

**The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Scholars in Health Policy Research Program
American Health Care System Seminar
Fall 2008**

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

Tuesday, August 26, 2008, 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.

Session Two: The Problem of the Uninsured in the US

Tuesday, September 2, 2008, 2:00pm-4:00pm

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

Required Reading:

Readings 1-3: Please scan and use as resource documents.

1. The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. (2007). *The Uninsured: A Primer*. Retrieved August 13, 2008, from <http://www.kff.org/uninsured/upload/7451-03.pdf>
2. Alliance for Health Reform. (2007). *A Reporter's Toolkit: The Uninsured*. Retrieved August 8, 2008, from http://www.allhealth.org/publications/Uninsured/toolkit_uninsured.asp#keyfacts
3. The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. (2008). *States Moving Toward Comprehensive Health Care Reform*. Retrieved August 13, 2008 from <http://www.kff.org/uninsured/upload/StateHealthReform.pdf>
4. Hadley, J. (2003). Sicker and Poorer – The Consequences of Being Uninsured: A Review of the Research on the Relationship between Health Insurance, Medical Care Use, Health, Work, and Income. *Medical Care Research and Review*, 60 (2), 3S-75S.
5. Schoen, C., Collins, S.R., Kriss, J.L., & Doty, M.M. (2008). How Many Are Underinsured? Trends Among U.S. Adults, 2003 and 2007. *Health Affairs*, 27 (4), w298-w309. doi: 10.1377/hlthaff.27.4.w298
6. McDonough, J.E., Rosman, B., Butt, M., Tucker, L., & Howe, L.K. (2008). *Massachusetts Health Reform Implementation: Major Progress and Future Challenges*. *Health Affairs*, 27 (4), w285-w297. doi: 10.1377/hlthaff.27.4.w285
7. The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. (2008). *2008 Presidential Candidate Health Care Proposals: Side-by-Side Summary*. Retrieved August 13, 2008, from http://www.health08.org/sidebyside_results.cfm?c=5&c=16

Session Three: Cost of Medical Care

Thursday, September 4, 2008, 2:00pm-4:00pm

William Dow, PhD, Associate Professor of Health Economics, UCB

Required Reading:

1. An Overview of the U.S. Health Care System: Chart Book. Published by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, HHS, 1/31/07.
2. Aaron Catlin, Cathy Cowan, Micah Hartman, Stephen Heffler the National Health Expenditure Accounts Team. "National Health Spending In 2006: A Year Of Change For Prescription Drugs." *Health Affairs*, January/February 2008; 27(1): 14-29.
3. Sean Keehan, Andrea Sisko, Christopher Truffer, Sheila Smith, Cathy Cowan, John Poisal, M. Kent Clemens the National Health Expenditure Accounts Projections Team. "Health Spending Projections Through 2017: The Baby-Boom Generation Is Coming To Medicare." *Health Affairs*, March/April 2008; 27(2): w145-w155.
4. Gary Claxton, Jon Gabel, Bianca DiJulio, Jeremy Pickreign, Heidi Whitmore, Benjamin Finder, Paul Jacobs, and Samantha Hawkins. "Health Benefits In 2007: Premium Increases Fall To An Eight-Year Low, While Offer Rates And Enrollment Remain Stable." *Health Affairs*, September/October 2007; 26(5): 1407-1416.
5. Gerard F. Anderson, Bianca K. Frogner, and Uwe E. Reinhardt. "Health Spending In OECD Countries In 2004: An Update." *Health Affairs*, September/October 2007; 26(5): 1481-1489.
6. Ateev Mehrotra, R. Adams Dudley, and Harold S. Luft. "What's behind the health expenditure trends?" *Annual Review of Public Health* 2003.

Session Four: Variation in Outcomes and Quality of Care

Tuesday, September 9, 2008, 2:00pm-4:00pm

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

Required Reading:

1. Gawande, Atul. (2007). The Checklist. *The New Yorker*, 83(39), 86-95.
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 Five: How Do We Know When We Have Too Many or Too Few Doctors?

Thursday, September 11, 2008, 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.
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 Six: Accelerating Clinical Efficiency Gain

Monday, September 15, 2008, 2:30-4:30pm

Arnold Milstein, MD, MPH, Medical Director, Pacific Business Group on Health

Required Reading:

1. Milstein, A. and Lee, T.H. (2007). Comparing Physicians on Efficiency. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 357 (26), 2649-2652.
2. Milstein, A. (2007). Health Information Technology is a Vehicle, Not a Destination: A Conversation With David J. Brailer. *Health Affairs*, 26 (2), w236-w241.
3. Milstein, A. (2004). Hot Potato Endgame. *Health Affairs*, 23 (6), 32-34.
4. Milstein, A. (2008). "Payment-Worthy" Enhanced Primary Care (PEP) Medical Homes: A National Scouting Report. 1-9.

Session Seven: An Overview of Mental Health in the U.S.: Epidemiology, Finance, Treatment

Thursday, September 23, 2008, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Lonnie R. Snowden, PhD, Professor of Social Welfare, UCB

Required Reading:

1. Frank, R.G., & Gilead, S. (2006). Changes in Mental Health Financing Since 1971: Implications for Policymakers and Patients. *Health Affairs*, 25 (3), 601-613.
2. Kessler, R.C., Demler, O., Frank, R.G., et al. (2005). Prevalence and Treatment of Mental Disorders, 1990 to 2003. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 352 (24), 2515-2523.
3. Patel, K.K., Butler, B., & Wells, K.B. (2006). What is Necessary to Transform the Quality of Mental Health Care. *Health Affairs*, 25 (3), 681-693.
4. Sentell, T., Shumway, M., Snowden, L. (2007). Access to Mental Health Treatment by English Language Proficiency and Race/Ethnicity. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 22, 289-293.

Session Eight: Health Programs Budgeting at the National Level

Tuesday, September 25, 2008, 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.
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.

Session Nine: Issues in Health Technology, Comparative Effectiveness, and Coverage with Evidence Development

Tuesday, September 30, 2008, 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.

Session Ten: Ethical Considerations in Health Care

Thursday, October 2, 2008, 2:00pm-4:00pm

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 Eleven: Long Term Care Research and Policy Issues

Tuesday, October 7, 2008, 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 Twelve: Summary, Feedback, and Wrap-up

Thursday, October 9, 2008, 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*)