What Does Health Care Reform Mean for You?

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Today, health care often looks like-
We need health care to be stable –
Unstable Coverage for One in Four Working-Age Americans

Continuous coverage 77%

Gaps in coverage 19%

No coverage 4%

What’s the Problem with Unstable Health Care?

• Delayed or missed care
  One-fourth of cancer patients delay their care.

• Everyone pays for those who can’t
  Insurance includes $1,000 to cover bad debt.

• High debts and bankruptcy
  Half of bankruptcies involve medical expenses.

• Less prevention
  One-fourth of uninsured adults with diabetes don’t have a regular source for their care.

Sources: American Cancer Society, Families USA, Harvard Study, Urban Institute
Worries about Health Care

• No end in sight to rising costs
• Getting treatment if you need it
• Losing coverage if you lose your job
Areas of Satisfaction

• One’s own coverage
• Quality of care
• Choice of doctor
Basic questions about reform

• Will you be able to keep the coverage that you have?
• How will reform control costs?
• What happens if you lose your job?
• How will reform affect my choices?
• What happens to my coverage if I get sick?
Three Proposals for Review

• **President Obama and Congressional committee chairmen**: Democratic Sens. Baucus of Montana and Kennedy of Massachusetts and Reps. Rangel of New York, Waxman and Miller, both of California.

• **The Patients’ Choice Act (S. 1099/H.R. 2520)**

• **Medicare for All (H.R. 676)**
  Democratic Rep. Conyers of Michigan
President Obama & Committee Chairmen

• Keep coverage? ➢ Yes

• Cost control? ➢ Consumer choice & provider incentives

• What if you lose your job? ➢ Coverage and subsidies through an exchange

• What about choices? ➢ More choices including a public plan

• What if I get sick? ➢ No one denied coverage
Patients’ Choice Act - Sen. Coburn (R-OK) & Reps. Ryan (R-WI)

• Keep coverage?
  ➡️ Maybe

• Cost control?
  ➡️ Provider & patient incentives + consumer choice

• What if you lose your job?
  ➡️ You own your coverage + subsidy

• What about choices?
  ➡️ More choices + no public plan

• What if I get sick?
  ➡️ No one denied coverage
Medicare for All – Rep. Conyers (D-MI)

• Keep coverage? ➢ No – public plan for all

• Cost control? ➢ Government set prices

• What if you lose your job? ➢ Guaranteed coverage

• What about choices? ➢ Choice of doctor; no choice of plan

• What if I get sick? ➢ Guaranteed coverage
What’s going to happen?

• Committee action
• Floor votes
• Conference committee
What can you do?

• Join a group
• Visit, phone, email or write your representatives in Congress
• Stay informed
Questions?

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