Top News Stories of the Month, August 2024

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| Article Summary | | | |
|  | **Category** | **#** | **%** |
| A1 | Mission Moments | 6 | 6.4 |
| A2 | Reimbursement Challenges, Warning Signs, and Implications | 9 | 9.6 |
| A3 | Competition to be Aware of | 5 | 5.3 |
| A4 | Workforce Challenges | 11 | 11.7 |
| A5 | Patient, Family, and Future Customer Demographics and Trends | 11 | 11.7 |
| A6 | Regulatory and Political | 17 | 18.1 |
| A7 | Technology and Innovations | 11 | 11.7 |
| A8 | Speed of Change, Resiliency, and Re-Culture | 9 | 9.6 |
| A9 | The Human Factor | 2 | 2.1 |
| A10 | Highlighted Articles of Interest | 13 | 13.8 |
|  | Totals | 94 | 100% |

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| A1 Mission Moments | | | |
| 1 | [**Today's Heartwarming Story [Northern Illinois hospice patient takes the ride of his life] - VIDEO**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5037%26n%3D20240808%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.wifr.com%2Fvideo%2F2024%2F07%2F18%2Fnorthern-illinois-hospice-patient-takes-ride-his-life%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cc2c60d0828964e1f490508dcb790e502%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587082776235625%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HuygkcMdj1qL6PClqGJjj08DF3Kk3W2GXlQgOiM76MY%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| 2 | [**Hospice care uplifts and encourages patients' families during difficult times**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5115%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwlos.com%2Fsponsored%2Fspotlight%2Fhospice-care-uplifts-and-encourages-patients-families-during-difficult-times%23&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102670822%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=u3GqIDP2vJ0S%2BGHNxKhrrclIg9S8j7SAb0BC7JbqRJQ%3D&reserved=0) *WLOS (NC); 8/6/24* When a loved one becomes ill and needs extra assistance, it is vital for family members and caregivers to step up to the challenge. It is also important to find support that prioritizes what is important to the patient and their kin. Four Seasons, The Care You Trust, emphasizes that they are always “here for you,” but what does that mean? Learn the answer through the words of Larry Moore, who found the resources and guidance he needed from Four Seasons as he served as the primary caregiver for his mother, Joan, while she was living with dementia... “That’s the highlight of my Four Seasons story. The care that they give the patient is phenomenal, but I think people expect that. What they don’t realize is the care Four Seasons gives to the family is equally as important. Don’t pass up the opportunity to ask them for help.” | | |
| 3 | [**Jelly Roll stops concert to help ‘cancer survivor’ find better seat**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5062%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.yahoo.com%2Fentertainment%2Fjelly-roll-stops-concert-help-003841720.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102849668%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zG%2Fb24DHKdTRK9ry2PoGPyNtnzDIySP2GZ35G%2FMuyB4%3D&reserved=0) *Us Weekly; by Erin Carlson; 8/5/24* When Jelly Roll spotted a woman at his concert using an IV drip, he pointed her out from the stage. “I've seen a lot of crazy s—t at my shows. But this young lady is out here with a full-blown IV," the country star (real name Jason Bradley DeFord) declared while performing at the Tailgates N’ Tallboys festival in Midland, Michigan in late July. In footage uploaded on TikTok, the woman told Jelly Roll, 39, that she’s a “cancer survivor.” After hearing this, he turned to his team and said, “Let’s get her a chair” to watch the rest of the show. He then looked at the fan standing in the crowd and assured, “We'll get you off your feet, baby. OK?” ... But while his career takes off, he has been known to make time for fans battling cancer. In July 2023, Taste of Country reported that Jelly Roll met with 65-year-old Suzanne Durham, a Nashville-based hospice patient with lung cancer whose dying wish was to see him perform live. He gave Durham and her friends a private show... | | |
| 4 | [**Today's Heartwarming Story [MHPCA Hospice in Corrections]**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5089%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.missourihospice.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102879593%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=G9PrRStpP9jjMok1QW8FygdTzORNwgOoy%2Blt%2F3WGj9g%3D&reserved=0) Per Facebook post: Over the past decade, the [Missouri Hospice and Palliative Care Association](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5089%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fmissourihospiceendoflifeprogram%3F__cft__%5B0%5D%3DAZVlvNLlk91UcgFJoMFP1aXFemP2GKYlB9VX-l7KG3WSVTaK8Pi5gjVfIS_UguROFS9bcgaxncPTzId4vk09PQjcBhWbB1mvnGoQ6tmedYhHgu-tLWkeOWObxpMGS6qFIon2AnRf-hTtk7XCP6q7HmpWUoqaFMxdk08YsWlGLg3mkJTatpOLCU52Jt3ceYdTRjIN7Ti-m7RERfqCfStTljjE%26__tn__%3D-%5DK-R&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102886991%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4Gx0hx7KTqU3wO1xJbxQjLgQNGP8GVGPHiSX1MVaWRA%3D&reserved=0) has trained hundreds of residents of Missouri state prisons to become hospice volunteers, providing comfort and companionship to terminally ill peers. The newest group recently completed training at [Farmington Correctional Center](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5089%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fprofile.php%3Fid%3D100080157041331%26__cft__%5B0%5D%3DAZVlvNLlk91UcgFJoMFP1aXFemP2GKYlB9VX-l7KG3WSVTaK8Pi5gjVfIS_UguROFS9bcgaxncPTzId4vk09PQjcBhWbB1mvnGoQ6tmedYhHgu-tLWkeOWObxpMGS6qFIon2AnRf-hTtk7XCP6q7HmpWUoqa%2520FMxdk08YsWlGLg3mkJTatpOLCU52Jt3ceYdTRjIN7Ti-m7RERfqCfStTljjE%26__tn__%3D-%5DK-R&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102895928%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1YmeC2gHD4Lg7K7OH36dwDRKBVAi6I9tAnlx5L%2BDCZg%3D&reserved=0). Volunteers develop skills in helping with daily activities, practicing empathy and active listening, and learning to recognize and respond to patients’ spiritual and emotional needs. | | |
| 5 | [**9 powerful lessons on life you can learn from experts on death**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5140%26n%3D20240813%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fsites%2Frobertpearl%2F2024%2F08%2F12%2F9-powerful-lessons-on-life-you-can-learn-from-experts-on-death%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Ce0110ae8cd424f28326808dcbb7eb929%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638591401857188560%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=s4sPCmi%2BMaC2H6xcUH2kJdtRfhAs2RAgmdY75xRcnlc%3D&reserved=0)  *Forbes; by Robert Pearl, MD; 8/12/24* As a physician, I have been present at the end of many lives, witnessing the profound agony families face during a loved one’s final moments. While most family members express deep gratitude for the care provided by doctors and nurses, some recount harrowing stories of unnecessary pain their loved ones endured in the final days. These distressing accounts highlight a troubling ambiguity in the care we provide, blurring the line between compassionate treatment and what can feel like unbearable torture. Motivated by my encounters with grieving families, I dedicated the ninth season of the *Fixing Healthcare* podcast to exploring life’s final chapter and addressing the shortcomings in end-of-life care. ...   1. "People have goals besides living longer." ... 2. "The last day of your life is not the sum of your life." ... 3. "We are sexual beings throughout our whole life." ... 4. "The time to consult a palliative care physician is not when you're dying, but before." ... 5. "No one should have to suffer." ... 6. [Click on the title's link to continue reading] | | |
| 6 | [**Dr. Joe Rotella, AAHPM: The importance of being human – Reflections of an aspiring medical humanist**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5351%26n%3D20240826%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fapps.aahpm.org%2Fmeeting%3Fproductid%3D60177404&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8927bde006ef41024df408dcc5b5e090%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638602632984366204%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=eJkOSHbxiVPPb7cpHxKoUY7F2Uhe0w3Cu31BfwQ7d40%3D&reserved=0) American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine; Event Details; retrieved from the internet 8/23/24The Importance of Being Human - Reflections of an Aspiring Humanist Date: September 17, 2024 Time: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm CT Members free; Non-Members $49.00 USD  Come along for the September Grand Rounds Series entitled "The Importance of Being Human – Reflections of an Aspiring Medical Humanist" with Joe Rotella, MD MBA HMDC FAAHPM [AAHPM's Chief Medical Officer]. Through anecdotes, sketches, and introspective thoughts from his three decades in hospice and palliative care, Dr. Rotella will delve into the similarities between the evolution of hospice and palliative care as a discipline and his own journey as a doctor and advocate for medical humanism. Attendees will be encouraged to reflect on the impact of this work on their lives and discuss strategies for self-care and mutual support to maintain our collective mission for the future. Following his prepared speech, Dr. Rotella will open the floor for discussion and sharing with the audience.  [Click on the title's link for CME information and to register.] Editor's Note: Typically we do not post from the myriad of webinars available for professionals. This is different. We celebrate the career-long contributions of Dr. Joe Rotella throughout the scope of hospice and palliative care, especially as he moves into retirement. Professionally and personally, "Dr. Joe" lives and instills the title of this session, "The Importance of Being Human." I have registered. We hope you will, too. | | |
|  |  | Total | 6 |

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| A2 Reimbursement Challenges, Warning Signs, and Implications | | | |
| *A. General to Hospice* | | | |
| 7 | [**Home health sees spending, utilization decline as hospice equivalents grow, MedPAC reports**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5024%26n%3D20240806%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.mcknightshomecare.com%2Fnews%2Fhome-health-sees-spending-utilization-decline-as-hospice-industry-grows-medpac-reports%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C7fed00e20ecb45c63a2908dcb5fe9044%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638585353606555842%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C60000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wpiVFFhiP1rCr8vSJyUvp8kI3gB3HDUUQX5nCKQRviE%3D&reserved=0) *McKnight's Home Care; by Adam Healy; 7/19/24* Though hospice spending and utilization appear to be on the rise, Medicare spending on home health has fallen amid declining utilization in recent years, according to a new [report](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5024%26n%3D20240806%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.medpac.gov%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F07%2FJuly2024_MedPAC_DataBook_Sec8_SEC.pdf%23xd_co_f%3DNWY3MmRlMjAtMTVjNy00ZjVlLWI3ZTgtOTJiOWE4ZmU2Nzg1~&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C7fed00e20ecb45c63a2908dcb5fe9044%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638585353606563110%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C60000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6bG8ZwS1imHZfwIPRgtHPggft1iaTNo5dlz6EYSzLt0%3D&reserved=0) by the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission. In 2022, the year of the most recent available data, Medicare home health spending shrank to $16.4 billion. That compares to $17 billion the year prior, the report found. Meanwhile, the number of home health users declined by 6.3% from 2021, and the overall share of Medicare beneficiaries that use home health shrank by 3% from the year prior. The total number of in-person home health visits decreased by 9.6% year-over-year in 2022... Meanwhile, the hospice industry has experienced both reimbursement and utilization gains in recent years, MedPAC reported. Medicare hospice payments rose 2.7% year-over-year in 2022, while the number of beneficiaries using hospice services ticked up by 0.4%. These patients are also receiving more care; the total number of hospice days provided to beneficiaries increased by 2% in 2022. | | |
| 8 | [**Healthcare providers wary CMS dementia pilot will not cover costs**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5032%26n%3D20240806%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.modernhealthcare.com%2Fproviders%2Fguide-program-dementia-costs-cms&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C7fed00e20ecb45c63a2908dcb5fe9044%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638585353606570520%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C60000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=l1VS6zLc3Tes69RLnTA9Vdy14OnpZ4u%2FdnfuNJcO4xs%3D&reserved=0) *Modern Healthcare; by Diane Eastabrook; 7/23/24* Hospitals, primary care practices and other healthcare providers are split over whether Medicare will pay them enough to cover dementia patients at home as part of a new pilot. Nearly 100 providers began enrolling patients July 1 in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience model, known as GUIDE. Another 300 others will begin enrolling patients in the program on July 1, 2025. Some participants that previously provided comprehensive wrap-around services for dementia patients at home said getting a monthly care management payment for each fee-for-service beneficiary will cover costs they had been absorbing. But others aren’t sure the reimbursement will be enough to scale up programs or cover the cost of care for these complex patients. | | |
| 9 | [**Closing the gap in value-based care: Lessons from provider-led ACO experience**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5119%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthaffairs.org%2Fcontent%2Fforefront%2Fclosing-gap-value-based-care-lessons-provider-led-aco-experience&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102744747%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jGfFLBnxtoRbcuM5%2Fc6QohleczFQCLVxzQEdtxBF6fM%3D&reserved=0) *Health Affairs; by Clive Fields, Gary M. Jacobs; 8/6/24* Achieving the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ (CMS’s) goal to bring every Medicare patient into a value-based care (VBC) arrangement by 2030 requires bold action. With six years left to achieve that goal (as of January 2024), only half of current Medicare beneficiaries are aligned with an accountable care organization (ACO) providing care within a VBC arrangement. This gap is large, but accelerated participation and reaching the 2030 goal remains possible. To close the gap, policy makers must apply the lessons learned from the real-world experience of models developed by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (the Innovation Center), the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP), and other CMS demonstrations. ACOs participating in the MSSP and alternative payment models developed by the Innovation Center have proven that they can deliver high-quality care, improve the patient experience, and generate savings for Medicare. The Congressional Budget Office has found that physician-led ACOs and ACOs with a larger proportion of primary care providers, as opposed to specialists or clinicians in non-primary care settings, generate greater savings. | | |
| 10 | [**Cost report prompts tweaks to ACO REACH model**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5162%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.modernhealthcare.com%2Fpolicy%2Faco-reach-model-revisions-medicare-spending-cms&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862356260%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zRZfhsg%2BNQA4ZMk0uP6cZyq%2FAm2eZAC6AGoWZZzCpEI%3D&reserved=0)  *Modern Healthcare; by Bridget Early; 8/12/24* The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is making changes to its largest accountable care organization experiment to ensure it’s actually saving money. In a notice published on its website Aug. 1, CMS outlines a slew of planned updates to the ACO Realizing Equity, Access and Community Health, or ACO REACH, model in 2025. Notably, the agency is changing how it establishes benchmarks for "high-needs population" ACOs to guard against overspending while addressing the so-called "ratcheting effect," under which ACOs that contain spending face higher hurdles to earning shared savings in future years because of their past successes. *[Access limited due to paywall.] Editor's Note:* [*Click here for the CMS ACO REACH Model Performance Year 2025 Model Update - Quick Reference.*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5162%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.cms.gov%2Faco-reach-model-performance-year-2025-model-update-quick-reference&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862363422%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FRutUFyoQ2EMOg%2BGimCs6s0AoUt2F9tiDhq9l6X9j0Q%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| *B. Medicare Advantage* | | | |
| 11 | [**Enhabit walks away from UnitedHealthcare after ‘9 months of unsuccessful negotiations’**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5120%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhomehealthcarenews.com%2F2024%2F08%2Fenhabit-walks-away-from-unitedhealthcare-after-9-months-of-unsuccessful-negotiations%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102759524%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=p94NMpJMqaWapcLrO3ZSSOClOcCyJE8zwp3SGq8w1sU%3D&reserved=0) *Home Health Care News; by Joyce Famakinwa; 8/7/24* Staying on course with its payer innovation strategy, Enhabit Inc. (NYSE: EHAB) has decided to walk away from certain Medicare Advantage (MA) payers – and namely UnitedHealth Group’s (NYSE: UNH) UnitedHealthcare. That decision, and the recent home health proposed payment rule, were top of mind for Enhabit leaders on Tuesday. | | |
