

**White House Daily Briefing
October 26, 2018**

Three Articles to Read

U.S. GDP Grows Above-Forecast 3.5% on Consumers, Inventories

The U.S. economy expanded at a 3.5 percent pace in the third quarter as consumers opened their wallets, businesses restocked inventories and governments boosted spending, marking the strongest back-to-back quarters of growth since 2014.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-10-26/u-s-gdp-grows-above-forecast-3-5-on-consumption-inventories?srnd=markets-vp>

'Medicare for All' is as scary as it gets

There is no mystery as to what House Democrats want to do with American medical care. Their intentions are clearly spelled out in House Resolution 676, also known as the “Expanded & Improved Medicare for All Act.” <https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/413179-medicare-for-all-is-as-scary-as-it-gets>

We can bring the opioid crisis to an end

Imagine if a plane carrying nearly 200 passengers fell from the sky each day. Americans would demand answers -- and action. Drug overdoses now claim nearly 200 lives each day. That's more lives annually in the US than breast cancer, car accidents or gun violence. Another 2 million people currently suffer from an opioid use disorder.

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/10/26/opinions/trump-administration-opioid-efforts-kellyanne-conway/index.html>

Things to Know

‘It’s time to end the global freeloading once and for all’

For far too long, the United States has been footing the bill for lower drug prices—in foreign countries. American patients and taxpayers unfairly subsidize worldwide drug innovation while patients overseas get much lower prices from drug makers. Medicare in particular has shouldered an outrageously high burden.

Yesterday, President Donald J. Trump launched actions to confront global freeloading and lower medicine prices for American patients. The heart of the effort is simple: putting forward a new way for Medicare to pay for certain drugs that is based on prices that other developed countries pay.

That action alone is projected to reduce Medicare's payments for these drugs by an incredible 30 percent over the next five years. And a related plan will fix the perverse incentives for doctors to administer more expensive drugs to patients.

Driving down drug costs has been a top priority for this President since day one, and Americans are already seeing results:

- In the 100 days following the release of President Trump's blueprint for lower drug costs, more than a dozen drug companies reduced their list prices, rolled back planned price increases, or froze their prices for the rest of the year.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) set a new record for generic approvals last year, approving more than 1,000 generics that will bring an estimated \$9 billion in savings in 2018.
- President Trump signed a law to end unfair gag clauses, which prevented pharmacists from telling patients when they could pay less out of pocket than if they used insurance to cover certain medicines.

[President Trump: "It's time to end global freeloading once and for all."](#)

Watch: [The results from President Trump's plan are pouring in.](#)