

Impact Health Policy Weekly

Framing the Week

The House and Senate are both in recess this week for the Republican's National Convention. Former President Donald Trump will officially be nominated as the Republican candidate for President in 2024. Prior to the convention, the Republican Party released their [2024 Policy Platform](#). While scant on details, the 16-page document pledges to extend Trump-era tax cuts, reign in wasteful spending, end inflation, secure the borders, and promote "peace through strength."

On the healthcare front, the platforms pledges to "increase transparency, promote choice and competition, and expand access to new affordable healthcare and prescription drug options." It further promises to "protect and strengthen Medicare for future generations."

Other healthcare polices outlined in the platform include: a pledge to increase focus on chronic disease prevention and management, Long-Term Care, and benefit flexibility; expand access to primary care; support policies that help seniors remain in their homes; overturn disincentives that lead to worker shortages; and support unpaid family caregivers through tax credits and "reduced red tape."

Not mentioned in the policy document is any reference to Medicaid, SNAP or WIC benefits. Further, the only mention of abortion is the pledge that Republicans will continue to oppose late term abortion, while supporting policies that advance prenatal care, access to birth control, and IVF (fertility) treatments.

Regulatory Update

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is currently reviewing the following rules:

Medicare

- **Fiscal Year (FY) Payment Updates** – The FY 2025 final rules for [hospitals and long-term care hospitals](#), [skilled nursing facilities](#), [inpatient rehabilitation facilities](#), [hospice providers](#), [psychiatric facilities](#) (August 2024).

Medicaid

- **Drug Rebate Program** – The [final rule](#) would establishes requirements related to manufacturers' misclassification of covered outpatient drug products under the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program (MDRP). In addition, it finalizes beneficiary protections, as well as MDRP program integrity and administration changes (June 2024).

Other Topics

- **Healthcare System Resiliency and Modernization** – The [proposed rule](#) would revise and update national emergency preparedness requirements for Medicare- and Medicaid-participating providers and suppliers (was set for December 2023).
- **Tobacco Products** – The [final rule](#) would prohibit the sale of tobacco products to persons younger than 21 years of age (was set for April 2024).
- **Retail Pharmacy Standards** – The [final rule](#) would require pharmacies and vendors to modify the currently adopted National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) standards to the Telecommunications Standard Implementation Guide Version F6 (F6); Batch Standard Implementation Guide version 15; and Batch Standard Subrogation Implementation Guide version 10 (was set for February 2024).

This Week in Health Policy

Thurs. (7/18)

- **1:00pm – CAP Discussion: Medical Debt** – The Center for American Progress holds a discussion with state officials and legal experts on policy options to protect consumers from the financial burdens of medical debt. [Details.](#)
- **1:00pm – Education Department Meeting: Advancing Educational Opportunity for Black Americans** – The Education Department holds a meeting of the Presidential Advisory Commission on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Black Americans for voting on commission business and working group updates. [Details.](#)

Featured Analysis

- ***NEW* Making Sense of the New Landscape for Health Policy After Recent Supreme Court Decisions** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **Impact Mental Health Legislative Update** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **Impact Roundup of Behavioral Health Administrative Actions** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **Impact Chart of Key Provisions of Legislative Proposals on Health Care Price Transparency Requirements** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **Impact Regulatory Outlook: Fall 2023 Unified Agenda** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **Impact Artificial Intelligence Policy Round Up** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)

Congressional Lookback

Thurs. (7/11)

- **The Senate HELP Committee** convened a [hearing](#) to discuss the causes and impact of medical debt and federal solutions. [Details.](#)
- **The Senate Special Committee on Aging** convened a [hearing](#) to examine how Congress can work to increase health care price transparency and lower costs for Americans. [Details.](#)

Weds. (7/10)

- **The House Appropriations Committee** held a [markup session](#) for three FY 2025 appropriations bills covering labor, HHS, education, transportation, HUD, and agriculture, rural development, and FDA and revised subcommittee allocations. [Details.](#)

