



# Around the world of US healthcare in 360 words or less



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## **Editor's note**

*[This series](#) is produced by KPMG Healthcare and is intended to be short and succinct, less than 360 words, to provide a weekly digestible bite of healthcare regulatory, policy, and industry news relevant to our clients. Links are provided to source material (proposed and final regulations, agency guidance and press releases, reports, research, etc.) when available. 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](#) the Global Benchmark for Efficient Drug Pricing ([GLOBE](#)) model, establishing a mandatory demonstration that ties Medicare Part B inflation rebates to international pricing across peer nations from 2027–2032. Although the framework excludes biosimilars, reference biologics, orphan therapies, and select cell and gene

products, some experts [anticipate](#) legal challenges alleging the agency is exceeding its statutory authority.

A new Request for Information released by CDC aims to [assess](#) how public health data intermediaries can strengthen standardized, scalable data exchange and support platforms like the One CDC Data Platform. The initiative aligns with broader HHS directives to harness cross-agency claims, laboratory records, and AI for population-level chronic disease surveillance.

10 pharmaceutical companies covering 21 products received HRSA [approval](#) for a pilot allowing drugmakers to replace upfront 340B statutory discounts with post-dispense rebates verified through a centralized platform. While regulators intend the mechanism to curb duplicate discounting and program abuse, safety-net providers [argue](#) the model may introduce severe cash-flow risks and administrative hurdles.

HHS and ARPA-H [unveiled](#) the SURPASS program alongside other initiatives to accelerate drug development through adaptive trial designs, digital twins, and automated operational platforms. The coordinated framework aims to reduce clinical trial timelines and overhead while expanding domestic site capacity and facilitating direct patient contribution of real-world health data.



## Healthcare law and policy news

The Trump administration began [issuing](#) \$500 refund checks to nearly 1M unsubsidized Affordable Care Act enrollees across 30 federal exchange states. Officials justified the payments as a return of surplus HealthCare.gov user fee overcharges accumulated by the federal government under the previous administration.

Major commercial insurers are [significantly paring](#) individual Medicare Advantage (MA) plan options and [raising](#) deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums for 2027. While federal officials cite program stability due to growth in Special Needs Plans, analysts warn the contraction could trigger the first nationwide decline in MA enrollment since 2023.

Proponents of the Make America Healthy Again initiative are [pressing](#) federal agencies to integrate state health information exchanges into national research platforms to analyze chronic diseases and vaccine outcomes. Although state-federal data pilot programs are

underway, stakeholders emphasize that disparate data governance frameworks and stringent patient consent restrictions pose major barriers to implementation.



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