Industry News

Brian Kemp: Georgia will seek Medicaid waivers

Gov. Brian Kemp said recently that his administration would request a federal waiver to seek new flexibility to use Medicaid dollars, using his first State of the State address to embrace an idea to “expand access without expanding a broken system.” Long an opponent of Medicaid expansion, the Republican said he would set aside $1 million in the state health department’s budget to develop a waiver that would “drive competition and improve quality while encouraging innovation.” READ MORE
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### Study: Mobile health apps used by millions but effectiveness is lacking
**By: Scott E. Rupp**
There's an app for seemingly everything to help us live better healthier lives, but it seems the outcomes of these apps show little evidence of positive prognoses. Perhaps the best way to describe these digital health tools is that they have a big hat but no cattle. READ MORE

### Clinicians, hospital admin: Leave these 3 biases at the door
**Healthcare Dive**
The healthcare system is fraught with challenges — ranging from disruptive technologies and reimbursement complexity to price and cost obstacles, as well as pressure from the government, insurers and businesses. There is often a “sky is falling” mentality to cost-cutting initiatives, though reality doesn't always support this perspective. With pressures mounting and the industry growing in complexity, hospital administration is always putting on pressure to cut costs and increase efficiency. READ MORE

### The net cost of Medicaid expansion in Georgia: About $200 million a year by 2022
**The Atlanta Journal-Constitution**
As Gov. Brian Kemp prepared recently to endorse a Medicaid waiver, dozens of House Democrats signed a measure demanding a full-on expansion of the program. And this week, they received a new price tag for the initiative. In an eight-page fiscal note delivered to House leaders, the state auditor estimated the net cost of the expansion would be about $150 million in 2020 and range between $188 million and $213 million by 2022. READ MORE