| 12 | [**AI and health insurance prior authorization: Regulators need to step up oversight**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5016%26n%3D20240810%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthaffairs.org%2Fcontent%2Fforefront%2Fai-and-health-insurance-prior-authorization-regulators-need-step-up-oversight%23xd_co_f%3DOGVjOGFiOTAtNzM5NS00YzU3LWEwZGQtZjViZjA5ZDFiMTY5~&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C2e90a8bb395b46c1145308dcb92338e9%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638588810378092527%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1jgNo5OFHZQ2G5f0127oA8OlpxobegIydWofaXLMDgA%3D&reserved=0) *Health Affairs; by Carmel Shachar Amy Killelea Sara Gerke; 7/24* Artificial intelligence (AI)—a machine or computer’s ability to perform cognitive functions—is quickly changing many facets of American life, including how we interact with health insurance. AI is increasingly being used by health insurers to automate a host of functions, including processing prior authorization (PA) requests, managing other plan utilization management techniques, and adjudicating claims. In contrast to the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA’s) increasing attention to algorithms used to guide clinical decision making, there is relatively little state or federal oversight of both the development and use of algorithms by health insurers. | | |
| 13 | [**NAHC President Dombi: There’s ‘good and bad’ to payers entering home health care**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5188%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhomehealthcarenews.com%2F2024%2F08%2Fnahc-president-dombi-theres-good-and-bad-to-payers-entering-home-health-care%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862157648%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ylSAmfVdJAA%2F0hMjjt0ZRMdsRTfMr6aThIYiSBmWpsE%3D&reserved=0)  *Home Health Care News; by Joyce Famakinwa; 8/13/24* Before retiring at the end of year, National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) President William A. Dombi still has items to check off his to-do list. On the top of this list is the previously announced NAHC and National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) merger. ... Ultimately, Dombi has seen home-based care evolve when he reflects back on his tenure at NAHC. ... [Dombi] sees the evolution of home-based care through large payers, such as Humana Inc. and UnitedHealth Group, investing in the space. “I think you can certainly look at it from a positive perspective, saying, these plans had options to invest in X, Y and Z in health care, and they chose home care and physicians,” he said. “Their forecast says it’s about community-based health care services.” However, he noted the downsides of payers investing heavily in the space, too. ... | | |
| 14 | [**Humana will pay $90 million in Medicare drug fraud settlement**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5262%26n%3D20240820%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fnews.bloomberglaw.com%2Ffederal-contracting%2Fhumana-will-pay-90-million-in-medicare-drug-fraud-settlement&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cf9b40ebe16564c4f500208dcc0fee28c%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638597451130422748%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4G5KWPxxNfXG3FJfHQTs7ApC4X%2FLx%2BPp85GYeH2sajw%3D&reserved=0)  *Bloomberg Law; by Daniel Seiden; 8/16/24* Humana Inc. agreed to pay $90 million to the federal government to settle a whistleblower’s False Claims Act suit alleging that the company submitted fraudulent bids for Medicare Part D prescription drug contracts. Whistleblower Steven Scott alleged that, since 2011, Humana began offering its Medicare Part D prescription drug plan, known as the basic Walmart Plan, and “knowingly provided benefits under that plan that have been significantly less valuable than Humana promised in its bids,” according to Scott’s suit filed in 2016 in the US District Court for the Central District of California. ... This suit was among several in 2016, including suits against Humana, United Health, Cigna Corp., and Optum RX Inc., accusing health insurers of secretly overcharging for prescription drugs. | | |
| 15 | [**Why Optum thrives where other companies failed**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5263%26n%3D20240820%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckersasc.com%2Fasc-transactions-and-valuation-issues%2Fwhy-optum-thrives-where-other-companies-failed.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cf9b40ebe16564c4f500208dcc0fee28c%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638597451130465220%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xoyq9dwhUp4XciyXWY3LdocM2O8p5AEqDySd9jq%2B658%3D&reserved=0)  *Becker's ASC Review; by Patsy Newitt; 8/16/24* UnitedHealth Group's Optum, parent company of Deerfield, Ill.-based ASC chain SCA Health, has seen massive growth in the last few years as other big healthcare networks face obstacles in reaching large-scale profitability. ... A key to Optum's success is its affiliation with a large insurance business. The *Journal* pointed to the "several financial incentives for an insurer to own a health provider, including that it pays itself." ... And Optum keeps growing. The company spent $31 billion on acquisitions in the last two years, *The Oregonian reported May 13. ... UnitedHealth Group is facing scrutiny regarding the Change Healthcare ransomware attack in February. The attack delayed payment and claims processing for healthcare providers around the country, as UnitedHealth subsidiary Change Healthcare handles an estimated one in three healthcare transactions.* | | |
|  |  | Total | 9 |

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| A3 Competition to be Aware of | | | |
| 16 | [**Steward Health Care to close more Massachusetts hospitals**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5031%26n%3D20240806%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.modernhealthcare.com%2Fproviders%2Fsteward-health-care-massachusetts-hospitals-closing-bankruptcy&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C7fed00e20ecb45c63a2908dcb5fe9044%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638585353606613732%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C60000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cg%2BkGitYZ30Ab23lrMEZyZ6HjfY8gZMM6NbFHFGwLes%3D&reserved=0) *Modern Healthcare; by Alex Kacik; 7/26/24* Steward Health Care plans to shut down two Massachusetts hospitals next month, bringing the total number of closures in the Commonwealth this year to three. Steward, a national 31-hospital system that owns eight hospitals in Massachusetts, has been soliciting bids for its entire network and physician group in bankruptcy. The Dallas-based system filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in May, leading to a Justice Department and congressional investigation into its restructuring plans. *Publisher's note: Also see related article:*[***Steward Health finds buyers for 2 hospitals amid Senate probe***](ht%20tps:/www.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com/redirect?u=1744&s=email&b=5031&n=20240806&r=https://www.modernhealthcare.com/providers/steward-health-care-hospital-sales-bankruptcy-senate)*; 7/22/24; Bankrupt Steward Health said it found buyers for two of its hospitals in Arkansas and Louisiana, as the nation’s largest for-profit health system braces for a bipartisan Senate investigation into its financial woes.* | | |
| 17 | [**CVS launches $2B in cost cuts, Aetna president out**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5122%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.modernhealthcare.com%2Ffinance%2Fcvs-health-earnings-aetna-president-brian-kane-ceo-karen-lynch&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102834852%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HR9d9Lf2jZZLbI3a7jR1eMV9LiaLjEQqxesYLZIVlgc%3D&reserved=0) *Modern Healthcare; by Fiona Rutherford; 8/7/24* CVS Health Corp. lowered its 2024 earnings outlook for the third straight quarter and announced cost-cutting measures to save $2 billion over several years as healthcare expenses continue to soar. The company also announced the departure of Brian Kane, who took the helm as the president of the Aetna insurance unit just under a year ago. CVS Chief Executive Officer Karen Lynch and Chief Financial Officer Tom Cowhey will temporarily take over his duties during the search for a successor. CVS is slashing spending and streamlining operations as its insurance arm faces pressure from rising US medical costs. Aetna accounts for about a third of the company’s revenue, but its struggles this year are largely to blame for a downturn in earnings and slump in the stock price. | | |
| 18 | [***HCA pushed out providers, downgraded care after acquiring Mission Health: report***](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5267%26n%3D20240820%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthcaredive.com%2Fnews%2Fhca-staffing-shortage-mission-health-research%2F724442%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cf9b40ebe16564c4f500208dcc0fee28c%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638597451130472294%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=f9AW2MVcS3sUpaq%2BwmUOCr%2BvaOT7hJr4%2Bj%2BbSmrHjZQ%3D&reserved=0)*Healthcare Dive; by Susanna Vogel; 8/16/24  Dive Brief:*   * *A new working draft study from Wake Forest University alleges HCA has driven doctors away from Mission Hospital and drastically decreased nurse and emergency department staffing since acquiring North Carolina-based Mission Health in 2019.* * *The analysis, which draws on dozens of interviews, alleges doctors left Mission following HCA’s $1.5 billion acquisition due to care quality concerns.* * *HCA is currently being sued by the North Carolina’s attorney general’s office over allegations the for-profit giant degraded services at Mission following its acquisition.* | | |
| *A. Mergers & Acquisitions* | | | |
| 19 | [**Hospice of the Western Reserve Acquires Hospice of North Central Ohio**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4985%26n%3D20240802%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.news-journal.com%2Fhospice-of-the-western-reserve-acquires-hospice-of-north-central-ohio%2Farticle_0685434b-5a98-5b45-aeb9-d21b314a35a6.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C9114b7043724424d556208dcb2d9e8b0%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581898091082518%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TY1RFrRI8F2BGy%2FBd5qfFH8SW35OoVd%2F%2F2HKaAiFqGo%3D&reserved=0)  *Longview News-Journal, Cleveland, OH; by Hospice of the Western Reserve; 8/1/24* Hospice of the Western Reserve (HWR), a premier provider of hospice and palliative care services in Northern Ohio, has completed its acquisition of Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) effective today. This strategic alliance aims to expand access to high-quality, comprehensive end-of-life care across a broader region. The news follows a February 2024 announcement that the two community-based, nonprofit agencies had entered a management services agreement, allowing HWR to begin a due diligence process in preparation for the full transition. The acquisition comes because of increased competition within the HNCO service area, economic challenges, and a need to stabilize and ultimately grow the organization. | | |
| 20 | [**UnitedHealth and Amedisys reach divestiture agreement in effort to complete merger**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4970%26n%3D20240802%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fopenminds.com%2Fmarket-intelligence%2Fbulletins%2Funitedhealth-amedisys-reach-divestiture-agreement-in-effort-to-complete-merger%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C9114b7043724424d556208dcb2d9e8b0%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581898091089971%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xE9WqV0VuaZIJB2s209DfoRmBZMbDgUrznHHhHXr9U4%3D&reserved=0)  *Open Minds - Industry Bulletins; 7/29/24* UnitedHealth Group and home health and hospice provider Amedisys entered an agreement to sell certain assets to a subsidiary of VitalCaring Group (VCG) as part of an effort to obtain regulatory approval for a merger first announced in June 2023.  The deal, valued at $3.3 billion, has been held up due to concerns from the Department of Justice. UnitedHealth and Amedisys declined to provide more information on the divestiture. According to an SEC filing, the deal with VCG Luna would only go through if UnitedHealth and Amedisys complete their merger. Earlier in 2024, Amedisys agreed to divest upwards. | | |
|  |  | Total | 5 |

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| A4 Workforce Challenges | | | |
| *A. Paints the Picture* | | | |
| 21 | [**Changes in registered nurse employment plans and workplace assessments**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5022%26n%3D20240810%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fpubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov%2F39023894%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C2e90a8bb395b46c1145308dcb92338e9%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638588810378099870%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TRU8%2B0MVxkGS6ussglbQHsO3gQ%2BuArHC2J6GQcdks9g%3D&reserved=0) *JAMA Network Open; by Christopher R Friese, Barbara R Medvec, Deanna J Marriott, Lara Khadr, Marissa Rurka Wade, Melissa Riba, Marita G Titler; 7/24* How have nurses’ workplace assessments and intention to leave their workplace changed from the 2022 to the 2023 Michigan Nurses’ Study? In this survey study of 9150 and 7059 nurse participants in the 2022 and 2023 surveys, respectively, significantly fewer nurses were planning to leave their workplace in 2023 than in 2022 (32.0% vs 39.1%). Workplace assessments improved in the 2023 survey; however, planned departure rates, abusive or violent events, and unsafe conditions remained high, and understaffing remained a primary concern. Findings of this study suggest that improved working conditions are likely to promote nurse retention; health system leaders and policymakers should prioritize initiatives that support nurse retention and reduce potential workforce instability. | | |
| *B. Implications of the issue* | | | |
| 22 | [***34 hospitals, health systems raising workers' pay***](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5233%26n%3D20240820%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Fcompensation-issues%2F4-hospitals-health-systems-raising-workers-pay-2.html%3Forigin%3DCFOE%26utm_source%3DCFOE%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_content%3Dnewsletter%26oly_enc_id%3D0450A0872612F4U&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cf9b40ebe16564c4f500208dcc0fee28c%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638597451130500748%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BGwxheYDrXN1dRZqqqDi%2F7H81khRqosktG9zbu0up7Y%3D&reserved=0)*Becker's Hospital Review; by Kelly Gooch; 8/15/24  The following hospitals and health systems have announced or shared plans for raising workers' pay this year. This is not an exhaustive list. This webpage was last updated on Aug. 15.*   * *... Resident physicians and fellows at the University of New Mexico ...* * *... California Nurses Association/National Nurses United approved a new labor contract with ... part of the Providence system ...* * *... Resident physicians and fellows at Kern Medical Center ... 30% increase ...* * *... Members of National Nurses United at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital ...* * *[More ...]* | | |
| 23 | [**West Penn Hospital union nurses vote to authorize strike**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5310%26n%3D20240823%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.wpxi.com%2Fnews%2Flocal%2Fwest-penn-hospital-union-nurses-vote-authorize-strike%2FEBO5ONOA5ZFNTJVZNFFQTGJPZU%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C7dfc2eb510be4600c18808dcc35a6157%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638600041294433442%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=p6D1ziXpeowEFgQwhkLId3O4bdII%2Fm6xIKMftvGhkZg%3D&reserved=0)  *WPXI.com news, Pittsburgh, PA; by Taylor Spirito; 8/22/24* Union nurses at West Penn Hospital have voted to authorize a strike. On Wednesday, union nurses voted 99.3% in favor of authorizing their negotiating committee to send a strike notice if necessary, rejecting contract proposals from the Allegheny Health Network (AHN) as inadequate to address the region’s nurse staffing crisis. The nurses are calling for resources to recruit new nurses and retain experienced ones. They said the hospital’s nursing staff must obtain 100 more registered nurses to meet the region’s growing patient care needs, a representative from SEIU Healthcare PA said. | | |
| 24 | [**More than half of Mission’s remaining staff neurologists say they are resigning, citing burnout, ‘nausea and fury’**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5341%26n%3D20240826%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.northcarolinahealthnews.org%2F2024%2F08%2F23%2Fmore-than-half-of-missions-remaining-staff-neurologists-say-they-are-resigning-citing-burnout-nausea-and-fury%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8927bde006ef41024df408dcc5b5e090%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638602632984430671%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=spk90nKhmIuXjgJu8ChEzFn5wZa2LNPtmMdi%2Fa6FgN8%3D&reserved=0)  *NC Health News; by Asheville Watchdog; 8/23/24* Three staff neurologists are leaving Mission Hospital by the end of September, potentially leaving only two to provide critical care to hundreds of patients at the Asheville flagship hospital and across western North Carolina, including many who have suffered strokes. ... *Asheville Watchdog* interviewed departing physicians, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of concern for their careers or potential retribution. Their departures — triggered by what they describe as an ever-increasing patient load, Mission’s years-long inability to hire more physicians, and pay issues — intensify an exodus from the HCA Healthcare-owned hospital and a program that has been recognized nationally.  *Editor's Note: Pair this with the article we posted on 8/20/24,*[*HCA pushed out providers, downgraded care after acquiring Mission Health: report*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5341%26n%3D20240826%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2F%3Fn%3D20240820%23article_5267&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8927bde006ef41024df408dcc5b5e090%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638602632984437909%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QSEm6V5uLIZfl8W4APvdYX0AEL6ih0eEPMJ%2BQQL458c%3D&reserved=0)*.* | | |
| *C. Solutions* | | | |
| 25 | [**Want more effective hospice nurses? Overhaul your onboarding**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5021%26n%3D20240805%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.mcknightshomecare.com%2Fwant-more-effective-hospice-nurses-overhaul-your-onboarding%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C695cd707664e4048976908dcb53566f4%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638584491339580896%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CHZGrOfiIkgsLa5z%2BUeQFPJTJN%2Fk5iRHJKar0BGXJS4%3D&reserved=0) *McKnight's Home Care; by Raianne Melton; 7/18/24* The benefits of a comprehensive onboarding program are undeniable. Companies that prioritize onboarding see a median revenue increase of 49% per employee compared to those that don’t. Employees who undergo a successful onboarding process are 69% more likely to remain with a company for three years or more. | | |
