



Rx WIRE

A weekly service from
Pharmaceutical Strategies Group.

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Creating opportunity for our clients with an exclusive focus on pharmacy solutions.

Repealing Obamacare Could Be Trump's First Lesson in the Glacial Pace of Congress

Bloomberg - January 4



Donald Trump promised voters an immediate repeal of Obamacare, but Republicans in Congress likely won't have a bill ready for him on Day One. Or Day Two. Or perhaps even his first two weeks.

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SUMMARY OF TOP ARTICLES

Vowing To Jettison Obamacare, Republicans Face Immediate Resistance And Risks

Kaiser Health News - January 3

The 115th Congress started work Tuesday with Republican majorities in both the House and Senate in agreement on their top priority — to repeal and replace the 2010 health law, the Affordable Care Act.

Drug companies will be fined for overcharging 340B hospitals

Modern Healthcare - January 4

The Obama administration has finalized a rule that imposes fines on drug companies that overcharge hospitals and clinics for medication purchased under the government's 340B drug discount program.

Prognosis for Rx in 2017: more painful drug-price hikes

CBS - December 30

If there's a remedy for rising drug costs, it's not likely to be available to many Americans in 2017.

As Promised, Allergan (AGN) Unveils Single-Digit Price Hikes for 9 Brand Name Drugs

BioSpace - January 4

In September 2016, Allergan (AGN)'s Chief Executive Officer Brent Saunders publicly vowed to keep price increases on the company's drugs under 10 percent in 2017.

New drug approvals fall to six-year low in 2016

Reuters - January 2

Last year turned out to be a disappointing one for new drug approvals with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration clearing just 22 new medicines for sale, the lowest number since 2010 and sharply down on 2015's tally of 45.

Watch list 2017: Top therapeutic areas

Managed Healthcare Executive - January 3

Cancer and diabetes remain top therapeutic areas for healthcare executives to watch in 2017, but other conditions, such as autoimmune diseases, fatty liver disease and the rarer Duchenne muscular dystrophy are sparking interest in the upcoming year.

Sanofi, Regeneron lose bid to overturn Amgen win in patent case

Reuters - January 3

A federal judge on Tuesday refused to throw out a court verdict upholding two Amgen Inc patents related to the company's cholesterol drug, a defeat for Sanofi SA and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc, which make a rival drug.

Many Young Adults With High Cholesterol Not on Statins as Recommended

Drugs.com - January 4

Too few Americans who need them -- especially young adults -- are getting cholesterol-lowering statin medications, a new study suggests.

FDA NEWS

FDA Completes Guidance on Developing Biosimilars

Bloomberg - December 29

Drugmakers received guidance from the FDA Dec. 28 on developing cheaper imitations of certain biologic drugs, known as biosimilars.

FDA Approves Biogen's Spinraza (nusinersen) As First Approved SMA Drug for Children, Adults

SMA News Today - December 30

On the eve of the weekend Christmas holiday, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Biogen's therapy Spinraza (nusinersen) for the treatment of Spinal Muscular Atrophy in both children and adults.



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