



HealthPartners®

DRIVING *TRANSFORMATION* IN HEALTH CARE

Public Policy Platform for Health Care Reform

HealthPartners is committed to transforming health care and financing into a system that can achieve the “Triple Aim” -- simultaneously optimizing health of our members, patient experience and a reduction in per capita costs of care.

Everyone should have affordable health care coverage.

We should build on the current employer-based system, add an individual mandate and support government programs to cover the poor and elderly. These approaches together with insurance reforms will allow our current public and private plans to cover all Americans, a new government run public plan is not needed. Any government-run public plan should compete on a level playing field with the private market.

Payment systems must reward value (quality and efficiency) not volume.

Linking payment to outcomes, not volume, will improve quality, safety and health, reduce unnecessary or redundant care and reduce health care costs. A payment system that rewards value and quality will help eliminate unwarranted geographic variation in Medicare payments. Reforms should not disadvantage states that already use resources efficiently and achieve better health outcomes.

Quality, costs and incentives should be transparent.

Government should endorse transparency in quality and align measures between private and public sector. The performance of medical groups, hospitals, and

health plans should be available publicly from a single, credible source. Transparency should also apply to the financial incentives of caregivers. We support the Physician Payments Sunshine Act that would publicize payments made by drug and device companies to providers.

Regulatory reform is needed at the federal and state level to assure an effective market.

Consumers and employers need better, more affordable choices, including a streamlined path for the development of generic biological drugs. All parties should work together to eliminate administrative waste from the health care system by expanding use of health information technology, including electronic medical records, personal health records and information exchange. We also need to encourage use of uniform standards for administrative processes.

Government policy should encourage healthy lifestyles and support health promotion.

HealthPartners advocates for policies that support health improvement with a focus on tobacco, weight management and promotion of physical activity.

Government should establish public health goals, and strengthen the role of the public health system.

We need the public and private sectors to partner to improve population health. The behavioral health delivery system should also encourage prevention and seamless coordination.