| 26 | [**How systems are changing compensation to attract executive talent**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5075%26n%3D20240808%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.modernhealthcare.com%2Ffinance%2Fexecutive-compensation-incentive-packages-2024&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cc2c60d0828964e1f490508dcb790e502%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587082776123759%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=eAC5KlOe3c2cEFpQ1ip%2FpCZGqPUlzm%2Bl%2B8VhKvOVGz8%3D&reserved=0) *Modern Healthcare; by Caroline Hudson; 8/6/24* Organizations are paying higher salaries, reassessing incentives, redefining leadership roles and investing more in key positions to optimize operations, according to SullivanCotter. The firm provides data from more than 2,100 health systems, hospitals, medical groups and health plans for Modern Healthcare’s 2024 Executive Compensation Survey. Here are five takeaways from the survey findings.   1. Rising base salaries reflect ongoing labor challenges. 2. Systems are realigning incentive packages as performance improves. 3. Information technology and cybersecurity executives are becoming a necessity. 4. Organizations are reassessing their structure and redefining leadership roles. 5. Leaders are going beyond compensation to cultivate internal talent. | | |
| 27 | [**Healthcare added 1 million workers since 2020: 5 things to know**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5157%26n%3D20240814%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Fworkforce%2Fhealthcare-added-1-million-workers-since-2020-5-things-to-know.html%3Forigin%3DQualityE%26utm_source%3DQualityE%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_content%3Dnewsletter%26oly_enc_id%3D0450A0872612F4U&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C926a97871110461408b508dcbc47e317%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638592266945451612%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0AQr2uHAP4CERSMZmBTVW5645uHbv%2B2kKKfxRX2N6J0%3D&reserved=0)  *Becker's Hospital Review; by Molly Gamble; 8/12/24* Healthcare faces numerous workforce challenges, but the industry has steadily added jobs after the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted staffing. An Altarum [analysis](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5157%26n%3D20240814%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Faltarum.org%2Fnews-and-insights%2Fhealth-care-sector-has-added-one-million-workers-start-pandemic-demand-even&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C926a97871110461408b508dcbc47e317%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638592266945459083%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UIDefLZHkQO6W0qNiQ4mM0hQBRGSsJ28yUHE8ieZN6Q%3D&reserved=0) of U.S. Bureau of Labo r Statistics data finds a dual reality for healthcare: The industry has added more than 1 million workers since March 2020 and, at the same time, thousands more healthcare jobs remain unfilled as demand for workers continues to far exceed the supply. Here are five takeaways from Altarum's jobs analysis, which includes breakdowns of the sectors that led employment recovery:   1. Healthcare employment's rebound. ... 2. Hospital and ambulatory care job growth. ... 3. Persistent workforce shortages. ... 4. Pandemic-driven employment shifts. ... 5. Challenges in nursing and residential care. ... | | |
| 28 | [**Age bias declines in the workplace, but work remains**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5160%26n%3D20240814%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.mcknightsseniorliving.com%2Fhome%2Fcolumns%2Feditors-columns%2Fage-bias-declines-in-the-workplace-but-work-remains%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C926a97871110461408b508dcbc47e317%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638592266945476995%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WzDpXEpgADLbkGscUAblSiVp8bk2vtIvdO4Z6ZAu7tI%3D&reserved=0)  McKnights Senior Living; by Lois A. Bowers; 8/12/24 Some good news, according to the results of a recent survey by the Age-Friendly Institute, is that it appears that fewer Americans aged 50 or more years believe that “age bias is a fact of life in the workplace” compared with 15 years ago, according to the institute. The organization has been conducting research involving a nationally representative sample of this age group for more than a decade, and the percentage of people answering yes about the existence of age bias at work has decreased over time, going from 96% in 2 009 to 83% in 2019 to 65% in 2024. ... But the decrease doesn’t mean there isn’t work to do. “In a society that is increasingly focused on equality and inclusivity, ageism lurks in the shadows,” the institute notes. | | |
| 29 | [**15 Employee engagement examples to inspire you in 2024**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5203%26n%3D20240816%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.aihr.com%2Fblog%2Femployee-engagement-examples%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C168214ed452e4e36543908dcbdda399b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593993963223902%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Nr45bZvoQAWUD1HdEru5X9Af9tWk3g0ruoRNUvKuQCw%3D&reserved=0)  *Academy to Innovate HR (AIHR); by Andrea Boatman; 8/14/24* Employers should heed Apple’s former Senior VP Angela Ahrendts’ words: “Everyone talks about building a relationship with your customer. I think you build one with your employees first.” But how can HR help foster this relationship? ... Incorporate the examples in this article into your company’s employee engagement plan for positive long-term results. ...   1. Flexible work arrangements ... 2. Employee recognition programs ... 3. Professional development programs ... 4. Wellness programs ... 5. Open communication channels ... 6. Team-building activities ... 7. Inclusive company culture ... 8. Employee autonomy [vs. micromanagement] ... 9. Strategic direction ... 10. Defined values and ethics ... 11. Functional change management ... 12. Competitive pay and benefits ... 13. Optimized work processes ... 14. Maximized employee engagement feedback ... 15. Useful resources and managerial support ...   *Editor's Note: These positive employee engagement solutions are consistent with the negative employee problems that have led to the increase of healthcare unions and strikes (per numerous nation-wide articles previously published in this newsletter).* | | |
| 30 | [**5 DEI expectations organizations should have of all leaders**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5265%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fsites%2Fjuliekratz%2F2024%2F08%2F18%2F5-dei-expectations-organizations-should-have-of-all-leaders%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016607699%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hKVIzoGxMxzaadp4V9w%2FTjGUOLcMyJDMeHns76dl4LA%3D&reserved=0)  *Forbes; by Julie Kratz; 8/18/24* Without leadership support, diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) efforts do not work. ... For organizations wrestling with holding leaders accountable for DEI, consider these questions:   1. What are leaders’ fears (real or perceived) about DEI? ... 2. What is holding leaders back from supporting DEI? ... 3. What would help to create more leadership buy-in to DEI efforts? ...   Consider the following expectations as a starting point:   * Listening (even if I disagree) to perspectives other than my own: ... * Modeling inclusive behavior: ... This includes valuing differences, fostering a welcoming environment and challenging biases. * Calling on other leaders to model inclusion: Leaders should hold each other accountable for promoting inclusion. ... * Supporting cultural celebrations for employees of historically marginalized groups: ... * Accepting organizational commitments to DEI even if they are different than my beliefs: While leaders may have personal beliefs or opinions that differ from the organization's DEI commitments, it's essential for them to accept and uphold these commitments. This demonstrates a commitment to the collective goal of creating a diverse and inclusive workplace. | | |
| 31 | [**4 ways health systems combat burnout**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5231%26n%3D20240819%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Fworkforce%2F4-ways-4-health-systems-combat-burnout.html%3Forigin%3DOncologyE%26utm_source%3DOncologyE%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_content%3Dnewsletter%26oly_enc_id%3D0450A0872612F4U&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb60754f5c3394e275a7508dcc035b6db%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638596586085645138%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BxLlNF%2FLtVPqaXCi09oZcu4QPBaEl%2FLszfo6V%2FRmYw0%3D&reserved=0)  *Becker's Hospital Review; by Kristin Kuchno; 8/13/24* Although burnout is down among healthcare professionals, its persistence still garners attention and solutions from systems. Physician burnout [fell](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5231%26n%3D20240819%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Fhospital-physician-relationships%2Fphysician-burnout-by-specialty.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb60754f5c3394e275a7508dcc035b6db%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638596586085652432%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Rv9nYbBOiVu5%2F8LteSj%2B9wXRu3xrDWnTKqiuJv5JULs%3D&reserved=0) from 53% in 2022 to 48.2% in 2023, according to a July 2024 report by the American Medical Association. ... Here are four methods four hospitals and health systems are using to address workforce burnout.   1. Ambient documentation ... 2. Designated spaces ... for workers to decompress ... 3. Telehealth ... 4. University partnerships ... to improve workforce developments ... | | |
|  |  | Total | 11 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A5 Patient, Family, and Future Customer Demographics and Trends | | | |
| 32 | [**No one is ready for digital immortality: Do you want to live forever as a chatbot?**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4966%26n%3D20240802%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.theatlantic.com%2Ftechnology%2Farchive%2F2024%2F07%2Fai-clone-chatbot-end-of-life-planning%2F679297%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C9114b7043724424d556208dcb2d9e8b0%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581898091107488%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=W%2Bs10PjrR41G5b%2FAXwIjs0RTTQs6eA3VMtm%2FgdrD1NE%3D&reserved=0)  *The Atlantic; by Kate Lindsay; 7/31/24* Every few years, Hany Farid and his wife have the grim but necessary conversation about their end-of-life plans. ... In addition to discussing burial requests and financial decisions, Farid has recently broached an eerier topic: If he dies first, would his wife want to digitally resurrect him as an AI clone? ...   *Editor's Note: Click on the title's link to continue reading this fascinating and disturbing article about potential, new uses for AI. Calling all bereavement counselors--who are truly trained in con temporary grief theories, research, and clinical best practices--please learn about this trend and prepare to examine its use and misuse from your expertise, for now and through years ahead.* | | |
| 33 | [**National plan on aging ‘essential’ to addressing key issues: AARP**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5019%26n%3D20240805%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.mcknightsseniorliving.com%2Fnews%2Fnational-plan-on-aging-essential-to-addressing-key-issues-aarp%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C695cd707664e4048976908dcb53566f4%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638584491339676767%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xF1vwjHJfBwdrsHhTiMePoE26forDcp%2FeTYDU4sUPzo%3D&reserved=0) *McKnight's Senior Living; by Kimberly Bonvissuto; 7/18/24* Aging, itself, isn’t a challenge - but being unprepared for aging is, according to AARP, which on Wednesday released a white paper that lays out a [blueprint](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5019%26n%3D20240805%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.aarp.org%2Fcontent%2Fdam%2Faarp%2Fppi%2Ftopics%2Faging-experience%2Faging-well-america-aarps-vision-for-national-plan-on-aging.doi.10.26419-2fppi.00334.001.pdf%23xd_co_f%3DOGVjOGFiOTAtNzM5NS00YzU3LWEwZGQtZjViZjA5ZDFiMTY5~&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C695cd707664e4048976908dcb53566f4%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638584491339688701%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=MAxKoXbzPXMmy2EVC2tNf2wz9Wr%2Fj2PR58ZH%2FGExQhY%3D&reserved=0) for developing a national plan on aging. The paper marks the launch of the organization’s Aging Well in America Initiative, for which the AARP took best practices from federal, state and local initiatives to create a blueprint for the development of a “robust” national plan to foster the well-being, quality of life and dignity of older Americans. | | |
| 34 | [**Cancer care deserts are spreading**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5066%26n%3D20240808%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Foncology%2Fcancer-care-deserts-are-spreading.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cc2c60d0828964e1f490508dcb790e502%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587082776198211%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nnHksdeFTKW9Mws3kp8BNmpoPPmT0AtsHYn19lJSJPE%3D&reserved=0) *Becker's Hospital Review; by Mariah Taylor; 8/2/24* Cancer treatment deserts are growing as more rural hospitals close and cut services, CBS News reported Aug. 1. Many hospitals are discontinuing essential services, such as chemotherapy and labor and delivery, due to financial strains and staffing challenges. Between 2014 and 2022, 382 rural hospitals halted chemotherapy services, Charis, a health analytics and consulting firm, found in a report published this spring. Texas had the highest percentage of rural hospitals that eliminated chemotherapy services at 47%. Next came Alabama (46%), Mississippi (45%), Tennessee (44%), and Florida (39%). *Publisher's note: Cancer care deserts impact hospice referrals, and raise the question of "hospice deserts".* | | |
| 35 | [**Hundreds of rural hospitals may face closure: report**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5087%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.modernhealthcare.com%2Fproviders%2Frural-hospitals-closing-center-healthcare-quality-payment-reform&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102797351%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BshwGc7sOvJm422zwjvCO2rpDvw5YD3wejDtD9%2BBG9s%3D&reserved=0) *Modern Healthcare; by Mari Devereaux; 8/6/24* Around 700 rural hospitals are at risk of closing, with more than half of those at a high risk of closing in the next several years due to steep debt levels and low revenue, according to a recent report from the Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform. Twelve rural hospitals have closed since the start of 2023 as a result of severe financial issues, and 28 eliminated inpatient services in order to qualify for higher pay under the rural emergency hospital program, the July report said. The closures and loss of inpatient services have had detrimental impacts on vulnerable rural communities, in many cases eliminating jobs and causing patients to lose access to chemotherapy, surgery and obstetrics-gynecology services, experts say. | | |
| 36 | [**Worn-out caregiver? Not alone. 1 in 3 Michigan women aged 50+ care for others**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5085%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.bridgemi.com%2Fmichigan-health-watch%2Fworn-out-caregiver-not-alone-1-3-michigan-women-aged-50-care-others&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102856950%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Df1nWoML1QjoChCbN6cI%2Fb3mP46nKVFRXqCyXNzp5dw%3D&reserved=0) *Bridge Michigan; by Robin Erb; 8/6/24* More than 1 in 3 Michigan women 50 and older are caregiving for at least one person with a health condition or disability, according to state data extracted from a national survey. It’s a responsibility that — while it offers rewards and moments of joy and laughter — can exact a heavy physical, emotional and financial toll. | | |
| 37 | [**Heart disease, cancer remain leading causes of death in US**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5163%26n%3D20240814%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Foncology%2Fheart-disease-cancer-remain-leading-causes-of-death-in-us.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C926a97871110461408b508dcbc47e317%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638592266945308336%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3FrXmZ1Afld0FFVlQKENbjmHJwQZhRDdunSYqPZ%2B1%2FI%3D&reserved=0)  *Becker's Hospital Review; by Elizabeth Gregerson; 8/9/24* Heart disease and cancer remained the leading causes of death in 2023, according to provisional data released Aug. 8 by the CDC. Mortality data is collected by the National Center for Health Statistics National Vital Statistics System from U.S. death certificates, according to an analysis published Aug. 8 in *JAMA*. After a sharp increase in the rate of deaths from heart disease during the pandemic, the 2023 rate (162.1) reportedly was closer to pre-pandemic levels (161.5). The rate of deaths from cancer decreased from 146.2 in 2019 to 141.8 in 2023. Cause of death data is based on the underlying cause of events leading to death. Death rate is recorded as the age adjusted death rate per 100,000 deaths, authors of the *JAMA* analysis said. *Editor's Note: For a more data-oriented article that identifies additional causes of death,* [*click here for JAMA Network's "Leading Causes of Death in the US, 2019-2023."*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5163%26n%3D20240814%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fjamanetwork.com%2Fjournals%2Fjama%2Ffullarticle%2F2822207&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C926a97871110461408b508dcbc47e317%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638592266945319007%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7v17KH358Pwq34aJN8TZy6z95PjwotojIFZNjSmqvDc%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| 38 | [**Reimagining end-of-life practices: Setas Eternal Living’s MyCoffin offers a sustainable legacy**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5236%26n%3D20240819%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Ffcfreepresspa.com%2Freimagining-end-of-life-practices-setas-eternal-livings-mycoffin-offers-a-sustainable-legacy%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb60754f5c3394e275a7508dcc035b6db%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638596586085659564%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wabTuDyUIIM5U8LCP%2BYVStl4lQY2I0J0WGESsqxWSgw%3D&reserved=0)  *Franklin County Free Press; 8/13/24* In the heart of Pennsylvania’s countryside, a quiet revolution is taking place that promises to transform our end-of-life practices. At Setas Eternal Living, innovation and sustainability are at the forefront, offering an eco-friendly alternative to traditional burials through their unique MyCoffin. MyCoffin is designed to biodegrade the human body in under three years, and their pet coffin will biodegrade your pet in under two. This initiative aims to honor life while promoting environmental stewardship, reflecting a profound respect for nature’s cycles. ... The eco-friendly burial market is gaining momentum as more people become aware of the environmental impact of traditional burial practices. According to industry projections, the U.S. coffin and casket manufacturing industry is shifting towards greener alternative. ... | | |
