

Year in Review

Robert G. Homchick
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Darby Allen
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP



UT Law 31st Annual Health Law Conference
Houston, TX March 27-29, 2019

Significant portions of this presentation were created by Jack S. Schroder, Jr., Alston & Bird (Ret.) and Kristen B. Rosati, Coopersmith Brockelman

Anchorage. Bellevue. Los Angeles. New York. Portland.
San Francisco. Seattle. Washington, D.C. | dwt.com

f t in v

Did You Know?.....

According to a Gallup poll:

- Healthcare was the #1 issue that voters considered most important in last Fall's midterm elections
 - 80% said healthcare was “extremely” or “very” important to their vote
 - Next most important issues were the economy and immigration

Source: Gallup News (11/2/18)



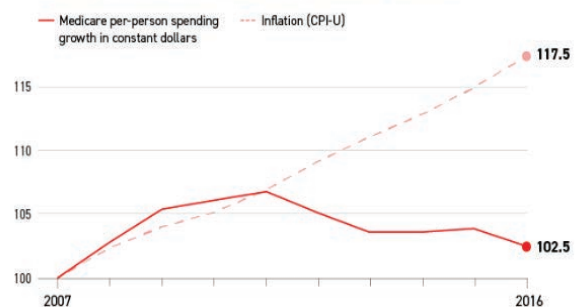
- Believe it or not, Medicare spending per patient is **falling**
- While overall spending soared due to increased enrollment, **per capita** spending rose only 1%/year, less than inflation
 - Compared to a 7.1% increase between 2000-2010

The Big Question: How did Medicare achieve lower per capita spending for its older and disabled patients, even as private insurers spent more and more on their younger and healthier customers?

Source: Politico (09/12/2018)

www.politico.com/agenda/story/2018/09/12/medicare-spending-cost-budget-000692?cid=apn

Medicare per-person spending growth and inflation



Our Bankrupt Future

Hospitals Shut at 30-a-Year Pace in U.S., with No End in Sight

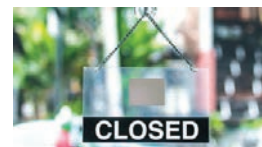
Bloomberg Law (8/21/18)

Hospitals have been closing at a rate of about 30 a year

- Next 18 months should see an increase in shutdowns

A study by Morgan Stanley concluded:

- 8% percent of hospitals are at risk of closing
- Another 10% are considered “weak”



GAO Notes Uptick in Rural Hospital Closures AHLA Weekly (10/5/18)

More than twice the number of rural hospitals closed between 2013 and 2017 than in the previous five years

- 64 closures represent approximately 3% of all rural hospitals
- Rural hospitals in the South accounted for 77% of the closures

Source: Rural Hospital Closures: Number and Characteristics of Affected Hospitals and Contributing Factors (GAO-18-634)

The New Wave of Competitors

Amazon, Berkshire Hathaway, JPMorgan Unveil New Venture to Lower Employees' Health Care Costs AHLA Weekly (2/2/18)

- "Haven" will have an initial focus on technology solutions to provide their employees with simplified, high-quality and transparent healthcare at reasonable cost

CVS Health Completes Acquisition of Aetna, Marking the Start of Transforming the Consumer Health Experience CVS Press Release (11/28/18)

"Today marks the start of a new day in health care and a transformative moment for our company and our industry." Larry J. Merlo, CVS Health CEO

Walgreens and Microsoft establish strategic partnership to transform health care delivery Walgreens Press Release (1/15/19)

- Develop in-store "digital health corners" to sell select health care-related hardware and devices

Health Care Reform



Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the [UT Law CLE eLibrary \(utcle.org/elibrary\)](http://utcle.org/elibrary)

Title search: Healthcare Year in Review

Also available as part of the eCourse

[Legislative Updates and Top Issues in the Health Industry](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the

31st Annual Health Law Conference session

"Healthcare Year in Review"