

EDITION: May 27, 2021



COVID-19 Resources

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Congressional

Senate Confirms CMS Administrator

On May 25, the Senate confirmed Chiquita Brooks-LaSure as the new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator with a vote of 55-44. She will be the first black woman to lead the agency. Brooks-LaSure previously worked at CMS during the Obama administration and also as a staffer on the House Ways & Means Committee, when Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra sat on that committee while serving as a member in the House of Representatives.

Administration

CMS Delays Implementation of MCIT Rule

On May 14, CMS [delayed](#) the effective date of the Medicare Coverage of Innovative Technology (MCIT) [final rule](#) until December 15, 2021. In March 2021, CMS announced a 60-day delay to the effective date for the final rule, originally scheduled to take effect on March 15, 2021. CMS stated it will use this additional time to address commenters' concerns. During this time, devices may still be covered through claim-by-claim determinations, one or more local coverage determinations, or a national coverage determination.

CMS Proposes to Delay Medicaid Drug Rule

UPCOMING HEALTH CARE ACTIVITIES ON THE HILL

There are no hearings or mark-ups scheduled at this time.

Happy Memorial Day!

Yesterday, CMS [proposed](#) a delay to a Trump-administration rule that allows drug companies to offer states different prices for the same products. Drugmakers were originally required to report multiple best prices charged for a drug in a value-based purchasing agreement starting in January 2022. CMS is proposing a six-month delay to that deadline, creating a July 1, 2022 start date. The agency also proposes a two year delay (April 1, 2024) to include U.S. territories in the Medicaid drug rebate program.

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