| 39 | [**Mortuaries get a modern-day makeover**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5294%26n%3D20240822%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fthehustle.co%2Fnews%3Fhubs_content%3Dthehustle.co%252Fnews%252Fmortuaries-get-a-modern-day-makeover%26hubs_content-cta%3Dnull&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C47f365411d3f48ab0b8408dcc29136fe%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638599178078649809%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3cfbtHVafdZ8CX%2F7qHwXl6JZJgFr4dT5B4iNN32cMZI%3D&reserved=0)  *The Hustle; by Sara Friedman; 8/20/24* When window shopping in a city, it’s often an aesthetic storefront that captures your attention and pulls you inside. But what if the handcrafted vase that caught your eye was actually an urn for human remains? That’s the business model for the crop of trendy, modernized mortuaries popping up around the world, per The New York Times. ... Pretty enough to be spas or nightclubs, these new mortuaries bring some levity to customers looking for something different. In a Co-Op Funeralcare study of 4k people in the UK, 68% said they see funerals as celebration s of life, not sad occasions. [Examples given] ... These new mortuary models are tapping into a lucrative industry: The average funeral costs ~$6.6k in London, while the median cost of a US funeral is $8.3k. | | |
| 40 | [**“What I wish I knew about dementia”: A caregiving only child’s experience**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5313%26n%3D20240823%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.thehealthy.com%2Falzheimers%2Fwhat-i-wish-i-knew-about-dementia-caregiver-story%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C7dfc2eb510be4600c18808dcc35a6157%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638600041294404670%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=i3DcHZ6BBPqrMRomg1Z2G6Ibf87umufdLPqZbJ6qY%2Bc%3D&reserved=0)  *The Healthy; by Dr. Patricia Varacallo, DO; 8/20/24* It's no secret dementia affects the brain of the patient, and tests the hearts of their loved ones. Through one woman's personal journey, experts advise on the emotional, medical, and financial aspects of caregiving for dementia. ... Drawing from Ann’s caregiving journey and insights from Dr. Wint and Lucille Carriere, PhD, Cleveland Clinic Angie Ruvo Endowed Caregiving Chair, we share their collective wisdom on what they wish more people knew about dementia.   * The early signs of dementia ... * The common misconceptions about dementia ...   + "Dementia and Alzheimer's are interchangeable" ...   + "Nothing can be done about it" ...   + "Alzheimer's and other causes of dementia cannot be diagnosed until after death" ... * Caregiving for someone with dementia … * Available support systems for dementia patients ... * Navigating care transitions ... * Financial resources for dementia care ... [includes PACE]   *Editor's Note: This article provides excellent talking points you can adapt for your community engagement, education, and utilization (i.e., palliative care philosophy and when it is time for hospice). Additionally, each hospice employee and volunteer is a reference point in their spheres of family and community relationships. Ensure that all (not just clinical) know at least these basics, with when and how your organization can help. [Posted in honor of my dad, who lived with Alzheimer's with great grace and courage until his death, supported at the end by palliative and hospice care.]* | | |
| 41 | [**5 books to make caregiving a little more manageable**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5308%26n%3D20240823%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fdnyuz.com%2F2024%2F08%2F19%2F5-books-to-make-caregiving-a-little-more-manageable%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C7dfc2eb510be4600c18808dcc35a6157%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638600041294411800%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vDFCLydYLg9I1VEjapw8ZfIYsoh%2BUy3QWgVhI6FNETA%3D&reserved=0)  *DNYUZ; 8/19/24* Tina Sadarangani, a geriatric nurse practitioner in New York City, has spent years working with older adults and their families. She counsels patients on the medications they should take, the eating habits they should change and the specialists they should see. But it wasn’t until her own father became seriously ill — requiring a slew of medications, deliveries, physical therapy and more — that she understood the experience from what she calls “the other side of the table.” ... Here are five titles, recommended by health care providers and other experts, to help those who help others.   1. The 36-Hour Day, by Nancy L. Mace and Dr. Peter V. Rabins ... 2. Helping Yourself Help Others, by Rosalyn Carter ... 3. Travelers to Unimaginable Lands, by Dasha Kiper ... 4. When the Time Comes, by Paula Span ... 5. Passages in Caregiving, by Gail Sheehy ... | | |
| 42 | [**Health systems brace for the 'silver tsunami'**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5403%26n%3D20240828%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Fhospital-management-administration%2Fhealth-systems-brace-for-the-silver-tsunami.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C06396af1c69a452059cc08dcc74835e1%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638604362151221305%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zulC5EXgYsKbc%2FeoqGwKROoG8TdlOThD4DYDRjpelPA%3D&reserved=0) *Becker's Hospital Review; by Laura Dyrda; 8/23/24 [posted 8/25/24]* Around 10,000 Americans turn 65 years old every day, gaining access to Medicare benefits. The number of Medicare beneficiaries is expected to continue growing in the next five years, and health systems are making changes to keep up. In 2020, around 73 million Baby Boomers were eligible for Medicare benefits, and by 2030 all Baby Boomers will be Medicare-eligible, according to the Census Bureau. Advances in medicine and healthy lifestyle mean people are living longer and demanding more from their care. "In the next five years, the most significant disruptor to healthcare will be the capacity challenges associated with the 'silver tsunami' of baby boomers hitting the age of healthcare consumption," said Jonathan D. Washko, MBA, FACPE, NRP, AEMD, Assistant Vice President, CEMS Operations, Northwell Health; Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, Pre-hospital and Disaster Medicine, Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra, Northwell Health. "In this environment, coupled with lowering revenues, staffing shortages and higher expenses, healthcare is being forced from an abundance mindset to one of scarcity." | | |
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| A6 Regulatory and Political | | | |
| 43 | [**CMS 2025 Hospice Final Rule: Content and Initial Responses**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4963%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.federalregister.gov%2Fpublic-inspection%2F2024-16910%2Fmedicare-program-fy-2025-hospice-wage-index-and-payment-rate-update-hospice-conditions-of&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034056721255%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jHTv3h4%2FOSAeq8jUCHhdSve9eC4GaxYt6g7DW%2BACZBQ%3D&reserved=0)  [**[CMS Fact Sheet] Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Hospice Payment Rate Update Final Rule (CMS-1810-F)**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4963%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.cms.gov%2Fnewsroom%2Ffact-sheets%2Ffiscal-year-fy-2025-hospice-payment-rate-update-final-rule-cms-1810-f&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034056728689%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=erlMbk2J6F7JD8jOOf8AW%2BEvZHq9tNi5rdf8RU%2FTXG0%3D&reserved=0)  *CMS Fact Sheet - Final Rule (CMS-1810-F); 7/30/24* 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.  *Editor's Note: This "Fact Sheet" provides the straightforward facts, in CMS's official language (6 pages, PDF).*[*Click here for the full CMS Federal Register Final Rule, 167 pages, PDF.*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4963%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.federalregister.go%2520v%2Fpublic-inspection%2F2024-16910%2Fmedicare-program-fy-2025-hospice-wage-index-and-payment-rate-update-hospice-conditions-of&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034056991158%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0XalUmZYUpRdAca7y3cz75ZHPY8MpHQwgI75e4FwoKQ%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| 44 | [**CMS rolls out 2025 Hospice Final Rule with 2.9% pay increase**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4963%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F07%2F30%2Fcms-rolls-out-2025-hospice-final-rule-with-2-9-pay-increase%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034056998934%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=a3v1s8gEjQXEFc4BJoCIyS0l6ApuPs3wSjlYSIt%2BVhU%3D&reserved=0)  *Hospice News; by Holly Vossel; 7/30/24* The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has unveiled its final 2025 hospice rule, which includes a 2.9% increase in per diem payments alongside new quality reporting measures. The increase represents an estimated $790 million rise in total hospice payments compared to Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. It is also higher than the 2.6% hike that CMS initially proposed. *Editor's Note: See above, #1 for the 6 page PDF "Fact Sheet."*[*Click here for the full CMS Federal Register Final Rule, 167 pages PDF.*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4963%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.federal%2520register.gov%2Fpublic-inspection%2F2024-16910%2Fmedicare-program-fy-2025-hospice-wage-index-and-payment-rate-update-hospice-conditions-of&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034057006175%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CYYtllY8aqArC%2F2S36PYqvw1KaiMOmrlO%2B4l1L0pJ7g%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| 45 | [**Hospice providers net $790 million Medicare pay hike in FY 2025**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4963%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fnews.bloomberglaw.com%2Fhealth-law-and-business%2Fhospice-providers-net-790-million-medicare-pay-hike-in-fy-2025&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034057013571%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wkL%2Fa%2Fy9LyoJJglz30eDb1uSopreLWJxP5JYMP8R6bE%3D&reserved=0)   *Bloomberg Law; by Tony Pugh; 7/30/24*   * Nearly 6,000 hospice providers treat Medicare patients * Medicare paid nearly $24 billion for hospice care in 2022   Medicare payments to hospice providers would increase by $790 million in fiscal year 2025 under a Biden administration final rule released Tuesday. The rule confirms a 2.9% rate increase from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (RIN 0938-AV29) and also finalizes changes to the Hospice Quality Reporting Program. Hospice providers that don’t submit the required quality data would see a payment update of 2.9%, “minus four percentage points, which results in a -1.1% update,” the CMS said in a fact sheet. *Editor's Note: This article's tone sounds like hospice providers will make huge amounts of money with this 2.9% pay increase. Keep reading, below.* | | |
| 46 | [**Hospice community responds to CMS 2025 Hospice Rule**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4963%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F07%2F31%2Fhospice-community-responds-to-cms-2025-hospice-rule%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034057022687%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vGK9Xo2Go8hiwr0n2zAqFM8oAehuknIfvFwe46grXfc%3D&reserved=0)  *Hospice News; by Jim Parker; 7/31/24* The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on Tuesday finalized its 2025 hospice payment rule, but some say that the base rate increase is insufficient in today’s environment. ... Stakeholders in the space contend that rate hikes have not kept pace with inflation, rising labor costs and other headwinds in the hospice space, as well as lingering effects of COVID. Some have also indicated that the “insufficient” payment rates are making it more difficult for hospices to compete with other providers when it comes to hiring staff.  *Editor's Note: This article voices concerns that are consistent with hospice leaders' ongoing concerns, data, and national trends. How does this 2025 Final Rule impact the services you provide?* | | |
| 47 | [**Empowering patient access, protection, and choice: The 21st Century Cures Act eight years on**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4953%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthcarebusinesstoday.com%2F21st-century-cures-act-eight-years-on%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034057067612%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BgrcEij1QEuuTWdUGZwL6e5VkFrRdPBt%2Bjj3dneLxTo%3D&reserved=0)  *Healthcare Business Today; by David Navarro; 7/26/24* The 21st Century Cures Act, signed into law in December 2016, marked a significant shift in the healthcare landscape by focusing on patient empowerment through enhanced access to medical records, stringent privacy protections, and increased choices in healthcare options. Eight years later, this landmark legislation continues to revolutionize the interaction between patients, providers, and the healthcare system. Recently, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued an updated ruling to the Act to establish penalties for healthcare providers who engage in information blocking. This rule aims to deter practices that prevent or discourage the access, exchange, or use of electronic health information (EHI). | | |
| 48 | [**Senators introduce bipartisan bill to expand access to senior care program [PACE]**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4940%26n%3D20240801%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Ffcfreepresspa.com%2Fsenators-introduce-bipartisan-bill-to-expand-access-to-senior-care-program%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C662be74c2e5c4b44dc0e08dcb210c6e2%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581034057104392%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5C89h8kP18L4KQvRar%2BH5D%2FQ%2Bb%2FmO2uldHmaMxOuo60%3D&reserved=0)  *FCFreePress.com; by News Desk - Health News; 7/25/24* [Thursday, 7/25/24,] U.S. Senators Bob Casey (D-PA) and Mike Braun (R-IN), leaders of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, introduced the bipartisan PACE Anytime Act. This legislative move seeks to broaden the accessibility of the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) which serves thousands of lower-income seniors and individuals with disabilities by offering comprehensive, integrated care. ... Under current regulations, eligible individuals can only enroll in PACE programs at the beginning of each month. The PACE Anytime Act proposes to remove this restriction, allowing for enrollment at any time during the month, thereby making the program more accessible. | | |
| 49 | [**Help improve the PEPPER Program**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4948%26n%3D20240802%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fpepper.cbrpepper.org%2Findex.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C9114b7043724424d556208dcb2d9e8b0%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581898091060386%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=It7H9pocr09l0jAu8XlZxC%2BiwHs5VAGNRXcDZraRwz0%3D&reserved=0) PEPPER email; 7/30/24 There is a temporary pause in distributing Program for Evaluating Payment Patterns Electronic Reports (PEPPERs) as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) work to improve and update the program and reporting system. This pause will remain in effect through the fall of 2024. We recognize the importance of these reports to your practice. Therefore, during this time, CMS will be working diligently to enhance the quality and accessibility of the reports. In fulfilling this commitment, CMS seeks responses to a series of questions listed in the Request for Information (RFI). These questions will provide CMS with information that may be used to reevaluate PEPPERs and improve the effectiveness and accessibility of the program. The [RFI (PDF) is available here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4948%26n%3D20240802%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Ff6r9uhdab.cc.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D001EuipvPUXKydTKW3Z-MLR_yK_4ewVsHuyt0S2Ev3kClS7ba7OYd205rUzAPEuPwItlrOZIjK-PZ6Oxd18_qator6MzzaHPO51kwHUNy5_s05onW8bOCPil6LXy9xm4WXk2NYKgQn4lkbL3MGdJtmD3AsinmJUT-OUwewZaxZ4snAN1f0nt6vS2piJvr-84wsRY2hD2h7VBPcVemetR3OorA%3D%3D%26c%3D0cim6eEsT7_JspD1EBvCV6wD18nvHW6Ng1WAkMh4VneY4yKX6pxWAA%3D%3D%26ch%3DTH0IYzqMjKJ6ApZdxhieJZ4RRMV04fhUCH1chY3ip20GZ8JTy_Ir8A%3D%3D&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C9114b7043724424d556208dcb2d9e8b0%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581898091067592%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HQ%2BhWsRVpe8yj4gU1ki3PZl0RO1BIPe5pPCrhOE5qmY%3D&reserved=0). Responses are due on or before 08/19/2024 and must be provided via online submission at the following address: [CBRPEPPERInquiries@cms.hhs.gov](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4948%26n%3D20240802%26r%3Dmailto%3ACBRPEPPERInquiries%40cms.hhs.gov&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C9114b7043724424d556208dcb2d9e8b0%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638581898091075330%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5%2BOoIX76QPtu7FAPczRROahX5MWP0tgmhfJLxqdv7Ik%3D&reserved=0). | | |
