



CMS Snapshot

July 25- August 1, 2024

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, July 25 through 2pm Thursday, August 1, 2024.

News Releases

*July 26- [CMS Roundup \(July 26, 2024\)](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides an at-a-glance summary of news from around the agency.

*July 26- [Statements from HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra and HHS Principals on the 34th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act](#).

*July 29- [CMS Releases Preliminary 2025 Medicare Part D Bid Information and Announces Premium Stabilization Demonstration](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is releasing preliminary technical Medicare Part D bid information for contract year 2025, to help Part D plan sponsors finalize their Part D and Medicare Advantage (MA) offerings and prepare for Medicare Open Enrollment. For 2025, the base beneficiary premium is expected to increase by \$2.08 for people with Medicare Part D, ensuring affordable choices in a robust market. Additionally, CMS is announcing a voluntary demonstration to support implementation of the redesigned Part D benefit and improve stability and address variation for people with Medicare Part D in 2025.

*July 30- [HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra Statement Marking 59th Anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid](#). Today, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra released the following statement to mark the 59th anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid on July 30, 2024.

*July 30- [SAMHSA Releases Annual National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released the results of the [2023 National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(NSDUH\)](#), which shows how people living in United States reported their experience with mental health conditions, substance use and pursuit of treatment. The 2023 NSDUH report includes selected estimates by race, ethnicity and age group. The report is accompanied by two infographics offering visually packaged highlight data as well as visual data by race and ethnicity.

*July 30- [HHS Awards Phase 1 Winners of Challenge to Prevent Human Trafficking Among Women and Girls](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) Office on Women's Health (OWH) announced the Phase 1 winners of the [HHS Innovation Challenge to Prevent Human Trafficking Among Women and Girls](#) at the "Activating Connections: Mobilizing Communities to Prevent Human Trafficking" event in Washington, DC. The challenge was developed to identify and award existing programs that demonstrate effectiveness in preventing human trafficking and or improving health outcomes related to human trafficking among women and girls.

*July 31- [Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \\$68 Million to Improve Access to HIV Care for Women, Infants, Children and Youth](#). *Announcement Made at Morgan State University in Baltimore at the Latest Stop on HRSA's Enhancing Maternal Health Initiative Tour; Morgan State Recently Became the HRSA Coordinating Center for Research on Maternal Mortality Disparities.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced more than \$68 million in Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funding to provide family-centered medical care and essential support services for women with low incomes, infants, children, and youth with HIV. This announcement supports and advances the Biden-Harris Administration's [National HIV/AIDS Strategy](#).

*August 1- [HHS Office for Civil Rights Imposes a Civil Monetary Penalty of \\$115,200 Against American Medical Response for Failure to Provide Timely Access to Patient Records](#). *The civil money penalty marks OCR's 49th HIPAA Right of Access Enforcement Action.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced a civil monetary penalty of \$115,200 collected against American Medical Response (AMR), a provider of emergency medical services across the United States. The civil monetary penalty was the result of an investigation based on a complaint that AMR had failed to provide a patient with timely access to their medical records. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule's [right of access](#) provisions require that individuals or their personal representatives have timely access to their health information (within 30 days, with the possibility of one 30-day extension) and for a reasonable, cost-based fee.

Fact Sheets

*July 29- [CMS Releases 2025 Medicare Part D Bid Information and Announces Premium Stabilization Demonstration](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is releasing preliminary technical Medicare Part D bid information for contract year 2025 to help Part D plan sponsors finalize their Part D and Medicare Advantage (MA) offerings and prepare for Medicare Open Enrollment. Additionally, CMS is announcing a voluntary demonstration to support implementation of the redesigned Part D benefit and improve stability for people with Medicare in 2025. The preliminary average Part D premiums will be released later this summer.

CMS will release the 2025 landscape in mid-to-late September, as in past years, once all offerings are finalized.

*July 30- [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2025 Hospice Payment Rate Update Final Rule \(CMS-1810-F\)](#). On July 30, 2024, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule (CMS-1810-F) updating Medicare hospice payment rates and the aggregate cap amount, for fiscal year (FY) 2025, in accordance with existing statutory and regulatory requirements. This rule also finalizes the proposal to adopt the most recent Office of Management and Budget (OMB) statistical area delineations, which impacts the hospice wage index and clarifies current policy related to the hospice “election statement” and the “notice of election” (NOE), as well as adds clarifying language regarding hospice admission and certification of terminal illness.

*July 31- [Fiscal Year 2025 Skilled Nursing Facility Prospective Payment System Final Rule \(CMS 1802-F\)](#). On July 31, 2024, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule updating Medicare payment policies and rates for skilled nursing facilities under the Skilled Nursing Facility Prospective Payment System (SNF PPS) for fiscal year (FY) 2025. CMS is publishing this final rule that is consistent with the legal requirement to update Medicare payment policies for SNFs annually. This fact sheet discusses the major provisions of the final rule.

*July 31- [Fiscal Year 2025 Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Prospective Payment System Final Rule \(CMS-1804-F\)](#). On July 31, 2024, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule to update Medicare payment policies and rates under the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Prospective Payment System (PPS) and the IRF Quality Reporting Program (QRP) for fiscal year (FY) 2025. CMS is publishing this final rule in accordance with the legal requirements to update Medicare payment policies for IRFs on an annual basis.

*July 31- [Fiscal Year 2025 Medicare Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System \(IPF PPS\) and Quality Reporting \(IPFQR\) Updates Final Rule \(CMS-1806-F\)](#). On July 31, 2024, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule to update Medicare payment policies and rates for the Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System (IPF PPS) for fiscal year (FY) 2025. CMS is publishing this final rule consistent with the legal requirements to update Medicare payment policies for IPFs on an annual basis.

Blogs

*July 25- [Empowering Transformation - Inaugural Digital Experience Expo](#). By: [Bobby D. Flanders Jr.](#), Acting Executive Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Summary: OCIO held a Digital Experience Expo on July 17, 2024.

The Department's inaugural Digital Experience Expo, organized by the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), was a highly successful event that brought together a diverse audience of IT professionals, subject matter experts, partners, and stakeholders. The expo

aimed to explore and showcase the latest digital innovations, solutions, and process enhancements with the theme of "Empowering Transformation."

*July 30- [Update to Change Healthcare Cybersecurity Incident FAQ Webpage](#). By: [HHS Office for Civil Rights](#), (OCR) Summary: Updates to address Change Healthcare breach notification to HHS. On July 19, 2024, Change Healthcare filed a breach report with the HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) concerning a ransomware attack that resulted in a breach of protected health information. Change Healthcare's breach report to OCR identifies 500 individuals as the "approximate number of individuals affected". This is the minimum number of individuals affected that results in a posting of a breach on the [HHS Breach Portal](#).

*July 31- Martha's Story: Capping Medicare Out-of-Pocket Prescription Drug Costs. By: [The Inflation Reduction Act Team](#), (IRA). Summary: Martha Carter, a West Virginia Resident's inspiring story and how the Biden-Harris Administration's lower cost prescription drug law has improved her life!

*July 31- [Change Story: Cheryl R. Campbell](#) By: [Cheryl Campbell](#), Assistant Secretary for Administration (ASA). Summary: Cheryl Campbell learned to help others from her parents. Her father, a WWII veteran, faced prejudice but fought for freedom. She now champions DEIA at HHS. A Message from the Assistant Secretary for Administration.