

**The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
Scholars in Health Policy Research Program  
American Health Care System Seminar  
Fall 2007**

**Session One: Overview of the US Health System: Access, Costs, Quality, and Outcomes of Care**

Tuesday, August 28, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Joan Bloom, PhD, Professor of Health Management & Policy, UCB

Required Reading:

1. The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. (1999). *Key Facts: Race, Ethnicity, and Medical Care*. Menlo Park, CA: Author.
2. Evans, R.G., & Stoddart, G.L. (1994). Chapter 2: Producing Health, Consuming Health Care. In Evans, R.G., Barer, M.L., & Marmor, T.R. (Eds.), *Why Are Some People Healthy and Others Not? The Determinants of Healthy Populations* (pp. 27-64). New York: Aldine De Gruyter.
3. Auerbach, J.A., Krimgold, B.K., & Lefkowitz, B. (2000). *Improving Health: It Doesn't Take a Revolution*. Washington, DC: National Policy Association.
4. Link, B.G., & Phelan, J.C. (2005). Chapter 5: Fundamental Sources of Health Inequalities. In Mechanic, D., Rogut, L.B., Colby, D.C., & Knickman, J.R. (Eds.), *Policy Challenges in Modern Health Care* (pp.71-84). New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. (*book distributed*)
5. Millenson, M.L. (2005). Chapter 10: Still Demanding Medical Excellence. In Mechanic, D., Rogut, L.B., Colby, D.C., & Knickman, J.R. (Eds.), *Policy Challenges in Modern Health Care* (pp.151-61). New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. (*book distributed*)
6. Williams, D.R., & Jackson, P.B. (2005). Social Sources of Racial Disparities in Health. *Health Affairs*, 24(2), 325-34.
7. Mechanic, D. (2005). Policy Challenges in Addressing Racial Disparities and Improving Population Health. *Health Affairs*, 24(2), 335-8.

Recommended Reading:

1. Shi, L., & Singh, D. (2004). Chapter 12: Cost, Access, and Quality. In *Delivering Health Care in America: A Systems Approach, Third Edition* (pp. 483-526). Massachusetts: Jones and Bartlett Publishers. (*book distributed*)

**Session Two: The Problem of the Uninsured in the US**

Tuesday, September 4, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Thomas Rundall, PhD, Professor of Organized Health Systems, UCB

Required Reading:

1. Dubay, L., Holahan, J., & Cook, A. (2007). The Uninsured and the Affordability of Health Insurance Coverage. *Health Affairs*, 26(1), w22-w30.

2. Gusmano, M.K., Fairbrother, G., & Park, H. (2002). Exploring the Limits of the Safety Net: Community Health Centers and Care for the Uninsured. *Health Affairs*, 21(6), 188-94.
3. Blendon, R., et al. (2002). Inequities in Health Care: A Five Country Survey. *Health Affairs*, 21(3), 182-91.
4. Visit the web site of the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation ([www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org)) and review the information available there. Particularly read the lead reports on the following pages:

Health Insurance Costs

<http://www.kff.org/insurance/index.cfm>

Health Coverage and the Uninsured

<http://www.kff.org/uninsured/index.cfm>

Access to Care

<http://www.kff.org/uninsured/access.cfm>

Profile of the Uninsured

<http://www.kff.org/uninsured/profile.cfm>

Reform Proposals

<http://www.kff.org/uninsured/reform.cfm>

Trends in Coverage

<http://www.kff.org/uninsured/trends.cfm>

#### Recommended Reading:

1. Quadagno, J. (2006). *One Nation, Uninsured: Why the U.S. Has No National Health Insurance*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press. (book available in Program Library)

#### Recommended Movie:

1. Moore, M. (Director). (2007). *Sicko* [Motion picture]. United States: Dog Eat Dog Films.

### **Session Three: Variation in Outcomes and Quality of Care**

Thursday, September 6, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Stephen Shortell, PhD, MPH, Distinguished Prof. of Health Policy & Management, UCB

1. Williams, S.C., et al. (2005). Quality of Care in U.S. Hospitals as Reflected by Standardized Measures, 2002-2004. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 353(3), 255-64.
2. McGlynn, E.A., et al. (2003). The Quality of Health Care Delivered to Adults in the United States. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 348(26), 2635-45.

## **Session Four: Health Programs Budgeting at the National Level**

Tuesday, September 11, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm  
John Ellwood, PhD, Professor of Public Policy, UCB

This session has two goals. First, to explain how we budget for health care at the federal (national) level; for this purpose read readings 1 and 2. The second purpose is to examine whether, and if so why, support for “liberal” health care and other social legislation has declined in the past several decades.