| 50 | [**What’s changed in hospice in 2024?**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5057%26n%3D20240807%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.managedhealthcareexecutive.com%2Fview%2Fwhat-s-changed-in-hospice-in-2024-&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb13a929a620f4aad80ed08dcb6c7baba%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638586219340526260%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CzivhfCKJJRwhYxa9%2Bo6dmlsSeFiCGWOfSOL1%2BLDgGk%3D&reserved=0) *Managed Healthcare Executive; By Deborah Abrams Kaplan; 8/5/24* Hospice use continues to grow as more older people have serious diseases, leading to the need for more palliative care. At the same time, CMS is adapting and trying new models to measure and improve quality and pay for services. The federal government spent $23.7 billion on hospice care in 2022, according to the latest Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) report, with at least 1.7 million Medicare beneficiaries receiving service. This includes nearly half of Medicare beneficiaries who died that year. Here’s what to expect over the next year. [Summarized]   * Hospice carve-out * Physician eligibility * Show me the money * What’s coming up in 2025?   *Notable Mentions: Tarrah Lowry, interim president of Trustbridge and chief operating officer of Empath Health; Patrick Harrison, J.D., senior director of regulatory and compliance at the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO).* | | |
| 51 | [**CMS rule will align hospitals with age-friendly care for older adults**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5065%26n%3D20240808%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Fquality%2Fcms-rule-will-align-hospitals-with-age-friendly-care-for-older-adults.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cc2c60d0828964e1f490508dcb790e502%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587082776167455%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=93Cv1G9B0weM6u9vcG7X37gkJXtTsi8xtW6kAB5p2qg%3D&reserved=0) *Becker's Clinical Leadership; by Ashleigh Hollowell; 8/2/24* Starting in 2025, a new CMS measure will require public reporting on a hospital's capability to provide age-appropriate care for older adults, the agency announced Aug. 1. The measure is included as part of its FY2025 Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems final rule. Hospitals that participate in Medicare's Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting Program must begin to report on how they meet each element across five areas, the John A. Hartford Foundation explained via a news release shared with Becker's:   * Elicit patient healthcare goals. * Responsibly manage medications. * Implement frailty screening and intervention, for cognition and mobility as well. * Assess social vulnerabilities including isolation, caregiver stress, and elder abuse. * Designate specific leaders to oversee equitable delivery of care for older adults.   Hospitals that fail to adhere to these age-friendly care standards will face reductions in CMS funding. *Publisher's note: This story aligns with CHAP's (a newsletter sponsor)* [*age-friendly work in the community setting*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5065%26n%3D20240808%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fchapinc.org%2Faccreditation%2Fage-friendly-care%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cc2c60d0828964e1f490508dcb790e502%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587082776174852%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=kjvm%2BxkAdQeaK4z%2FrIfEWGYiqAuM4ie%2BUckh2KvB3QQ%3D&reserved=0)*. If age-friendly care is now integrated into Medicare's inpatient hospital quality metrics, when will it be integrated into Medicare's hospice quality metrics?* | | |
| 52 | [**Vatican’s changing line on end-of-life illustrates that hard cases make bad law**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5151%26n%3D20240813%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fcruxnow.com%2Fnews-analysis%2F2024%2F08%2Fvaticans-changing-line-on-end-of-life-illustrates-that-hard-cases-make-bad-law&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Ce0110ae8cd424f28326808dcbb7eb929%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638591401857232096%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=d3S8HA5c%2B39JCYnsFTnV%2FznrjYuK6Cny24i%2Bmfs2388%3D&reserved=0)  *Crux, Rome, Italy; by John L. Allen Jr.; 8/11/24* Hard cases, as the famous legal maxim holds, make bad law. The Vatican served up a reminder of the point this week with a new “little end-of-life lexicon,” which not-so-subtly amends an earlier Vatican ruling on the issue of withdrawing artificial nutrition and hydration from chronically ill patients 17 years ago ... which was framed in the wake of the anguished Terry Schiavo case in the United States ... Today, with 17 additional years of both clinical and pastoral experience, it’s perhaps easier to accept that things aren’t always so black-and-white, and that there’s room for differing judgments in concrete cases. ... | | |
| 53 | [**YoloCares: Overregulated California skips key regulations**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5268%26n%3D20240820%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fourcommunitynow.com%2FP%2Fyolocares-overregulated-california-skips-key-regulations&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cf9b40ebe16564c4f500208dcc0fee28c%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638597451130436993%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=t%2B38pvy1NUAi1ScFjA1E4TrXkd6koeXegWovdlf7AWk%3D&reserved=0)  *Our Community Now (OCN); by Craig Dresang, Special to The Enterprise; 8/17/24* California is the most heavily regulated state in the country. According to the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, the Golden State has 420,434 regulatory restrictions which is more than double the national average. ... So, it seems ironic that certain critically important sectors in California that impact the well-being, health and quality of life for millions of seniors are grossly unchecked and mis-regulated. My husband, who has owned and operated salons for nearly 30 years, pointed out that California’s Board of Barbering and Cosmetology (BBC) appears to have more rigorous rules and regulations for nail technicians than it does for board-and-care (B&C) owners or privately owned hospice companies. ... [Click on the title's link to continue reading.] | | |
| 54 | [**Busted: The top fraud schemes of Q2 2024**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5245%26n%3D20240820%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fblog.cotiviti.com%2Fbusted-the-top-fraud-schemes-of-q2-2024&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cf9b40ebe16564c4f500208dcc0fee28c%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638597451130444032%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=koY%2Faao8Kz8CiKeCxVs7IosIDHLbv2WyG3VDPs%2BrZwo%3D&reserved=0)  *Cotiviti; by Erin Rutzler; 8/16/24* As we move through 2024, fraud, waste, and abuse (FWA) continue to be sign­­­­ificant issues within healthcare. ... Here’s a rundown of notable FWA cases from April to June 2024.   * Nationwide healthcare fraud bust: $2.75 billion ... * Pharmacy Medi-Cal fraud scheme: $300 million ... * Telemarketer fraud: $174 million ... * Physical therapy fraud: $80 million ... * Durable medical equipment fraud: $70 million ... * COVID-19 testing fraud: $36 million ... * Genomic testing fraud: $25 million ... * Fraudulent hospice Medicare claims: $15 million ... * Genetic testing fraud: $12 million ... * Non-covered services fraud: $1.9 million ... | | |
| 55 | [**New York State Department of Health Launches Center for Hospice and Palliative Care**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5281%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.health.ny.gov%2Fpress%2Freleases%2F2024%2F2024-08-19_hospice.htm&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016577122%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Jl2ZFDJQFGTdai2PmpiY41qTwqkXXaaCsg%2FW1kD5SA8%3D&reserved=0)  New York State Department of Health; Press Release; 8/19/24 The New York State Department of Health today announced the new Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, which will be under the Department's Office for Aging and Long Term Care (OALTC). The new Center, established under the leadership of Governor Kathy Hochul, will be led by Kara Travis, a health care executive who most recently served as Chief Executive Officer of Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative Care in Gloversville, New York. "This new center will help us remove barriers that impact access to the profound comfort, support and dignity that palliative and hospice services can provide for individuals and families facing the end of life," State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said. "Launching the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care was a top priority for this Department and highlights Governor Hochul's ongoing commitment to eliminating healthcare disparities for all New Yorkers." | | |
| 56 | [**Nationwide home healthcare and hospice provider to pay $3.85M to resolve False Claims Act allegations**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5289%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.justice.gov%2Fopa%2Fpr%2Fnationwide-home-healthcare-and-hospice-provider-pay-385m-resolve-false-claims-act&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016643895%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OjkpNrXPmcJG4wgAPz0eQJbM4hG0Qk3LlaYXNSwlGjo%3D&reserved=0) *Department of Justice press release; 8/20/24* Intrepid U.S.A. Inc., headquartered in Dallas, and various wholly-owned subsidiaries (Intrepid) have agreed to pay $3,850,000 to resolve allegations that Intrepid violated the False Claims Act in connection with two lines of its business: first, that Intrepid knowingly submitted claims to Medicare for home healthcare services for patients who did not qualify for the Medicare home healthcare benefit or where services otherwise did not qualify for Medicare reimbursement; and second, that Intrepid knowingly submitted cl aims to Medicare for patients who did not qualify for the hospice benefit. The settlement is based on Intrepid’s ability to pay. | | |
| 57 | [**Hospice CARE Act would create reimbursement for high-acuity hospice services**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5273%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F08%2F19%2Fhospice-care-act-would-create-reimbursement-for-high-acuity-hospice-services%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016658399%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=X8NBngNGPxgT4GU%2FXmd1JMv5rD9qW2pYOwmF%2B3tedFo%3D&reserved=0)  *Hospice News; by Holly Vossel; 8/19/24* If enacted, the Hospice Care Accountability, Reform and Enforcement (Hospice CARE) Act could open up reimbursement pathways for high-acuity palliative services during a time when demand and costs are rising. Developed by U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenaur (D-Oregon) and [announced in June](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5273%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F07%2F12%2Fhospice-cares-act-would-update-medical-reviews-seek-to-reduce-audits%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016665595%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4emS6%2FAwob7g2h1yesuAq26xgIo4DjDD3odGRsBcTCE%3D&reserved=0) at the Hospice News Elevate conference, the bill proposed massive reimbursement and regulatory [changes](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5273%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F06%2F13%2Frep-earl-blumenauer-plans-landmark-hospice-reform-bill%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016672801%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=av9FKyy1xGay6qXP6ioEAn%2FtnZY1d3t2E%2FjF158F8xs%3D&reserved=0) to the Medicare Hospice Benefit. Currently in a discussion draft phase, the bill includes ways for hospice providers to have clearer definitions and improved payment for more intensive forms of palliation, such as radiation therapy, blood transfusions or dialysis, among others. | | |
| 58 | [**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Steve Landers, MD, MPH, Named Inaugural Chief Executive Officer of NAHC-NHPCO Alliance**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5365%26n%3D20240827%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.nhpco.org%2Fsteve-landers-md-mph-named-inaugural-chief-executive-officer-of-nahc-nhpco-alliance%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Ca4eeec0f73a2455288bb08dcc67f0a86%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638603498195804529%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UqlxVorBmedka8vsAtLY7SrmK7xcDIN70Xyv3UQlkMw%3D&reserved=0)  *NAHC-NHPCO Alliance Press Release, Alexandria, VA and Washington, DC; by Elyssa Katz and Thomas Threlkeld; 8/26/24* Steven Landers, MD, MPH, has been named the inaugural Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the newly merged NAHC-NHPCO Alliance (The Alliance). A recognized national leader and innovator in home health, primary care and aging services, Dr. Landers brings almost two decades of experience as a physician, executive leader and health policy advocate to The Alliance, which represents care at home and community providers across the country. ... “The Alliance members provide a wide range of high-quality home- and community-based services that promote comfort, dignity and independence. I’m so proud to become a part of this organization, and am eager to serve,” said Dr. Landers. “I’ve had the opportunity in my career to see the health care industry from many vantage points, and in this new role with The Alliance, I will use all that I have learned to make a difference for our members as we continue to expand to meet the growing public needs for our care.”  Prior to joining The Alliance, Dr. Landers served in several executive leadership roles. He was the director of home care at the Cleveland Clinic, and for more than 11 years was the president and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Association Health Group, Inc. — one of the oldest, largest and highly respected home health, hospice and community health organizations in the country. During his most recent tenure as the president and CEO of Hebrew SeniorLife, he led an organization known for superior senior living, geriatric health care, research and teaching.[*[Click here to continue reading]*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5365%26n%3D20240827%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.nhpco.org%2Fsteve-landers-md-mph-named-inaugural-chief-executive-officer-of-nahc-nhpco-alliance%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Ca4eeec0f73a2455288bb08dcc67f0a86%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638603498195812125%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=blCCwO9OsjRxYzN0LbU3SbBqX0oHlO3MRkpzHdha17s%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| 59 | [**CMS is taking action to address benefit integrity issues related to hospice care**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5402%26n%3D20240828%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.cms.gov%2Fblog%2Fcms-taking-action-address-benefit-integrity-issues-related-hospice-care&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C06396af1c69a452059cc08dcc74835e1%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638604362151097803%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=B9gD13Vn6VNz3mYtw2sDTkNlWwzbNaqTvmAuKlk42vU%3D&reserved=0)  *CMS Newsroom; by Dara A. Corrigan and Dora L. Hughes, MD, MPH; 8/22/24 [posted 8/27/24]* ... Unfortunately, hospices are profiting from fraud at the expense of beneficiaries far too often. Recent media reporting, and research by CMS, have identified instances of hospices certifying patients for hospice care when they were not terminally ill and providing little to no services to patients. The media reports identified that these activities led to a rapid growth in potentially fraudulent hospices, particularly in Arizona, California, Nevada, and Texas. Some of the addresses listed for these hospices also appeared to be non-operational. ... In response to these findings, CMS revisited and revitalized our hospice program integrity strategy, focusing on identifying bad actors and addressing fraudulent activity to minimize impacts to beneficiaries in the Medicare program. As part of this strategy, CMS embarked on a nationwide hospice site visit project, making unannounced site visits to every Medicare-enrolled hospice. *[*[*Click here to continue reading this significant information from CMS*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5402%26n%3D20240828%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.cms.gov%2Fblog%2Fcms-taking-action-address-benefit-integrity-issues-related-hospice-care&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C06396af1c69a452059cc08dcc74835e1%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638604362151104992%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Kup1xqIuW6Fcm7cAG0%2FuQtU3629fYbvVrmXPlKPkNjA%3D&reserved=0)*.]* | | |
|  |  | Total | 17 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A7 Technology and Innovations | | | |
| 60 | [**Patient outcomes of a virtual reality-based music therapy pilot in palliative care**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4911%26n%3D20240803%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fpubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov%2F39070962%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cf1f0764dd81a49b9ba1708dcb3a311a0%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638582762418328518%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6%2BvtP6JtOPdFOLedDAyFAIkRF1o6I80IlqkiW%2BLsdqo%3D&reserved=0)  *Palliative Medicine Reports; by Adreanne Brungardt, Angela Wibben, Prajakta Shanbhag, Debra Boeldt, Jeanie Youngwerth, Amanda Tompkins, Abigail J Rolbiecki, < /span>Heather Coats, A Blythe LaGasse, Jean S Kutner, Hillary D Lum; 7/19/24* Hospitalized patients with palliative care needs often have high levels of physical and psychological symptom distress. Virtual reality (VR) with a music therapy intervention may improve physical and psychological symptoms. Results:Seventeen patients completed VR-MT (range 20-79 years of age, 59% women). Moderate clinical improvements were observed for total ESAS-r score (Cohen's d effect size, 0.68), physical distress subscale (0.52), and psychological distress subscale (0.60); small improvements were observed in total MQOL-r score (0.26) and the existential subscale (0.27). Health care team members described the value of VR-MT as facilitating meaningful conversations. | | |
