

Health Care Headlines

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Will Cigna And Anthem Merge? How Health Insurance Companies Pump Money Into Politics



The art of the deal? Cigna and Anthem are spending big to push regulators to approve a giant merger — one that could drive premiums up and limit treatment and coverage options.

Health Care Bills From the Legislative Session – Part 2



SB 289 (Public Act 16-77) made changes to last year's omnibus health care bill, SB 811. Most of the changes are related to patient access to cost and quality information, consumer websites that insurers must maintain, and facility fees. A quick rundown:

Advocates Call On Insurance Commissioner To Reconsider Aetna-Humana Merger



Advocates are calling on Connecticut's Insurance Department to reconsider its decision to approve the Aetna-Humana merger. Connecticut is one of 15 states to approve the merger, but it is not the lead regulator so its role in the merger was limited to approving a market analysis. Connecticut is the lead regulator for the Anthem-Cigna merger, which means there will be public hearings regarding that merger.

The Challenge: Breaking Down Barriers for Behavioral Health Care

From the Field

perspectives from those working in the health care field

Nearly every healthcare reform initiative seeks to integrate primary care (PC) and behavioral health (BH) care. This is a laudable goal, but a deep divide of practical problems exists between the ideal vision of policymakers and the current reality of delivering these services to patients.

“State Insurance Commissioner Katharine Wade foolishly ignored calls last year to step away from her department's review of a merger of two insurance companies because of what looked to many, including The Courant, like a conflict of interest. Now her department has mishandled communications on another merger.”

- Hartford Courant

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