



This Week in Physician-Led Care: Clips from News Sources
Week Ending August 28, 2020

Recycle Intelligence: (8/28) – Primary care practices are suffering losses of over \$15 million because of COVID-19, but direct primary care physicians are reporting little change in revenue and better patient and clinical satisfaction.

Healthcare Dive: (8/28) – Minnesota hospital network Allina Health and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota have agreed to a multi-year, value-based pact intended to improve the care of patients and health plan enrollees and cut costs.

Modern Healthcare: (8/26) – Federal agencies delayed the finalization of the Stark law, with CMS and HHS commenting that they are working through the complexity of issues raised by comments received on the proposed rule. HHS and CMS has not announced if the Anti-Kickback Statute rulemaking process was also delayed.

VT Digger: (8/25) – Independent doctors are dropping out of the OneCare health-reform effort as the organization is cutting regular monthly payments to primary care practices starting next year, making it harder for independent physicians to survive.

Health Payer Intelligence: (8/25) – Payers have been initiating consolidations, with four recent developments between mid-July and late-August being particularly notable, like Oscar Health launching an MA plan with Holy Cross Health and Memorial Healthcare System and Aetna and Cleveland Clinic's value-based care Whole Health narrow network plan.

The Houston Chronicle: (8/25) –As more Americans lost their jobs and employer-sponsored insurance, some are turning to direct primary care doctors who charge patients a flat monthly fee for unlimited visits, telemedicine access and minor procedures.

Forbes: (8/24) – Analysis from MGMA found that patient revenue in June was still at 76% of last year's level, even after most states re-opened and shelter in place orders were lifted, and physician practices are continuing to feel the effects of lost patient revenue as the pandemic continues.

Recycle Intelligence: (8/24) – A new report from the Pacific Research Institute found that California's benchmark prices for surprise billing narrowed provider networks and incited provider consolidation, which are two trends that threaten quality of care.

Medical Xpress: (8/24) – Two teams of primary care providers from Michigan Medicine published papers looking at the issues facing primary care practitioners, highlighting more administrative demands and the rise of everyday shared decision making.