



## CMS Snapshot

**August 8- 15, 2024**

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, August 8 through 2pm Thursday, August 15, 2024.

### News Releases

\*August 8- [CMS Announces Resources and Flexibilities to Assist with the Public Health Emergency in the States of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced today additional resources and flexibilities available in response to Hurricane Debby, now Tropical Storm Debby, in the states of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. CMS is working closely with these states to ensure those affected by this natural disaster have access to the care they need — when they need it most.

\*August 9- [CMS Roundup \(August 9, 2024\)](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides an at-a-glance summary of news from around the agency.

\*August 12- [Letter to CEOs on Biden-Harris Administration's Time is Money Initiative](#).

\*August 14- [Biden-Harris Administration Unveils National Heat Strategy to Protect Community Health from Extreme Heat](#). *The National Heat Strategy will build resilience to heat and address heat-related health concerns.* (Washington, DC) – The federal interagency National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS) today released a National Heat Strategy for 2024-2030. The strategy aims to promote proactive coordination related to heat planning, response, and resilience.

\*August 14- [United States Government's Response to the Clade I Mpox Outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Other Countries in the Region](#). This week, the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) declared the mpox clade I outbreak a Public Health Emergency of Continental Security, and the World Health Organization (WHO) declared this outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. The United States government supports those declarations. The United States will continue to work closely with African governments, Africa CDC and WHO to ensure an effective response to the current outbreak and to protect the health and lives of people of the region.

\*August 15- [Negotiating for Lower Drug Prices Works, Saves Billions](#). In a historic moment that will help lower prescription drug prices for millions of people across America, the Biden-Harris

Administration announced that it has reached agreement for new, lower prices for all 10 drugs selected for negotiations. These negotiated drugs are some of the most expensive and most frequently dispensed drugs in the Medicare program and are used to treat conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. The new prices will go into effect for people with Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage beginning January 1, 2026.

## Fact Sheets

\*August 15- [Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program: Negotiated Prices for Initial Price Applicability Year 2026](#). In August 2022, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (P.L. 117-169) into law. The law makes improvements to Medicare by expanding benefits, lowering drug costs, and improving the sustainability of the Medicare program for generations to come. The law provides meaningful financial relief for millions of people with Medicare by improving access to affordable treatments and strengthening Medicare, both now and in the long run.

## Blogs

\*August 14- [Change Story: Director Reginald Mebane](#). By: [Reginald Mebane](#), Director, CDC Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Workplace Equity Department of Health and Human Services. Summary: Reginald Mebane's DEIA journey, inspired by the Civil Rights Movement, drives his work at HHS and CDC to foster an inclusive, equitable workplace through leadership and commitment.