

Overview of the U.S. Health Care System

I. Scope and Size of the System

- A. Employment
- B. Institutions
- C. Health Care Professionals
- D. Insurance
- E. Managed Care Plans

II. Components Of the System

- A. Financing
- B. Insurance
- C. Delivery
- D. Payment
- E. Results of Public/Private Involvement
- F. Unemployed and Uninsured

III. Characteristics Differentiating US System from That of Other Nations

- A. No central agency
- B. Access based on insurance
- C. Imperfect market
- D. Third party payers
- E. Multiple payers
- F. Balance of power
- G. Legal risks
- H. New technology
- I. Service settings
- J. Quality is no longer unachievable

IV. Access to Health Care

- A. U.S. is the only developed country that does not ensure access to health
- B. Barrier to controlling costs
- C. Access Trends

V. Costs

- A. Controlled well in the mid and late 1990's
- B. Americans still lack coverage
- C. Concerns about quality
- D. Trade-off

VI. Quality

- A. Leading issue for health care managers
- B. Competitive pressures to control costs
- C. Financial incentives
- D. Consumer's need for information

V. Organized Delivery Systems

- A. Means to an end
- B. Goal

C. Global Health Care Values

1. Universality
2. Equity
3. Acceptance of the role of government
4. Skepticism
5. Global budgets
6. Rationing
7. Technology assessment and innovation control

D. U.S. Health Care Values

1. Pluralism and choice
2. Individual accountability
3. Ambivalence
4. Progress, innovation, and new technology
5. Volunteerism and communitarianism
6. Paranoia about monopoly
7. Competition

E. New Values

1. Consumerism
2. Net Culture