| 61 | [**The Tandem VR™ protocol: Synchronized nature-based and other outdoor experiences in virtual reality for hospice patients and their caregivers**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D4868%26n%3D20240803%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fpubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov%2F39045392%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cf1f0764dd81a49b9ba1708dcb3a311a0%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638582762418335989%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=u27jGIDJXgc4CnA7nuhionv5pK%2FgR2qluvkISBHEIqs%3D&reserved=0) *Contemporary Clinical Trials Communications; by O McAnirlin, J Thrift, F Li, J K Pope, M H E M Browning, P P Moutogiannis, G Thomas, E Farrell, M M Evatt, T Fasolino; 6/24* Nature-based and other outdoor virtual reality (VR) experiences in head-mounted displays (HMDs) offer powerful, non-pharmacological tools for hospice teams to help patients undergoing end-of-life (EOL) transitions. However, the psychological distress of the patient-caregiver dyad is interconnected and highlights the interdependence and responsiveness to distress as a unit. Using personalized, nature-based and other outdoor VR content, the patient-caregiver dyads can simultaneously engage in an immersive encounter may help alleviate symptoms associated with declining health and EOL phases for the patient and the often overburdened caregiver. This protocol focuses on meeting the need for person-centered, non-pharmacological interventions to reduce physical, psychological, and spiritual distress. | | |
| 62 | [**VNS Health develops AI methodology for palliative care patient assessments**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5054%26n%3D20240807%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F08%2F05%2Fvns-health-develops-ai-methodology-for-palliative-care-patient-assessments%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb13a929a620f4aad80ed08dcb6c7baba%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638586219340646056%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=d%2FB8mQ230L%2BK7qcmxaQeQ5MsIEX6U7nplsPvjoNqJTA%3D&reserved=0) *Hospice News; by Jim Parker; 8/5/24* Research by VNS Health has found that generative AI systems can help clinicians better assess and predict patients’ palliative care needs. | | |
| 63 | [**Cleveland Clinic names first Chief AI Officer**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5047%26n%3D20240807%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fnewsroom.clevelandclinic.org%2F2024%2F07%2F29%2Fcleveland-clinic-names-first-chief-ai-officer&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb13a929a620f4aad80ed08dcb6c7baba%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638586219340684059%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3gTGACo5w1v90so5R1xyeKIUv5lPOfECD2zY0uNEeZM%3D&reserved=0) *Cleveland Clinic press release; 7/29/24* Cleveland Clinic has appointed its first Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer to direct the use of AI across the health system. Ben Shahshahani, Ph.D., a technology executive with more than 20 years of experience in AI and machine learning, will serve as Vice President, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer, starting Aug. 12, 2024. *Publisher's note: Hospice implications...?* | | |
| 64 | [**Empath Health, American Health Plans launch ISNP joint venture**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5059%26n%3D20240808%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F08%2F06%2Fempath-health-american-health-plans-launch-isnp-joint-venture%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cc2c60d0828964e1f490508dcb790e502%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587082776101402%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TtHngIzQN%2Bf3X9bHdxnlCBMdLCudgdLoyNZRenO78oM%3D&reserved=0) *Hospice News; by Jim Parker; 8/6/24* The nonprofit senior care provider Empath Health is partnering with the Medicare Advantage organization American Health Plans (AHP), a division of American Health Partners to serve patients who are enrolled in Institutional Special Needs Plans (ISNP). ISNPs are Medicare Advantage plans that are designed to serve beneficiaries who live in skilled nursing facilities. Through the Empath partnership, members of AHP’s American Health Advantage of Florida ISNP will receive interdisciplinary services from TruHealth of Florida, the clinical arm of the ISNP. TruHealth is a newly established joint venture between AHP and Empath. Patients will also have access to Empath Health’s “full-life care” model. *Notable mentions: Jonathan Fleece, Empath Health CEO.* | | |
| 65 | [**Ten-Minute VR Therapy Provides Sustained Pain Relief for Patients With Cancer**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5111%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.physiciansweekly.com%2Ften-minute-vr-therapy-provides-sustained-pain-relief-for-patients-with-cancer%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102722205%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jym1iN3zZkEphIR2kWc3R054%2BMCR7V7AOEqsiZYQBuc%3D&reserved=0) *Physician's Weekly; 8/7/24* A new study suggests virtual reality pain relief interventions may be effective at reducing pain in hospitalized populations with cancer. Virtual reality (VR) provides pain relief in various health settings, but few studies investigate its impact on hospitalized patients with cancer. A recent study in [Cancer](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5111%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Facsjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com%2Fdoi%2F10.1002%2Fcncr.35282&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102729418%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=PxMdtbnF1ixMqoCrSUIxP%2BK1HhM5R9hftcpkDWZh4E8%3D&reserved=0) intends to fill that gap. The researchers completed a randomized control trial in which patients received a VR pain relief intervention or a 2D alternative. While both provided pain relief, the VR intervention was more effective. The researchers also found that pain relief lasted up to 24 hours after the intervention. “Virtual reality is a relatively new, rapidly developing technology that has capabilities to influence the patient experience in innovative ways,” said Hunter Groninger, MD, in an interview. Dr. Groninger is the director of Palliative Care at MedStar Washington Hospital Center, where the study was conducted, and a professor of medicine at Georgetown University. | | |
| 66 | [**Exploring AI-powered music therapy as a solution to chronic pain management and the opioid crisis**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5082%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.neurologylive.com%2Fview%2Fexploring-ai-powered-music-therapy-solution-chronic-pain-management-opioid-crisis&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102736929%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UWCyITLqTcM9yYugbB3CQebDcl5RmTwkEsmXDdOXtY8%3D&reserved=0) *NeurologyLive; by Neal K. Shah; 8/6/24* While the opioid crisis continues to ravage communities across America, many with chronic pain are in dire need of solutions. As a result, healthcare providers and researchers are urgently seeking alternative treatments for chronic pain management. One innovative solution is the use of music therapy, particularly when enhanced by artificial intelligence (AI) and neurotechnology. This combination could offer a powerful, non-pharmacological intervention to help millions of Americans suffering from chronic pain while potentially reducing opioid dependence. | | |
| 67 | [**Rescue from above: How drones may narrow emergency response times**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5121%26n%3D20240812%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fkffhealthnews.org%2Fnews%2Farticle%2Fdrone-emergency-medical-response-times%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb62e023811bf4e32352f08dcbab58e39%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638590538465584487%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Tkc0Fw0S%2Faj99UkfS87mckv8i43B0OAC55nN5wlKybk%3D&reserved=0) *KFF Health News; by Michelle Andrews; 7/22/24* Starting in September, if someone in Clemmons, North Carolina, calls 911 to report a cardiac arrest, the first responder on the scene may be a drone carrying an automated external defibrillator, or AED. “The idea is for the drone to get there several minutes before first responders,” such as an emergency medical technician or an ambulance, said Daniel Crews, a spokesperson for the sheriff’s office in Forsyth County, where Clemmons is located. The sheriff’s office is partnering on the project with local emergency services, the Clinical Research Institute at Duke University, and the drone consulting firm Hovecon. “The ultimate goal is to save lives and improve life expectancy for someone experiencing a cardiac episode,” Crews said. *Publisher's note: As with all things tech, when and how might drones be used in hospice?* | | |
| 68 | [**Making your Customer Experience [CX] investment strategy work**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5145%26n%3D20240813%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.cmswire.com%2Fcustomer-experience%2Fmaking-your-customer-experience-investment-strategy-work%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Ce0110ae8cd424f28326808dcbb7eb929%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638591401857083828%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=snpraquRSVztC6egc6hTtkLfBxh3hHXsBH9hCzr%2FnbM%3D&reserved=0)  *CMSWire [not to be confused with CMS=Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services]; by Jeb Dasteel, Amir Hartman, Brian P. O'Neill and Marc Madigan;* *8/12/24* Uncover the key elements of a successful customer experience strategy, from capability planning to aligning with core business objectives. ... Investing in a customer experience strategy is fraught with complications and feelings. Most of us in the world of CX are here because we believe that thoughtful CX spending will make an impact on the performance of our company. *Editor's Note: This article is for a much larger scope than our hospice and palliative readership. However, it highlights the importance of tying "customers' experiences" to the company/organization's core goals and business objectives. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' CAHPS Hospice Compare Scores [not to be confused with this CMSWire source] reflect the hospice "customer experience," from the perspective of the bereaved caregiver. While the* [*CMS Hospice Compare site*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5145%26n%3D20240813%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.medicare.gov%2Fcare-compare%2F%3Fredirect%3Dtrue%26providerType%3DHospice&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Ce0110ae8cd424f28326808dcbb7eb929%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638591401857093575%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FP9G04vmxyxfgAqJZS8immuNkl83k8zaeYJZ241Xx6k%3D&reserved=0) *sorts these public information scores alphabetically (per location and organization), our newsletter's sponsor* [*Hospice Analytics' National Hospice Locator*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5145%26n%3D20240813%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.nationalhospicelocator.com%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Ce0110ae8cd424f28326808dcbb7eb929%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638591401857101816%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sIMpGSRdUyw7vqlLpj91eKx%2B29%2BPmSACeYZi6iqDv74%3D&reserved=0) *sorts this same data by highest scores, for the purpose of helping the public "consumer" find the hospice that will provide them with the best "customer experience."* | | |
| 69 | [**A.L.S. stole his voice. A.I. retrieved it.**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5211%26n%3D20240819%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fdnyuz.com%2F2024%2F08%2F14%2Fa-l-s-stole-his-voice-a-i-retrieved-it%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb60754f5c3394e275a7508dcc035b6db%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638596586085638020%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zV1jp5B38C6L9%2BpMOBEZjQLj4fxyDgvAenC0TpFabHI%3D&reserved=0)  *DNYUZ, originally posted in The New York Times; 8/15/24* Four years ago, Casey Harrell sang his last bedtime nursery rhyme to his daughter. By then, A.L.S. had begun laying waste to Mr. Harrell’s muscles, stealing from him one ritual after another: going on walks with his wife, holding his daughter, turning the pages of a book. “Like a night burglar,” his wife, Levana Saxon, wrote of the disease in a poem. ... Last July, doctors at the University of California, Davis, surgically implanted electrodes in Mr. Harrell’s brain to try to discern what he was trying to say. ... Yet the results surpassed expectations, the researchers reported on Wednesday in The New England Journal of Medicine, setting a new bar for implanted speech decoders and illustrating the potential power of such devices for people with speech impairments. | | |
| 70 | [**Leaving your legacy via death bots? Ethicist shares concerns**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5359%26n%3D20240828%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.medscape.com%2Fviewarticle%2Fleaving-your-legacy-death-bots-ethicist-shares-concerns-2024a1000ejn&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C06396af1c69a452059cc08dcc74835e1%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638604362151235463%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2B4dpsV1tAW1g0zeioG%2BOlu4at7RtmzIasiEbkJKMuQg%3D&reserved=0) *Medscape; by Arthur L. Caplan, PhD; 8/21/24* I heard recently about a fascinating, important development in artificial intelligence (AI)... It has entered into a space where I think patients may raise questions about whether they should use it or seek opinions from doctors and nurses, particularly those involved with seriously ill people. That space is grieving, and what might be called "death bots..." This would allow not only spouses but grandchildren and people in future generations to have some way to interact with an ancestor who's gone. It may allow people to feel comfort when they miss a loved one, to hear their voice, and not just in a prerecorded way but creatively interacting with them. On the other hand, there are clearly many ethical issues about creating an artificial version of yourself. One obvious issue is how accurate this AI version of you will be if the death bot can create information that sounds like you, but really isn't what you would have said, despite the effort to glean it from recordings and past information about you. Is it all right if people wander from the truth in trying to interact with someone who's died? *Publisher's note: The article includes several thoughtful ethical questions regarding this use of AI via "death bots."* | | |
|  |  | Total | 11 |

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| A8 Speed of Change, Resiliency, and Re-Culture | | | |
| 71 | [**4 Ways servant leaders can inspire professional development in the workplace**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5068%26n%3D20240808%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fsites%2Fforbesbusinesscouncil%2F2024%2F08%2F05%2F4-ways-servant-leaders-can-inspire-professional-development-in-the-workplace%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cc2c60d0828964e1f490508dcb790e502%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587082776213194%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KBQOSgmcmHqUy9VNev8J07TpeOq0ho40cJE6cPhtGj0%3D&reserved=0) *Forbes; by Edward DeAngelis; 8/5/24* Servant leadership is very important to me. As business leaders, we strive to build natural and genuine relationships with our workforce, ideally to empower them, as people within the organization, and, in a collective sense, to demonstrate to each individual that the organization, as an entity, recognizes and appreciates…everyone. To support employee retention and performance, leaders must make engaging with their teams a priority. Employees who feel appreciated and acknowledged may not only stay with an organization and be more productive and positive, but also improve customer experiences, increase sales and profitability for the entire organization. ... Here are four ways servant leaders can inspire and support employee development.   1. Cultivate a culture of continuous learning. 2. Provide resources and mentorship. 3. Set clear expectations and collaborative goals. 4. Recognize achievements and empower everyone.   Servant leaders have the opportunity to empower their workforces to thrive and succeed, one vibrant career at a time. | | |
| 72 | [**The recipe for effective leadership has changed, and humility is a key ingredient**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5117%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fsites%2Fforbeshumanresourcescouncil%2F2024%2F08%2F06%2Fthe-recipe-for-effective-leadership-has-changed-and-humility-is-a-key-ingredient%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102819723%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4o%2FtAw%2BoTEadntOpYZv%2FYkqwaf2XzE2lRpj0LZpXJqA%3D&reserved=0) *Forbes; by Jim Dunn; 8/6/24* Humility gets a bad rap in the leadership space, often seen as a sign of weakness or low self-esteem. But that’s not how I’ve learned to see it, and recent research agrees. Humility involves accurately assessing your abilities and achievements and acknowledging your mistakes and limitations. Humble leaders are open to new ideas, maintain role-based perspective with a low self-focus and appreciate the contributions of others. Luckily, there are plenty of examples of CEOs who do humility well.   * Being self-aware * Offering recognition * Embracing teachability | | |
| 73 | [**How the best leaders get unstuck**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5069%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.mckinsey.com%2Ffeatured-insights%2Fmckinsey-guide-to-getting-unstuck%2Fhow-the-best-leaders-get-unstuck&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102827047%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=MFs9DvV1U7Sc98og0rZiba2Et0hoJtTP57tUnEThFTo%3D&reserved=0) *McKinsey & Company; 8/7/24* Great leaders know that success isn’t a singular achievement—it’s an ongoing journey. That’s why they avoid the “complacency trap,” or getting too comfortable with their existing knowledge and routines. If you’re feeling stuck in life or at work, consider taking a page from the best CEOs, who tend to prioritize these four things to sustain a high level of performance throughout their tenure:   1. Enhancing their learning agenda 2. Taking an outsider’s perspective 3. Collaboratively defining the S-curve 4. Future-proofing the organization | | |