Regulatory Lookback

Fri. (7/12)

- **USDA FNS** announced three new funding initiatives for healthy school meals, diet-related disease prevention, and technical assistance for states funding summer nutrition support for children and teens. [Details.](#)

Thurs. (7/11)

- **CMMI** [announced](#) the participants in the Making Care Primary (MCP) Model. [Details.](#)

Weds. (7/10)

- **CMS** released the CY 2025 MPFS [proposed rule](#). Comments are due September 9. [Details.](#)
- **CMS** released the CY 2025 OPPS/ASC [proposed rule](#). Comments are September 9. [Details.](#)
- **ONC** released the Health Data, Technology, and Interoperability: Patient Engagement, Information Sharing, and Public Health Interoperability (HTI-2) [proposed rule](#). [Details.](#)
- **SAMHSA** announces activities to improve mental health care for adolescents and pregnant and postpartum individuals. [Details.](#)

Tues. (7/9)

- **The FTC** released an [interim staff report](#) on PBMs. [Details.](#)

Mon. (7/8)

- **CMMI** published a [blog](#) announcing the participants in the Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) Model. [Details.](#)
- **The FDA** released [draft Q&As](#) to address misinformation about medical devices and prescription drugs. Comments are due September 7. [Details.](#)
- **U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy** issued an [advisory](#) declaring firearm violence in the U.S. a public health crisis. [Details.](#)

Comment & Application Deadlines

- **July 22:** USPSTF [requests comments](#) on a draft recommendation statement and draft evidence review on screening for food insecurity. [Details](#)
- **July 26:** AHRQ issued a [request for supplemental evidence and data submissions](#) to inform its review on Mindfulness-Based Interventions (MBIs) for Mental Health and Wellbeing in Children and Adolescents. [Details](#).
- **July 29:** CMS released a [proposed rule](#) to mitigate the impact of significant, anomalous, and highly suspect billing activity involving intermittent urinary catheters on financial calculations in CY 2023 for ACOs participating in the MSSP. [Details](#).
- **July 31:** AHRQ issued an [RFI](#) on new strategies to advance interoperable, shareable, and reusable clinical decision support resources. [Details](#).
- **July 31:** ONC [announced](#) a new data initiative to support maternal health. [Details](#).
- **August 12:** The CFPB issued a [proposed rule](#) aimed at eliminating medical bills from most credit reports. [Details](#).
- **August 17:** CMS released a [notice of funding opportunity](#) for the Expanding Access to Women's Health Grant. [Details](#).
- **August 20:** SAMHSA is [seeking](#) applications for the Women's Behavioral Health Technical Assistance Center (Women's BH TAC) program for fiscal year 2024. [Details](#)
- **August 26:** CMS issued the CY 2025 home health prospective payment and rate update [proposed rule](#). [Details](#).
- **August 26:** CMS released its CY 2025 end-stage renal disease (ESRD) prospective payment system (PPS) [proposed rule](#). [Details](#).
- **September 2:** CMS released an [ICR](#) for the Negotiation Data Elements and Drug Price Negotiations Process for IPAY 2027 of the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program. [Details](#).
- **September 7:** The FDA released [draft Q&As](#) to address misinformation about medical devices and prescription drugs. [Details](#).
- **September 9:** CMS released the CY 2025 MPFS [proposed rule](#). [Details](#).
- **September 9:** CMS released the CY 2025 OPFS/ASC [proposed rule](#). [Details](#).
- **September 20:** CMS released a [notice of funding opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) for the Transforming Maternal Health (TMaH) Model. [Details](#).
- **September 26:** The FDA issued [draft guidance](#) entitled "Diversity Action Plans to Improve Enrollment of Participants from Underrepresented Populations in Clinical Studies." [Details](#).
- **September 30:** The CDC is [seeking nominations](#) for membership on the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC). [Details](#).
- **February 25:** CMMI released an [RFA](#) for the Cell and Gene Therapy Access Model. [Details](#).