### **Required Reading:**

1. Ellwood, J.W. (1982). Chapter 3: How Congress Controls Expenditures. In Ellwood, J.W. (Ed.), *Reductions in US Domestic Spending* (pp. 21-31). New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Books.
2. Aaron, H.J., & Meyer, J. (2005). Chapter 4: Health. In Rivlin, A., & Sawhill, I. (Eds.), *Restoring Fiscal Sanity 2005: Meeting the Long-Run Challenge* (pp. 73-97). Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.
3. Hacker, J.S., & Pierson, P. (2005). Abandoning the Middle: The Bush Tax Cuts and the Limits of Democratic Control. *Perspectives on Politics*, 3(1), 33-53.  
*Skim pp. 33-53, read pp. 43-49 more carefully.*
4. Skocpol, T., & Keenan, P.S. (2005). Chapter 2: Cross Pressures: The Contemporary Politics of Health Reform. In Mechanic, D., Rogut, L.B., Colby, D.C., & Knickman, J.R. (Eds.), *Policy Challenges in Modern Health Care* (pp.26-36). New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. *(book distributed)*
5. Feder, J., & Moran, D.W. (2007). Chapter 7: Cost Containment and the Politics of Health Care Reform. In Rivlin, A.M., & Antos, J.R. (Eds.), *Restoring Fiscal Sanity 2007: The Health Spending Challenge* (pp. 173-92). Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press. *(book distributed)*
6. Butler, S.M. (2007). Chapter 8: Building Public Support for Slowing the Growth of Health Care Spending. In Rivlin, A.M., & Antos, J.R. (Eds.), *Restoring Fiscal Sanity 2007: The Health Spending Challenge* (pp. 193-218). Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press. *(book distributed)*

## **Session Five: Health Savings Accounts**

Thursday, September 13, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm  
William Dow, PhD, Associate Professor of Health Economics, UCB

### **Required Reading:**

1. Baicker, K., Dow, W.H., & Wolfson, J. (2006). Health Savings Accounts: Implications for Health Spending. *National Tax Journal*, 59(3), 463-75.
2. Baicker, K., Dow, W.H., & Wolfson, J. Lowering the Barriers to Consumer Directed Health Care: Responding to Concerns. Forthcoming, *Health Affairs*.

## **Session Six: How Do We Know When We Have Too Many or Too Few Doctors?**

Tuesday, September 18, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Richard Scheffler, PhD, Distinguished Professor of Health Economics & Public Policy, UCB

Required Reading:

1. Scheffler, R.M. (1996). Life in a Kaleidoscope: The Impact of Managed Care on the US Health Care Workforce and a New Model for the Delivery of Primary Care. In Donaldson, M.S., Yordy, K.D., Lohr, K.N., & Vanselow, N.A. (Eds.), *Primary Care: America's Health in a New Era*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.
2. Shi, L., & Singh, D. (2004). Chapter 4: Health Services Professionals. In *Delivering Health Care in America: A Systems Approach, Third Edition* (pp. 117-48). Massachusetts: Jones and Bartlett Publishers. *(book distributed)*
3. Scheffler, R.M. Chapter 1: The Supply Cycle of Doctors. In *Is There a Doctor in the House? Market Signals and the Physician Supply Cycle*. Forthcoming, Stanford University Press, 2008.

## **Session Seven: Long-Term Care and Mental Health**

Thursday, September 20, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Ralph Catalano, PhD, MRP, Professor of Public Health, UCB

Required Reading:

1. Streaming Video: <http://mentalhealthpolicy.berkeley.edu/abstracts.html>

Recommended Reading:

1. Shi, L., & Singh, D. (2004). Chapter 9: Managed Care and Integrated Organizations. In *Delivering Health Care in America: A Systems Approach, Third Edition* (pp. 323-65). Massachusetts: Jones and Bartlett Publishers. *(book distributed)*
2. Cunningham, P.J. (1999). Pressures on Safety Net Access: The Level of Managed Care Penetration on Un-insurance Rates in a Community. *Health Services Research, 34*(1), 255-70.
3. Baker, L.C. (1999). Association of Managed Care Market Share and Health Expenditures for Fee-for-Service Medicare Patients. *Journal of the American Medical Association, 281*(5), 432-7.
4. Baker, L.C., & Brown, M.L. (1999). Managed Care, Consolidation among Health Care Providers, and Health Care: Evidence from Mammography. *RAND Journal of Economics, 30*(2), 351-74.
5. Robinson, J.C. (2001). The End of Managed Care. *Journal of the American Medical Association, 285*(20), 2622-8.
6. Dudley, R.A., & Luft, H.S. (2001). Managed Care in Transition. *New England Journal of Medicine, 344*(14), 1087-92.