| 74 | [**How Olympic success can offer leadership lessons**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5155%26n%3D20240813%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.theceomagazine.com%2Fbusiness%2Fmanagement-leadership%2Folympic-success-leadership-lessons%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Ce0110ae8cd424f28326808dcbb7eb929%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638591401857076761%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=m28fdBiPBXqUw5ci6jB%2FFsNR6na3dJT8XmYVhVKHyzo%3D&reserved=0)  *The CEO Magazine; by Craig Johns; 8/12/24* As the Paris 2024 Olympic Games wrap up, the extraordinary performances of athletes offer valuable insights into leadership. High performance in both arenas hinges on precision, focus and constant improvement – lessons that can transform leadership strategies and drive success. ...   * Energy management ... * Mindset ... * Teamwork ... * Performance monitoring ...   No successful athlete does it on their own. They surround themselves with people and technology who can monitor, tweak and enhance their performance. And just like Olympic athletes, good leaders and CEOs need good support teams who understand their vision and can help them achieve it. | | |
| 75 | [**Giving feedback can be daunting for new leaders — here’s how to provide it thoughtfully**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5152%26n%3D20240814%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Ftheconversation.com%2Fgiving-feedback-can-be-daunting-for-new-leaders-heres-how-to-provide-it-thoughtfully-236031&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C926a97871110461408b508dcbc47e317%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638592266945444344%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Q4Mv8xsKHV8DJ%2Bwvfn9SAm9ODpaA17ukFxW2mLOZqF8%3D&reserved=0)  *The Conversation; by Tracy Walsh; 8/11/24* Giving performance feedback at work can be a stressful experience, especially for new leaders and their employees. It often evokes feelings of anxiety, uncertainty and defensiveness. ... Yet feedback has never been more important. ... When feedback is delivered thoughtfully and perceived as constructive by employees, it can bridge the gap between potential and performance and provide clarity in times of uncertainty. ... [It] includes recognizing achievements, fostering professional development and building trust with employees. ... It’s equally important for leaders to seek and receive feedback from their employees. Embracing feedback enhances adaptability by providing leaders with real-time insights into what’s working and what’s not, allowing them to make necessary adjustments. [Click on the title's link for descriptions and guides.] | | |
| 76 | [**Want to keep talent? Develop your leaders**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5174%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fsites%2Frobertamatuson%2F2024%2F08%2F12%2Fretain-talent-develop-your-leaders%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862209644%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SniJ8w%2FC7N3kXHeqBn7QZxA4aD1Xt3uWKcNTSqOtma8%3D&reserved=0)  *Forbes; by Roberat Matuson; 8/12/24* You're investing heavily in recruitment, yet your top talent might be slipping away. Why? Because 7 in 10 U.S. workers are ready to leave if they have a bad manager. Younger employees are leading this charge, as highlighted in LinkedIn's latest Workforce Confidence [survey](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5174%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.linkedin.com%2Fposts%2Flinkedin-news_is-a-bad-manager-reason-enough-to-quit-a-activity-7227312568728506369-H8yR%2F%3Futm_source%3Dshare%26utm_medium%3Dmember_desktop&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862217026%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=B4v3DjCBVtBPNuHbxF%2FuUH%2FY9%2BCpmj7VAuGAALk1Mng%3D&reserved=0). With gig work on the rise and many young professionals living at home, they have the freedom to choose jobs that value them. The solution? Transform your managers into leaders worth following. ... 5 Ways to Develop Your Managers into Strong People Leaders:   1. Meet your leaders where they are. ... 2. Engage a coach to work side-by-side with your leaders. ... 3. Create an in-house leadership book club. ... 4. Develop a leadership speaker series. ... 5. Create a leadership growth circle. ...   *Editor's Note: Teleios Collaborative Network's (TCN) next 5-day Leadership Immersion  Course will be November 4-8, 2024.* [*Click here for information.*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5174%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.teleioscn.org%2Fteleios-collaborative-networks-leadership-immersion-course&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862224492%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=PI%2FXrBJ0WWpmabo0NzhHgXipyDm1%2FFw2UTYa9gc1SZg%3D&reserved=0)[*TCN is a sponsor for our newsletter*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5174%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.teleioscn.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862231873%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Q3IqJlHWiTvaGO%2FaR%2F7TdqRBbJHiW30NFaXWARRapd8%3D&reserved=0)*, and provides the monthly podcast--hosted by Chris Comeaux--for the monthly hospice leadership podcast, "Top Stories of the Month."* [*Click here for July 2024.*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5174%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.teleioscn.org%2Ftcntalkspodcast%2Ftop-news-stories-of-the-month-july-2024&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862239153%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ujB6uNhP%2FCyypph9JYsccJnHHKupr%2F5WB3aETTikjG0%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| 77 | [**Aligning local marketing strategies with organizational vision**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5207%26n%3D20240816%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fcouncils%2Fforbescommunicationscouncil%2F2024%2F08%2F15%2Faligning-local-marketing-strategies-with-organizational-vision%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C168214ed452e4e36543908dcbdda399b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593993963238421%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=L4Bgn0d%2BWqVWkYK6Y%2F69X1ZFRkvBKIlf0EfQmMKA4XY%3D&reserved=0)  *Forbes; by Emily Burroughs; 8/15/24* ... In today’s interconnected world, achieving a cohesive and impactful narrative requires that local marketing strategies align with the organization’s broader vision. However, silos within a company can complicate this process, impeding clarity and effectiveness. Here’s how to bridge these gaps and foster a unified message.   * The Power of Purpose-Driven Storytelling ...   + Silos: Defining and Recognizing ...   + Uniqueness to Markets ... * Tools for Breaking Down Silos ...   + Communication: The ADKAR Model ...   + Generational Marketing: Understanding Diverse Workforces ...   + Empowerment Dynamic: Shifting Mindsets ...   + Teamwork: Stages of Team Development ... | | |
| 78 | [**Transformational leadership: The how and why**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5237%26n%3D20240819%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fcouncils%2Fforbescoachescouncil%2F2024%2F08%2F13%2Ftransformational-leadership-the-how-and-why%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb60754f5c3394e275a7508dcc035b6db%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638596586085522444%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qpd40Shu%2F54IOfgu6pSzbGOKoR3SuoXlnm6i5ZzKamc%3D&reserved=0)   *Forbes; by Akin Akinpelu; 8/13/24* The ability to inspire and motivate a team isn't just a nice-to-have; it's a necessity. That is why transformational leadership goes beyond traditional management tactics, to driving innovation and fostering a culture where everyone feels valued and empowered. Here’s why it matters and how you can cultivate it within your own organization. At its heart, transformational leadership is about creating a vision that motivates and inspires your team to achieve more than they ever thought possible. There are a few key elements that really set transformational leaders apart:   * Inspirational Motivation: The best leaders paint a vision so compelling that it pulls everyone together. It's not just about setting goals; it's about making sure everyone understands the "why" behind those goals. ... * Intellectual Stimulation: Encouraging your team to think outside the box is crucial. ... * Individualized Consideration: Recognizing that each team member is unique is key. ...   *Editor's Note: Teleios Collaborative Network's (TCN) next 5-day Leadership Immersion  Course will be November 4-8, 2024.*[*Click here for information.*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5237%26n%3D20240819%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.teleioscn.org%2Fteleios-collaborative-networks-leadership-immersion-course&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb60754f5c3394e275a7508dcc035b6db%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638596586085529586%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=uX5hAOSG%2Br%2BYzD4DWHfFgiMuaF%2F07Fde9PsLjfh8mZU%3D&reserved=0)[*TCN is a sponsor for our newsletter*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5237%26n%3D20240819%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.teleioscn.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb60754f5c3394e275a7508dcc035b6db%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638596586085536608%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Mot04e9R9Gql9L6WcdLNwm6x3XOQ0dfladFtG44Twmg%3D&reserved=0)*, and provides the monthly podcast--hosted by Chris Comeaux--for the monthly hospice leadership podcast, "Top Stories of the Month."*[*Click here for July 202 4.*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5237%26n%3D20240819%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.teleioscn.org%2Ftcntalkspodcast%2Ftop-news-stories-of-the-month-july-2024&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb60754f5c3394e275a7508dcc035b6db%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638596586085543556%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TNUkYOow18Ovn2fPKnzU%2BbKdNmNt74ZQf7v4MPhL9Pw%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| 79 | [**Hospice Insights Podcast - Stories of successful hospice leadership: The CEO and Chief Medical Officer relationship**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5293%26n%3D20240823%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.jdsupra.com%2Fpost%2FdocumentViewerExternal.aspx%3Ffid%3Da680827b-524e-4e02-8df5-bff2b976e612&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C7dfc2eb510be4600c18808dcc35a6157%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638600041294325295%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CfEEMPNFQfJXdGajJYMpruJTFbOryvqjBElElj5oksQ%3D&reserved=0)  *JD Supra; by Husch Blackwell; 8/21/24* A strong and engaged Chief Medical Officer (CMO) may be a hospice CEO’s most important asset. But what does a successful CEO/CMO relationship look like and how must it evolve to meet today’s challenges? In this episode we get to find out, as Husch Blackwell’s Meg Pekarske is joined by HopeHealth CEO Diana Franchitto and Dr. Edward Martin, CMO, whose trusted relationship has been instrumental to the organization’s success and clinical expansion. | | |
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| A9 The Human Factor | | | |
| 80 | [**Which parts of healthcare are off limits to AI?**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5156%26n%3D20240814%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Finnovation%2Fwhich-parts-of-healthcare-are-off-limits-to-ai.html%3Forigin%3DCIOE%26utm_source%3DCIOE%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_content%3Dnewsletter%26oly_enc_id%3D0450A0872612F4U&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C926a97871110461408b508dcbc47e317%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638592266945429771%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GwMtDQA%2BRiwhXazfT7BStVkJ9fgwifNVaNrkdV9s8Sg%3D&reserved=0)  *Becker's Health IT; by Giles Bruce; 8/9/24* The AI physician will not see you now — or ever, for that matter. As artificial intelligence proliferates in healthcare, health system leaders told *Becker's* that human providers will always be part of the medical field, with their — AI-aided — treatment recommendations being discussed with patients and family members. "Any patient care decisions ... should be made by patients and their caregivers or family members, obviously in consultation with their physician or provider," said Joe Depa, chief data and [AI officer](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5156%26n%3D20240814%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.beckershospitalreview.com%2Finnovation%2Fthe-hottest-new-role-in-corporate-america-comes-to-health-systems.html&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C926a97871110461408b508dcbc47e317%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638592266945437089%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RuAFx77FbTwX2MsPa4xAv8IU6A2OnJgNwOD692CPKws%3D&reserved=0) of Atlanta-based Emory Healthcare. ... Robots — or AI — will simply never take the place of that human touch, health system leaders say. | | |
| 81 | [**Leaving your legacy via death bots? Ethicist shares concerns**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5359%26n%3D20240828%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.medscape.com%2Fviewarticle%2Fleaving-your-legacy-death-bots-ethicist-shares-concerns-2024a1000ejn&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C06396af1c69a452059cc08dcc74835e1%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638604362151235463%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2B4dpsV1tAW1g0zeioG%2BOlu4at7RtmzIasiEbkJKMuQg%3D&reserved=0) *Medscape; by Arthur L. Caplan, PhD; 8/21/24*  I heard recently about a fascinating, important development in artificial intelligence (AI)... It has entered into a space where I think patients may raise questions about whether they should use it or seek opinions from doctors and nurses, particularly those involved with seriously ill people. That space is grieving, and what might be called "death bots..." This would allow not only spouses but grandchildren and people in future generations to have some way to interact with an ancestor who's gone. It may allow people to feel comfort when they miss a loved one, to hear their voice, and not just in a prerecorded way but creatively interacting with them. On the other hand, there are clearly many ethical issues about creating an artificial version of yourself. One obvious issue is how accurate this AI version of you will be if the death bot can create information that sounds like you, but really isn't what you would have said, despite the effort to glean it from recordings and past information about you. Is it all right if people wander from the truth in trying to interact with someone who's died? *Publisher's note: The article includes several thoughtful ethical questions regarding this use of AI via "death bots."* | | |
|  |  | Total | 2 |

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| A10 Highlighted Articles of Interest | | | |
| 82 | [**Teleios’ Clinically Integrated Network sets benchmark for healthcare excellence**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5012%26n%3D20240805%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.teleioscn.org%2Ftcn-news%2Fpress-release&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C695cd707664e4048976908dcb53566f4%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638584491339551348%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=p0LXYIJezEAT9EP18hsVpw87cudg2DROjkgJzHYaDiI%3D&reserved=0) *Teleios press release; 7/31/24* Teleios Collaborative Network (TCN) recently announced that its Clinically Integrated Network (CIN) is setting the benchmark for healthcare excellence in the serious illness space. The data from the most recent reporting period again demonstrates that the members of the CIN are delivering exceptional patient care. One hundred percent of the CIN members achieved a 4- or 5-star rating on the CAHPS Hospice Survey Star Ratings by CMS. In addition, all the members identified and documented a healthcare surrogate for hospice within the first 5 days after admission at least 90% of the time with the network average being 97% and upon the time of admission for Palliative Care patients with the average being 99.8% of the time. This was the result of the members reviewing and revising their processes to ensure that a healthcare surrogate was identified and documented. *Publisher's note: We appreciate Teleios being a newsletter sponsor and their work setting a high quality bar for their members!* | | |
| 83 | [**What drives health spending in the U.S. compared to other countries?**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5072%26n%3D20240808%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthsystemtracker.org%2Fbrief%2Fwhat-drives-health-spending-in-the-u-s-compared-to-other-countries%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cc2c60d0828964e1f490508dcb790e502%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587082776093678%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dTIiDMApuS0GL4ir0h9blNk4EXmdiErs9O%2BV6HcurPc%3D&reserved=0) *Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker; By Emma Wager Twitter, Shameek Rakshit, Cynthia Cox; 8/2/24* The United States spends significantly more on healthcare than comparable countries do, and yet has worse health outcomes. Much of the national conversation has focused on spending on retail prescription drugs and insurer profits and administrative costs as key drivers of health spending in the United States. The Inflation Reduction Act, signed into law by President Biden in 2022, includes several provisions aimed at lowering the cost of these prescription drugs. While it is true that many brand-name retail prescription drugs are priced higher in the U.S. than in peer countries, health spending data indicates that other spending categories – particularly hospital and physician payments – are primary drivers of the U.S.’s higher health spending. This brief examines the drivers of health spending and differences between the U.S. and its peers – other Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations that are similarly large and wealthy. In 2021, the U.S. spent nearly twice as much per capita on health as these comparable countries did. Most of the additional dollars the U.S. spends on health go to providers for inpatient and outpatient care. The U.S. also spends more on administrative costs, and significantly less on long-term care. [Long-term care spending includes health and social services provided in long-term care institutions such as nursing homes as well as home- and community-based settings.] ... In 2021, the U.S. spent nearly twice as much on health per person as comparable countries ($12,197 compared to $6,514 per person, on average). | | |
