabetes](#) and the [first gene therapy for hemophilia A](#)... FDA [finalized guidance](#) on presenting quantitative efficacy and risk information in direct-to-consumer prescription labeling/advertisements... FDA released [psychedelic drug clinical trial draft guidance](#).

FTC [proposed updating pre-merger notification requirements](#) to require [additional](#) information.

Department of Justice [charged 78 people with \\$2.5B+ in healthcare fraud](#)... GAO [recommended improvements to the Medicaid RAC program](#).

CDC recommended [adults 60+ receive an approved RSV vaccine](#) using shared clinical decision-making... Beginning October 1, Medicaid will [cover COVID-19 vaccination without cost-sharing](#) for fully approved vaccines only... A declassified US intelligence report concluded both "[natural and laboratory-associated origin](#)" could explain the first COVID-19 human infection.

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## Healthcare law and policy news

Optum [will acquire Amedisys](#) (\$3B+)... Eli Lilly is [acquiring Sigilon \(\\$35M\)](#)... Amazon is reportedly [delaying expansion of its Amazon Clinic telemedicine service](#) due to privacy concerns... Amazon [launched a generative AI innovation center](#).

Nuance [will integrate its generative AI clinical documentation product](#) into Epic's EHR... Eli Lilly [reported its obesity drug](#), retatrutide, [led to 24.2% body weight loss](#) at 48 weeks in a mid-stage clinical trial... A [STAT-Harris poll](#) found [44% of Americans would pay \\$100/month](#) for new weight-loss drugs.

Kaufman Hall reported [hospital operating margins were 0.3% YTD](#) through May, up 24% from 2022... National Alliance for Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions [released a playbook](#) for employers contracting with PBMs... Joint Commission will [launch a health equity certification](#) program.

JAMA studies found: (1) commercial negotiated and cash prices for eight common "shoppable services" were [33.7% and 32.7% lower, respectively, at physician-owned hospitals \(POHs\)](#) than non-POHs in the same HRR; (2) Black or multiracial families not participating in SNAP were [more likely than white households to experience food insecurity](#); (3) hospital price transparency [compliance increased from 2021 \(70.4%\) to 2022 \(87.7%\)](#), correlated with increased financial penalties; and, (4) [hospital consolidation is associated with reduced inpatient pediatric services](#) within five years.

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