

hfma

Presented by
strata

FAST FiNANCE

NEW
PODCAST



LISTEN NOW

FastFinance with Rich Daly:
Biggest OPPS policy financial hits
How to prevent nurse resistance
to AI adoption



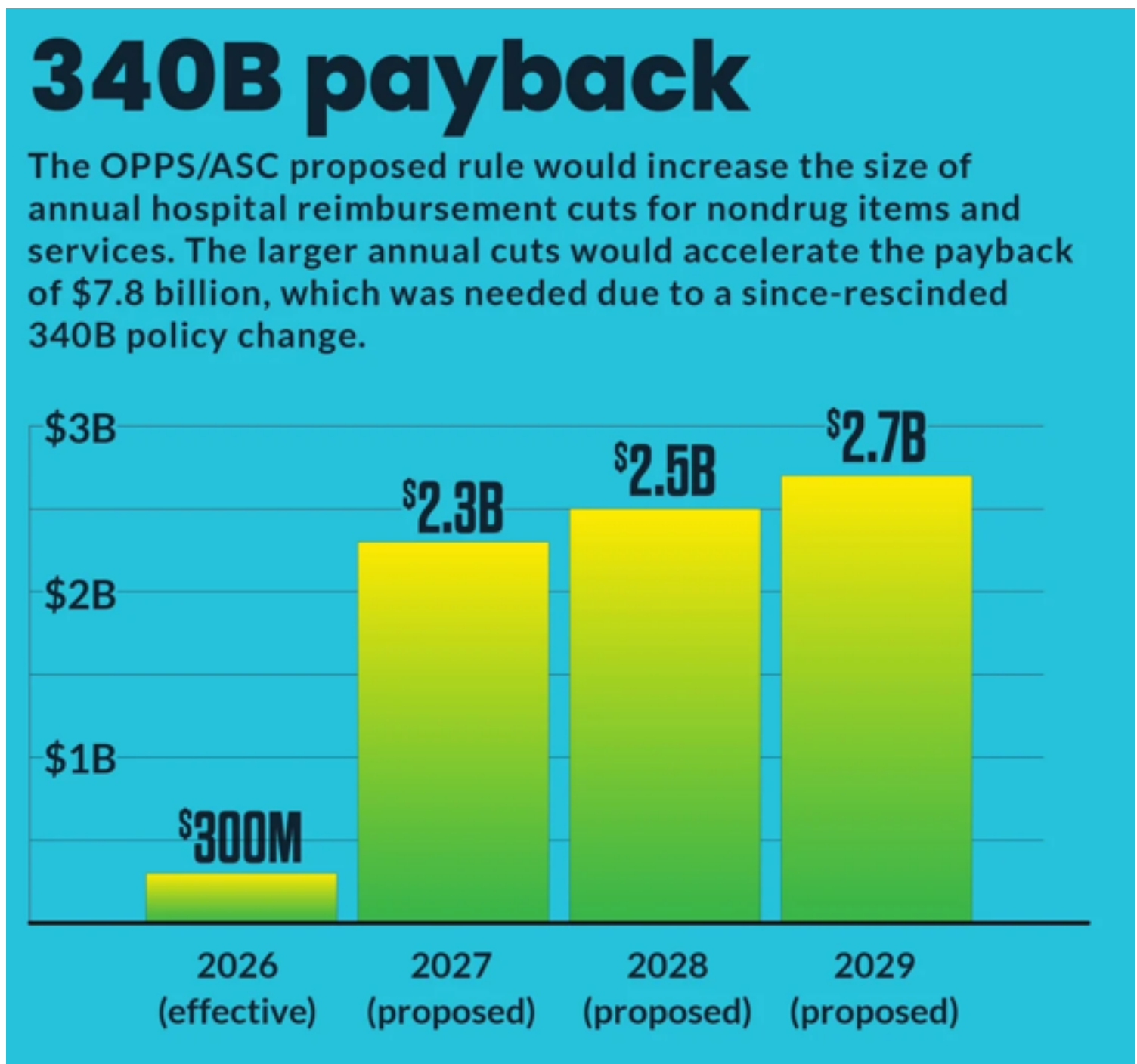
Rich Daly, Senior Editor

Imaging, 340B cut in CMS’s 2027 OPPS proposed rule

Medicare payment for 340B drugs and imaging services would incur notable reductions under CMS’s 2027 proposed rule for the hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) and ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs).

Key provisions include:

- 2.4% base increase to Medicare payments in 2027
- **1.9% net increase for hospitals**
- **Increase the 0.5% payment reduction for nondrug items and services to 3% in 2027 — to repay a previous 340B-related boost**
- Slash the Part B payment rate for 340B drugs from average sales price (ASP) plus 6% to ASP minus 33.4% — but savings are budget neutral
- **Site-neutral payment for imaging-without-contrast services (including most MRIs)**
- Remove 638 more procedures from the inpatient-only (IPO) list — part of three-year IPO phase-out
- Add 618 procedures to the ASC Covered Procedures List — linked to IPO phase-out
- Expand hospital outpatient department procedures subject to prior authorization



[READ ANALYSIS](#)

States push new hospital funding arrangements

States are implementing a growing number of initiatives to provide funding for rural or otherwise financially struggling hospitals.

Indiana. CMS approved a new \$1.9 billion state-directed payment for Indiana that tiered hospital payments over the course of 2026 based on their average commercial rates.

Illinois. Created the distressed hospital loan program, which will provide interest-free cash flow loans to public, not-for-profit and for-profit hospitals in significant financial distress to prevent closure or facilitate reopening. Also authorized \$118 million in grants for 17 safety-net hospitals, which do not need to be repaid.