| 84 | [**Steward to lay off more than 1,200 Massachusetts hospital workers**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5074%26n%3D20240809%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.modernhealthcare.com%2Fproviders%2Fsteward-health-care-layoffs-massachusetts&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C8a2387782e83478fd9bb08dcb85a0f92%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638587947102804510%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=z8p7PLG2nNgV0%2BpZJ55HFHxMkOHSH9ZT3Fn2nGuCeec%3D&reserved=0) *Modern Healthcare; by Alex Kacik;8/5/24* Dallas-based Steward plans to cut 753 workers at Carney Hospital in Dorchester and 490 employees at Nashoba Valley Medical Center in Ayer on Aug. 31, according to two Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act filings. | | |
| 85 | [**Hospital assets before and after private equity acquisition**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5039%26n%3D20240810%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fpubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov%2F39078640%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C2e90a8bb395b46c1145308dcb92338e9%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638588810378114057%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7KmyoWQjr5trnkRg8UK7qdAV2pg3Mb9bZGxVQphuKkk%3D&reserved=0) *JAMA; by Elizabeth Schrier, Hope E M Schwartz, David U Himmelstein, Adam Gaffney, Danny McCormick, Samuel L Dickman, Steffie Woolhandler; 7/24* Private equity firms spent $505 billion on health care acquisitions between 2018 and 2023. Financial infusions may augment resources for care. However, firms have sometimes sold acquired hospitals’ land and buildings, repaying investors with proceeds and burdening hospitals with rent payments for facilities they once owned. We assessed changes in hospitals’ capital assets after private equity acquisition. After private equity acquisition, hospital assets decreased by 24% relative to that of controls during 2 years. Private equity acquisitions appear to have depleted, rather than augmented, hospital assets. Although funds from asset drawdowns might be redeployed to enhance care or efficiency, previous studies suggest such effects may not occur. | | |
| 86 | [**New England hospital CEOs warn lawmakers of crisis in rural health care system**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5105%26n%3D20240812%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.mainebiz.biz%2Farticle%2Fnew-england-hospital-ceos-warn-lawmakers-of-crisis-in-rural-health-care-system&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb62e023811bf4e32352f08dcbab58e39%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638590538465577377%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=PPdb7i9I%2FRf%2B8VWEXCOLQR79vnL%2FckuBObyWu2AluF0%3D&reserved=0) *Mainebiz; by Laurie Schreiber; 8/8/24* MaineHealth’s CEO was one of three in the Northeast who recently told federal lawmakers that rural health care systems are in crisis. “As a family physician by training, it has been difficult to watch our rural communities struggle to maintain access to high-quality care for their residents,” said Dr. Andrew Mueller. “Our proposals align with, and support, our MaineHealth vision of ‘working together so our communities are the healthiest in America.’” | | |
| 87 | [**The top priorities for healthcare CEOs**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5127%26n%3D20240812%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.modernhealthcare.com%2Fpeople%2Fhealthcare-ceos-top-trends-priorities-2024&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb62e023811bf4e32352f08dcbab58e39%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638590538465605795%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=bDhuvL3N07Yk0V8blAVDQOpxPruHofqwcQ%2BWldjs0Mg%3D&reserved=0) *Modern Healthcare; 8/9/24* What's the top priority in the second half? What's the biggest challenge? ... Modern Healthcare reporters posed those two questions to CEOs in all corners of the industry to see where healthcare is headed in the coming months. *[Selected responses from 13 CEOs include:]*   * We're growing state-by-state, which means doing the right things to invest and grow in those states while being really, really thoughtful about capital efficiency and the bottom line... The biggest challenge is the change in the insurance landscape around obesity. Brooke Boyarsky Pratt, founder and CEO, Knownwell * We're implementing behavioral health services in our emergency department via telehealth. We are also going to be providing leadership training for all of our middle managers... Staffing is the biggest challenge. Also, maintaining a positive operating margin is becoming a problem. Martin Fattig, CEO, Nemaha County Hospital * We are fighting to expand the collective bargaining rights of nurses and other clinicians who work in the Veterans Health Administration... Nancy Hagans, president, National Nurses United * A continuation of quality service delivery is our first priority. John Kao, founder and CEO, Alignment Health | | |
| 88 | [**Beyond a project management office: Why transformation offices are the future**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5060%26n%3D20240812%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhrexecutive.com%2F5-steps-to-building-a-transformation-office%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cb62e023811bf4e32352f08dcbab58e39%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638590538465612901%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QLSqTI96IhwYncgoUITxFZsAtPIc%2FerqWdw8tJYi4xM%3D&reserved=0) *Human Resource Executive; by Riley Smith, Maura Koehler-Hanlon; 8/6/24* Very few transformations deliver on their goals. Over the past decade, project management offices (PMOs) and change management offices (CMOs) have been able to reduce the percentage of transformations that fail from 38% in 2013 to 13% in 2023, according to research by Bain. What a transformation office does:   1. Strategy development 2. Governance 3. Program management 4. Change management 5. Performance tracking | | |
| 89 | [**Perfecting healthcare’s 360° consumer-centric strategy**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5191%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fguidehouse.com%2Finsights%2Fhealthcare%2F2024%2Fhealthcare-360-consumer-centric-strategy&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862370623%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1h0ucSDyFbN6bEFr0xu1IxTquqTo6GpawzvzZpEWoz0%3D&reserved=0)  *Guidehouse; 8/13/24* To ably compete in today’s healthcare environment while meeting their mission of quality patient care, health systems must make patient access and the consumer experience a core value across their entire organization. That means placing a relentless focus on reducing friction to meet customer expectations and aligning people and tech resources with standardization and scale. ...  *Editor's Note: What is your hospice's "consumer experience" scores? Using publicly reporting data from the CMS Hospice CAHPS scores, examine (1) the CMS Hospice Compare Fact Sheet (defines the hospice measures and data that are collected) and* [*(2) the National Hospice Locator*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5191%26n%3D20240815%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.nationalhospicelocator.com%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7Cd9d045f2188841fd524008dcbd110e16%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638593128862378423%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9WUAmSedz7tfyJI%2FfZGx4ir43hkw%2BKMR0I8pfmPVnVw%3D&reserved=0) *(sorted by quality scores high to low), by National Hospice Analytics (a sponsor for our newsletter).* | | |
| 90 | [**John Oliver on US for-profit hospice care: ‘too important to just hope the free market fixes it'**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5279%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Ftv-and-radio%2Farticle%2F2024%2Faug%2F19%2Fjohn-oliver-last-week-tonight-hospice-episode&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016531514%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=g5snXwDhaZbd7UqOg8qfIjFtN6b3NoL3VyprOk4uT2w%3D&reserved=0)  *The Guardian; by Adrian Horton; 8/19/24* On the latest Last Week Tonight, John Oliver delved into the many issues with hospice care in the US. Doing so is “an almost offensive parody of this show”, he acknowledged. “If somebody else did that, it would genuinely be hurtful. But I promise this is worth talking about.” There are “lots of dedicated people work with hospices, providing huge relief for dying patients and their families, particularly those who want to remain at home”, such as the 1.8 million Americans who received end-of-life care at home last year. But like anything, hospice is subject to fraud, mismanagement and abuse. One government report estimated that hospice’s inappropriate billing costs Medicare hundreds of millions per year. ... “Hospice care, when done well, is hugely beneficial to those that are dying and their families. It is too important to just hope the free market fixes it,” Oliver concluded. “This industry badly needs reform. That’s clear.” [Click on links below for more information and responses.]   * [Continue reading the article above about this HBO/MAX episode, Aug 18, 2024, Season 11, Episode 11](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5279%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Ftv-and-radio%2Farticle%2F2024%2Faug%2F19%2Fjohn-oliver-last-week-tonight-hospice-episode&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016538763%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=eGZamGW0LbTO6dd%2Bzzt3ixQRPmiK1TVrnfNo5dILYEk%3D&reserved=0) * [NAHC-NHPCO Alliance: Member Guide- Talking Points for Hospice Providers - Last Week Tonight with John Oliver [membership may be required to login]](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5279%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.nhpco.org%2Ftalking-points-for-hospice-providers-last-week-tonight-with-john-oliver%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016546184%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WNWXgykJVQqZFcZmiSFTjIfeb0yrCrd3qrX%2F67PISzM%3D&reserved=0) * [National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation (NPHI): HBO's Last Week Tonight Shines a Spotlight on Medicare Hospice Fraud](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5279%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospiceinnovations.org%2Fhbos-last-week-tonight-shines-a-spotlight-on-medicare-hospice-fraud%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016562509%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=mLI6RiYGIj5wRLFdITeKtspQzT5dzMdDTxmCTnnmsdk%3D&reserved=0) * [Hospice News: As media delves into hospice fraud, providers must step up advocacy, by Jim Parker](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5279%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F08%2F20%2Fas-media-delves-into-hospice-fraud-providers-must-step-up-advocacy%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016569877%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VIDuc6ZNimdvmYgmV86vvobt3akB3ywvanYBmb2yfDU%3D&reserved=0) | | |
| 91 | [**BoldAge CMO Glenn Meyers: PACE is palliative care**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5283%26n%3D20240821%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F08%2F19%2Fboldage-cmo-glenn-meyers-pace-is-palliative-care%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C62bab5ed593a4de39a8208dcc1c80c7b%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638598314016687331%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ch%2FCfJljl1zR4yKZxKIr5uCslhyDW4qoVIKLmY0KrEU%3D&reserved=0)  *Hospice News; by Jim Parker; 8/19/24* Palliative care is integral to Programs for All-Inclusive Care of the Elderly (PACE) programs, according to Dr. Glenn Meyers, who was recently promoted to chief medical officer of BoldAge PACE. New Jersey-headquartered BoldAge emerged last year, established by a group of former hospice and home health leaders. The company currently operates four PACE centers located in the Northwest and the Midwest, with two more slated to open before the end of the year. Ultimately, BoldAge PACE plans to build a national footprint. | | |
| 92 | [**Fraudulent hospices reportedly target homeless people, methadone patients to pad census**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5353%26n%3D20240824%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D3%26s%3Dweb%26b%3D5352%26n%3D20240826%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fhospicenews.com%2F2024%2F08%2F23%2Ffraudulent-hospices-reportedly-target-homeless-people-methadone-patients-to-pad-census%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C48bf56afa12349dc8b7208dcc4238bc6%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638600907353462696%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WVvv5G0v9dy%2Fc9DUwO1p4X9HlafflXb7CyzsGsDAr%2BI%3D&reserved=0)  *Hospice News; by Jim Parker; 8/23/24* Fraudulent hospices in California reportedly have been targeting homeless people and methadone patients, promising them a steady supply of opioids in exchange for enrolling in hospice. Three hospice leaders came forward to Hospice News to report these practices. According to their reports, unscrupulous providers have canvassed both homeless encampments and methadone clinics seeking to sign up patients who are not terminally ill. In many cases, the sources said, these operators offer patients free access to board-and-care facilities and a daily supply of morphine. Another frequent practice among these hospices is to offer patients cash or other items in addition to drugs, they said. “This conduct raises serious fraud concerns on kickbacks or gifts to beneficiaries who do not appear to qualify for hospice,” Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC), told Hospice News. “More importantly, this conduct is predatory, taking advantage of individuals in addiction. Jail time is not enough punishment for the harm that such conduct creates.” *Editor's Note: This is abhorrent. Click on the title's link to read more. While*[*John Oliver's "Last Week Tonight"*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5353%26n%3D20240824%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D3%26a%2520mp%3Bs%3Dweb%26b%3D5352%26n%3D20240826%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2F%3Fn%3D20240821%23article_5279&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C48bf56afa12349dc8b7208dcc4238bc6%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638600907353470340%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FwvS27TeVj8lbPxpNIcPU5%2FKPsQ7O2PMCHB6C8gpDaw%3D&reserved=0)*episode on 8/18/24 gained criticism from many hospice leaders, these fraudulent unethical behaviors (and others') lay the groundwork for such dire distrust from the public. These organizations' behaviors must be stopped. These people and organizations must be held accountable.* | | |
| 93 | [**Protecting patients and society in an era of private equity provider ownership: Challenges and opportunities for policy**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5350%26n%3D20240824%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthaffairs.org%2Fdoi%2F10.1377%2Fhlthaff.2023.00942&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C48bf56afa12349dc8b7208dcc4238bc6%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638600907353492018%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IZEP%2BuZpPocVj01R%2BGLllfiGY3f3RVEd%2BGfk3vQat64%3D&reserved=0) *Health Affairs; by Christopher Cai, Zirui Song; 5/24* Private equity (PE) acquisitions in health care delivery nearly tripled from 2010 to 2020. Despite concerns around clinical and economic implications, policy responses have remained limited. We discuss the US policy landscape around PE ownership, using policies in the European Union for comparison. We present four domains in which policy can be strengthened.   1. First, to improve oversight of acquisitions, policy makers should lower reporting thresholds, review sequential acquisitions that together affect market power, automate reviews with potential denials based on market concentration effects, consider new regulatory mechanisms such as attorney general veto, and increase funding for this work. 2. Second, policy makers should increase the longer-run transparency of PE ownership, including the health care prices garnered by acquired entities. 3. Third, policy makers should protect patients and providers by establishing minimum staffing ratios, spending floors for direct patient care, and limits on layoffs and the sale of real estate after acquisition (forms of “asset stripping”). 4. Finally, policy makers should mitigate risky financial behavior by limiting the amount or proportion of debt used to finance PE acquisitions in health care. | | |
| 94 | [**What is C-level (C-suite)?**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hospicepalliativecaretoday.com%2Fredirect%3Fu%3D1744%26s%3Demail%26b%3D5395%26n%3D20240828%26r%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.techtarget.com%2Fsearchcio%2Fdefinition%2FC-level&data=05%7C02%7Cccomeaux%40teleioscn.org%7C06396af1c69a452059cc08dcc74835e1%7Cd63fe25b1ccf46e4b82cd265e602d976%7C0%7C0%7C638604362151242627%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RkFZY36P%2F8jpWtSBaHUCloy0DyNtM2xRfQRiWkTeD5s%3D&reserved=0)  *TechTarget - CIO; by Rahul Awati and Mary K. Pratt; 8/27/24 ...* In recent years, positions like chief diversity officer (CDO), chief compliance officer (CCO), chief risk officer (CRO) and chief information security officer (CISO) have also emerged as part of the C-suite. Officers who hold C-level positions are typically considered the most powerful, influential members of an organization; consequently, they set the company's strategy, make high-stakes decisions, and ensure that daily operations align with fulfilling the company's strategic goals. ... Depending on the company type, size, country of operation and industry, the C-Suite might include some or a ll the following positions: [Explore this article for long-standing roles and new, emerging C-suite roles: CEO, COO, CFO, CMO, CIO, CTO, CHRO, CCO, CSO, CISO, CDO, CAO, CXO, CGO, CITA, CKI, CLO, CMIO, CPO, CPIO, CPO, CRO, CSS, CSO, CTO.] | | |
|  |  | Total | 13 |