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By Nina Youngstrom

◆ **CMS said June 23 it has created an Office of Burden Reduction and Health Informatics^[1]** to “unify the agency’s efforts to reduce regulatory and administrative burden and to further the goal of putting patients first. The new office is an outgrowth of the agency’s Patients over Paperwork (PoP) Initiative.”

◆ **The American Hospital Association has lost its bid to stop CMS from requiring hospitals to publicly post payer-specific negotiated rates and other charges.** In a June 23 decision,^[2] the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia sided with CMS, and price transparency requirements^[3] are scheduled to take effect Jan 1.

¹ CMS, “CMS Unveils Major Organizational Change to Reduce Provider and Clinician Burden and Improve Patient Outcomes,” news release, June 23, 2020, <https://go.cms.gov/2YpI4UQ>.

² The American Hospital Association, et al. v. Alex M. Azar II, Civil Action No. 1:19-cv-03619 (CJN), memorandum opinion, accessed June 26, 2020, <https://bit.ly/3eD9xrQ>.

³ Nina Youngstrom, “Hospitals May Consider Defying Price Transparency Rule in Light of Compliance Challenges,” *Report on Medicare Compliance* 28, no. 42 (November 25, 2019), <http://bit.ly/36919vx>.

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