## **Session Eight: Ethical Considerations in Health Care**

Tuesday, September 25, 2007, 1:30pm-3:00pm

Jodi Halpern, MD, PhD, Assoc. Prof. of Bioethics, Joint Medical Program, UCB/UCSF

Required Reading:

1. Daniels, N. (1994). Four Unsolved Rationing Problems: A Challenge. *The Hastings Center Report*, 24(4), 27-9.
2. Hadorn, D.C. (1991). Setting Health Care Priorities in Oregon. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 265(17), 2218-25.
3. Eddy, D. (1991). The Individual v. Society: Resolving the Conflict. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 265(18), 2399-406.
4. Rawls, J. (1971). Chapter 1: Justice as Fairness. In *A Theory of Justice* (pp. 1-33). Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.

## **Session Nine: Getting to Where You Want to Be, But Doing It the Hard Way: Employment-Based Financing vs. Employment-Based Coverage**

Thursday, September 27, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Harold Luft, PhD, Professor of Health Policy & Health Economics, UCSF

Required Reading:

1. Luft, H.S. (2007). Universal Health Care Coverage: A Potential Hybrid Solution. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 297(10), 1115-8.

Recommended Reading:

1. Catlin, A., et al. (2007). National Health Spending in 2005: The Slowdown Continues. *Health Affairs* 26(1), 142-53.

## **Session Ten: Long Term Care Research and Policy Issues**

Tuesday, October 2, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Charlene Harrington, PhD, RN, Professor of Sociology and Nursing, UCSF

Required Reading:

1. Harrington, C., Mullan, J., & Carrillo, H. (2004). State Nursing Home Enforcement Systems. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*, 29(1), 43-73.
2. Harrington, C., & Swan, J.H. (2003). Nurse Home Staffing, Turnover, and Casemix. *Medical Care Research and Review*, 60(2), 366-92.
3. Harrington, C., Swan J.H., & Carrillo, H. (2007). Nurse Staffing Levels and Medicaid Reimbursement Rates in Nursing Facilities. *HSR: Health Services Research*, 42(3, Part 1), 1105-29.
4. O'Neill, C., Harrington, C., Kitchener, M., & Saliba, D. (2003). Quality of Care in Nursing Homes: An Analysis of the Relationships among Profit, Quality, and Ownership. *Medical*

Care, 41(12), 1318-30.

### **Session Eleven: Issues in Health Technology, Comparative Effectiveness, and Coverage with Evidence Development**

Thursday, October 4, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Wade Aubry, MD, Assoc. Clinical Prof. of Medicine, Institute for Health Policy Studies, UCSF

Required Reading:

1. Garber, A.M. (2001). Evidence-Based Coverage Policy. *Health Affairs*, 20(5), 62-82.
2. Hlatky, M.S., Sanders, G.D., & Owens, D.K. (2005). Evidence-Based Medicine and Policy: The Case of the Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator. *Health Affairs*, 24(1), 42-51.
3. Wilensky, G.R. (2006). Developing a Center for Comparative Effectiveness Information. *Health Affairs*, 25(6), w572-w585.
4. Rettig, R.A., Jacobson, P.D., Farquhar, C.M., & Aubry, W.M. (2007). Chapter 10: Values in Conflict. In *False Hope: Bone Marrow Transplantation for Breast Cancer*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press. (chapter distributed separately)

### **Session Twelve: Summary, Feedback, and Wrap-up**

Tuesday, October 9, 2007, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Joan Bloom, PhD, Professor of Health Management & Policy, UCB, and

Richard Scheffler, PhD, Distinguished Professor of Health Economics & Public Policy, UCB

Recommended Reading:

1. Shi, L., & Singh, D. (2004). Chapter 14: The Future of Health Services Delivery. In *Delivering Health Care in America: A Systems Approach, Third Edition* (pp. 563-92). Massachusetts: Jones and Bartlett Publishers. (book distributed)

### **Session Thirteen: From Theory to Practice in American Health Policy Research: The Role and Perceived Need for Transdisciplinary Approaches**

Thursday, October 11, 2007, 2:00pm-5:00pm

Daniel Dohan, PhD, Asst. Adjunct Professor, Institute for Health Policy Studies, UCSF

Required Reading:

1. Wendler, D., Kington, R., Madans, J., Van Wye, G., Christ-Schmidt, H., Pratt, L., et al. (2006). Are Racial and Ethnic Minorities Less Willing to Participate in Health Research? *PLoS Medicine*, 3(2), 0201-0210.
2. Rosenfield, P. (1992). The Potential of Transdisciplinary Research for Sustaining and Extending Linkages between the Health and Social Sciences. *Social Science and Medicine*, 35(11), 1343-1357.
3. NIH Roadmap for Medical Research: Research Teams of the Future, <http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/researchteams/>.

4. NIH Roadmap for Medical Research: Fact Sheet, August 2006,  
<http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/pdf/NIHRoadmap-FactSheet-Aug06.pdf>.
5. UCSF Clinical and Translational Science Award Proposal, March 2006: Section A of Overview and Integrated Approach and Governance, and 10. Health Policy Program.