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◆ The Department of Justice (DOJ) said May 9 that its Antitrust Division has formed the Task Force on Health Care Monopolies and Collusion (HCMC).^[1] The task force will guide the Antitrust Division's enforcement and policy strategies in health care, including the pursuit of policy advocacy, investigations, and civil and criminal enforcement in health care markets. "The HCMC will consider widespread competition concerns shared by patients, health care professionals, businesses and entrepreneurs, including issues regarding payer-provider consolidation, serial acquisitions, labor and quality of care, medical billing, health care IT services, access to and misuse of health care data and more," DOJ said. "The HCMC will bring together civil and criminal prosecutors, economists, health care industry experts, technologists, data scientists, investigators and policy advisors from across the division's Civil, Criminal, Litigation and Policy Programs, and the Expert Analysis Group, to identify and address pressing antitrust problems in health care markets." HCMC will be headed by Katrina Rouse, a prosecutor in the Antitrust Division since 2011.

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