DOGE Gains Access to CMS



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In early February 2025, the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) gained access to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services's (CMS) contracting and payment systems, to look for ways to improve the efficient use of resources.

According to CMS's statement, there are two senior agents within CMS leading the collaboration with DOGE, one of whom is focused on policy and the other on operations. CMS further stated that they are taking a "thoughtful approach" to see if there are opportunities to be more effective and efficient. Of note, DOGE was not given access to identifiable personal health information of beneficiaries of federal healthcare programs. DOGE's access to CMS systems came shortly before government talks to cut Medicaid and Medicare spending, federal employee layoffs, including at CMS and lawsuits filed against DOGE over abuse of power.

Because the scope of DOGE's review of CMS is unclear at this time, the potential impact on healthcare entities remains uncertain.

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