

[This Week in Health Policy](#), [Congressional Lookback](#), [Regulatory Lookback](#), [Comment & Application Deadlines](#)

Wynne Health Group Weekly



FRAMING THE WEEK

The Wynne Health Group is excited to share that we will be announcing our new CEO, along with a new name and brand that reflects our mission-driven direction, on June 1.

To celebrate these exciting developments and introduce you to our new CEO, **we're hosting a happy hour reception on Wednesday, June 7, from 5-7pm at [Bar Deco](#) in Washington.** You are cordially invited. We hope you will stop by for some drinks, apps, and good cheer. Please RSVP by emailing billy@wynnehealth.com if you plan to attend.

Congressional Update

The Senate is on recess this week, but Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) has notified all Senators that they could be called back "within 24-hours" notice if a deal is made on lifting the debt limit. Though the Senate will take up such a measure only after it passes the House. Negotiations continued through the weekend between President Biden's appointed representatives White House adviser Steve Ricchetti and Office of Management and Budget Director Shalanda Young and House Speaker McCarthy's chosen delegate Congressman Garret Graves (R-LA). President Biden and Speaker McCarthy are scheduled to meet this afternoon. There are 10 days left before the government is expected to run out of funding.

Last week four of the House Appropriations Subcommittee marked up their FY 2024 appropriations bills, including the Military Construction-VA, Agriculture, Homeland Security and Legislative Subcommittees. The Homeland Security Subcommittee provided a \$2 billion increase to their bill (largely for a wall on the southern border), and the Military Con-VA Subcommittee provided full funding for the President's budget request. The largest of the bills, the Department of Defense and the Labor, HHS, and Education bills have yet to be marked up. How House Republicans will manage to cut roughly \$130 billion of federal funding in FY 2024 is yet to be determined, particularly since they have promised to largely spare the Pentagon from any cuts. Meanwhile, the Senate Appropriations Committee announced this week their intention to mark up bipartisan appropriations bills in June.

The House is scheduled to be on recess next week, though that may change depending on the status of debt limit discussions.

Congressional Hearings

On Tuesday, May 23, the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability will hold a hearing to examine Pharmacy Benefit Managers' (PBMs) tactics at multiple levels of the payment and supply chains. [Details](#).

COVID-19 Immunizations

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) [updated](#) COVID-19 vaccine recommendations. The changes allow for an additional bivalent dose for adults ages 65 and older and for people who are immunocompromised. CDC now only recommends the updated bivalent vaccines regardless of any previous doses but does not recommend any additional doses for healthy individuals under age 65 at this time.

Regulatory Update

The Office of Management and Budget is reviewing a number of rules.

- **Calendar year 2024 Medicare payment policies** – specifically, proposed updates to the [Physician Fee Schedule](#) and payment and policy updates for [hospital outpatient departments and ambulatory surgical centers](#), [home health agencies](#), and [end-stage renal disease facilities](#);
- **TCET Pathway** – [Proposed rule](#) that would establish criteria for an alternative coverage pathways to provide transitional coverage for emerging technologies (TCET) under Medicare;
- **Short-Term Plans** – [Proposed rule](#) that would ensure short-term limited duration insurance includes protections for people with pre-existing conditions and other ACA protections; and
- **COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement** – [Final rule](#) on COVID-19 vaccination requirements for staff at Medicare- and Medicaid- participating providers and suppliers.

THIS WEEK IN HEALTH POLICY

Tue. (5/23)

- **8:00am – NIH Meeting: Minority Health** – The National Institutes of Health (NIH) holds a meeting of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to discuss program updates. [Details](#).
- **10:00am – NIH Meeting: Nursing Research** – The NIH holds a meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research to discuss health disparities and artificial intelligence bias reduction. [Details](#).
- **10:00am – Hearing: PBMs Role in Prescription Drug Markets** – The House Committee on Oversight and Accountability holds a hearing to examine Pharmacy Benefit Managers' (PBMs) tactics at multiple levels of the payment and supply chains. [Details](#).

Wed. (5/24)

- **2:00pm – AHP Webinar: Mental Health/Schizophrenia** – The Alliance for Health Policy (AHP) holds a webinar in partnership with the Schizophrenia and Psychosis Action Alliance to discuss the needs of people living with schizophrenia and the implications of the systemic gaps in care experienced by this population. [Details](#).

Thurs. (5/25)

- **1:00pm – NIH Meeting: Translational Science** – The NIH holds a meeting of the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) to discuss its Strategic Plan and program updates. [Details](#).

Additional Multi-Day Events

- **May 24-May 25 – HRSA Meeting: Advisory Council on Migrant Health** – The Health Resources and Services Administration holds a meeting of the National Advisory Council on Migrant Health (NACMH) to discuss barriers to cancer screening and early childhood health for migrant agricultural workers, among other topics. [Details](#).