Minnesota. Created a \$30 million program to provide financial assistance to rural emergency hospitals, critical access hospitals and hospitals that provide a disproportionate level of uncompensated care. Another \$205 million was provided to Hennepin Healthcare (formerly Hennepin County Medical Center), which faces ongoing crises.

Michigan. Legislative package would create a healthcare cost-reduction fund. That will collect financial penalties and assessments from hospitals and then distribute funds as grants to struggling healthcare facilities.

[READ ANALYSIS](#)

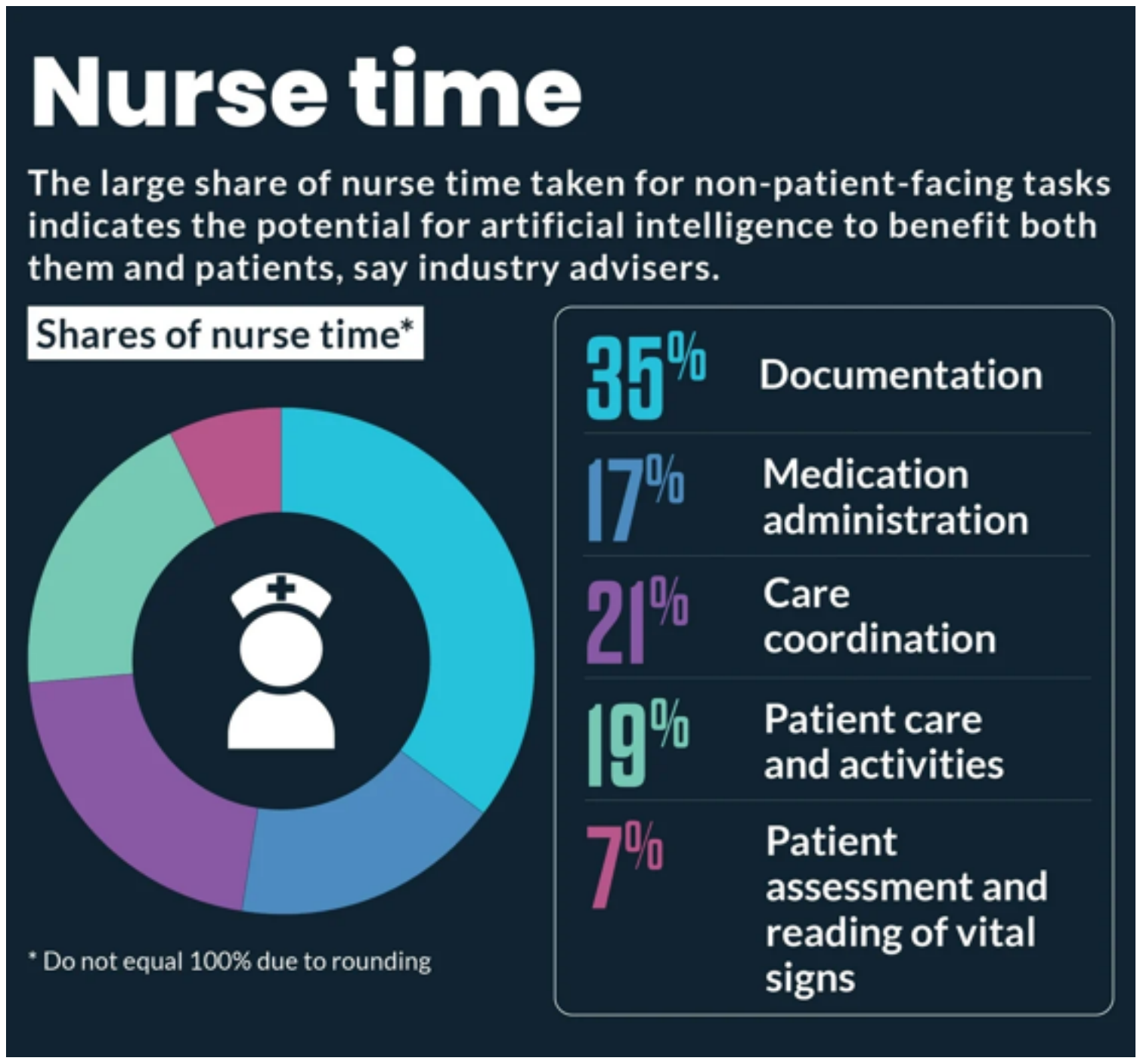
Hospitals confront nursing opposition to AI

Health systems’ adoption of artificial intelligence to improve productivity increasingly is meeting opposition from their nursing staff.

Nurse opposition to AI has become most visible in nurse strikes, where limits and guardrails on AI deployment for clinical and administrative uses have emerged.

Keys to address nurse resistance to AI include:

- **First, build trust over AI goals**
- **Involve nurses throughout AI adoption process**
- **Personalize how AI tools will make meaningful differences in nurses’ daily work lives**



[READ ANALYSIS](#)



TRUMP TRACKER
Explore a timeline of key federal healthcare actions since mid-January 2025 along with news reporting from HFMA.

[READ TIMELINE](#)

66%

NUMBER TO KNOW
Share of respondents to HFMA’s “Hospital of the Future” survey who said healthcare’s affordability challenge is a driving force for transformation. [LEARN MORE](#)

Crucial Dates

REGULATORY

July 21: Deadline for comments on proposed regulations implementing OBBA provisions on Medicaid state-directed payments

July 31: Deadline for comments on the CMS interim final rule with comment period implementing a new Medicaid work and community engagement requirement

Aug. 31: Deadline for comments on the CMS 2027 proposed rule for the hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) and ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs)

Telehealth encounters rising despite ongoing losses across payors
Virtual encounters have increased nearly 80% since 2019 despite double-digit losses.

strata

[LEARN MORE](#)

