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Today's issue is brought to you by [The AIS Report on Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans](#), a hard-hitting independent monthly newsletter on new products, market share, management strategies, profitability, strategic alliances and executive compensation of BC/BS plans. (Not affiliated with the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association or its member companies.) [Sign up for a \\$72 two-month trial subscription today.](#)

December 20, 2016

Today's Featured Story

Anthem Leaders Likely Regret Pushing for a Speedy Trial With DOJ

Reprinted from [THE AIS REPORT ON BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD PLANS](#)*

It's likely that Anthem, Inc. executives are regretting their decision to push for a speedy trial against the Dept. of Justice (DOJ) regarding Anthem's effort to acquire Cigna Corp. (*U.S. v. Anthem*, Case No. 1:16-cv-01493). DOJ officials appointed by the incoming Trump administration might be more receptive to the proposed \$51 billion deal.... [Read Full Story](#)

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Quote of the Day

"I think you would see fluctuations across the markets. Some markets would become more expensive and some would become less. But in general this way would drive greater price competitiveness, and that would probably favor the larger, more scaled players and create financial strain on companies as they price aggressively in order to maintain an attractive position in the marketplace."

— Jim Fields, a partner in Oliver Wyman's health and life sciences practice, tells [Health Plan Week](#) about the impact of introducing true competitive bidding into the Medicare Advantage program.

[Click here to read the HEALTH PLAN WEEK article in which this quote appeared — "Medicare 'Free-Market' Changes May Be in The Offing if GOP Pushes for Legislation"](#). (Free for HPW subscribers; \$17 for non-subscribers.)

Today's Datapoint

\$898.71... is the highest SHOP premium offered to a 40-year-old for 2017; it is for a silver-level HMO in New Mexico's rating area #2. The lowest premium available on the New Mexico SHOP exchange is \$176.01, for a bronze-level plan in rating area #4.

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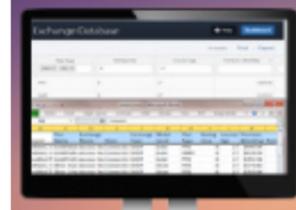
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Today from Washington

- [Congressional Record](#)
- [Federal Register](#)

People on the Move

Cody hired **Paul Notarnicola** as executive director of business development. He previously served in the same role for **Change Healthcare Consulting**, and also spent seven years in a variety of roles with **UnitedHealth Group**....**West Health** promoted **Timothy A. Lash** to chief strategy officer. Lash will also continue in his role as executive vice president of successful aging for West Health and president of the West Health Policy Center....**The National Association of Chain Drug Stores** appointed **William Tighe** vice president of federal government affairs and **Amber Manko** director of federal government affairs. Tighe most recently served as chief of staff to **U.S. Rep. Tom Marino** (R-Pa.), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law. Manko most recently served as director of federal affairs at **CAPG**.

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Content questions or suggestions should be directed to Executive Editor Jill Brown at jbrown@aishealth.com. If you are interested in advertising in **AIS's HEALTH BUSINESS DAILY**, please contact BJ Taylor at bjtaylor@aishealth.com.

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