- **May 23-May 25 – HITAC Meeting: Health Data, Technology, and Interoperability Proposed Rule** – The Health Information Technology Advisory Committee (HITAC) holds a meeting of the HTI-1 Proposed Rule Task Force 2023 to evaluate and provide draft recommendations to the HITAC on the Health Data, Technology, and Interoperability: Certification Program Updates, Algorithm Transparency, and Information Sharing (HTI-1) Proposed Rule. [Details.](#)

FEATURED WHG ANALYSIS

- ***NEW* WHG Updated Chart: PBM Legislation Under Consideration** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **WHG Tracker of COVID-19 PHE Flexibilities** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **WHG Health Policy Guide to the 118th Congress** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **WHG Roundup of Surprise Billing and Transparency Updates**– In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)

CONGRESSIONAL LOOKBACK

Thurs. (5/18)

- **The House W&M Health Subcommittee [convened](#)** a hearing to examine how anticompetitive practices and consolidation negatively impact patient cost and access to health care. [Details.](#)

Wed. (5/17)

- **The E&C Health Subcommittee [convened](#)** a markup of bipartisan bills focused on lowering health care costs, expanding access to treatments, strengthening Medicare, and bringing price transparency to patients. [Details.](#)
- **The House W&M Committee [convened](#)** a hearing to discuss ways that price transparency in health care may help address high costs. [Details.](#)

Mon. (5/15)

- **The House W&M Health Subcommittee [convened](#)** a hearing to discuss how current legislation, regulations and other agency actions are shaping pharmaceutical and medical device innovation, prices and patient access

REGULATORY LOOKBACK

Fri. (5/19)

- **The USDA FNS [announced](#)** that it has partnered with FRAC through a cooperative agreement to award \$16 million in subgrants to improve outreach in WIC. [Details.](#)
- **The GAO [released](#)** a report on access to healthcare in rural areas in the United States. [Details.](#)

Thurs. (5/18)

- **CMS [released](#)** a comprehensive guide for Medicaid school-based services. [Details.](#)
- **The Biden Administration [announced](#)** the launch of the new *ALL INside* initiative to address unsheltered homelessness.

Tues. (5/16)

- **The NIH [released](#)** a study that finds that among US adults, the incidence of chronic pain is higher than that of diabetes, high blood pressure, depression, and other common chronic conditions. [Details.](#)

Mon. (5/15)

- **HHS [provided](#)** additional details on Project NextGen to accelerate the development of the next generation of vaccines and treatments through public-private collaborations. [Details.](#)
- **CMS [issued](#)** request for state and stakeholder comments on updates proposed to the Certified CCBHC PPS Technical Guidance. [Details.](#)

COMMENT & APPLICATION DEADLINES

- **May 30:** CMS [released](#) the FY 2024 hospice payment rate update proposed rule. [Details](#).
- **June 2:** CMS [released](#) the FY 2024 IRF PPS proposed rule. [Details](#).
- **June 5:** The USPSTF [is requesting](#) comment on a draft recommendation statement, draft evidence review, and draft modeling report on screening for breast cancer. [Details](#).
- **June 9:** CMS [released](#) the FY 2024 IPPS and LTCH PPS proposed rule. [Details](#).
- **June 9:** The House Agriculture Committee leadership [launched](#) an online portal to gather feedback about the Farm Bill from non-committee members and the public. [Details](#).
- **June 16:** HHS OCR [released](#) a proposed rule to modify HIPAA Privacy Rule to better protect sensitive information related to reproductive health care. Comments are due June 16. [Details](#).
- **June 20:** HHS ONC [issued](#) a proposed rule to revise and enhance the ONCE Health IT Certification Program. Comments are due June 20. [Details](#).
- **June 23:** CMS [released](#) a proposed rule to revise the definition of “lawfully present” in order to expand eligibility for health insurance coverage through the Exchange, Medicaid, and Basic Health Program to recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. [Details](#).
- **June 30:** The NIH [issued](#) an RFI inviting input on research opportunities and best practices for Food is Medicine research program. [Details](#)
- **July 3:** CMS [released](#) a proposed rule aimed at strengthening access to and quality of care across Medicaid services. [Details](#).
- **August 28:** The FDA [issued](#) an RFI to assess whether in-home disposal products can mitigate the risk of nonmedical use or overdose of opioid analgesics. Submissions are due August 28. [Details](#).
- **September 6:** The FDA [issued](#) a proposed rule to establish tobacco product manufacturing practice (TPMP) requirements. [Details](#).
- **September 29:** The CDC [issued](#) a request for nominations for members to serve on the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HIPAC). [Details](#).

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