

ECON 177 - The Affordable Care Act - Fall 2020

T 9:20-11:45 on Zoom

Professor David Slusky (david.slusky@ku.edu)

Office hours: T 2-4, R 9-11

Department of Economics, University of Kansas

First-year seminar goals:

- Be introduced to intellectual discovery and scholarly inquiry at the university
- Develop and inspire own intellectual curiosity
- Foster critical thinking and learning skills
- Participate in hands-on experiential learning
- Navigate the transition from high school to college

Course goals:

- Understand the policy, economics, history and politics of the ACA
- Use that content as a means to think and talk
- Be inspired to take more math, economic theory, and applied economics
- Gain insight into academic interests toward the objective of selecting of a major

Required textbooks: (You may rent or buy new/used)

- Emanuel, Ezekiel J. 2014. *Reinventing American Health Care*. New York: Public Affairs.
- Gruber, Jonathan & N. Schreiber. 2011. *Health Care Reform*. New York: Hill and Wang.

Tentative lecture schedule:

Week	Date	Topics covered
1	8/25	Overview
2	9/1	The American Health Care System; Dole Institute virtual visit
3	9/8	Where We Were in 2010
4	9/15	The Political Context
5	9/22	The Individual Mandate, Medicaid Expansion, & the Supreme Court
6	9/29	Insurance Coverage Details, Subsidies, Taxes
7	10/6	Technology, Hospital Penalties; Library virtual visit (TOPICS DUE)
8	10/13	What Do We Know Now in 2020?
9	10/20	Attempts at Repeal (BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE)
10	10/27	COVID-19
11	11/3	Where Do We Go From Here? (PAPER DUE)
	11/9	First Year Seminar Colloquium (7 PM)
12	11/10	EXAM, End of Life Care - Watkins virtual visit
13	11/17	Presentation of Student Papers
14	11/24	Presentation of Student Papers
15	12/1	(no class) Reading Week
16	12/8	(no class) FINAL PAPER DUE BY 5 PM

Grading: The course is graded on a standard A-F +/- scale (e.g., A=93%+), though I reserve the right to curve the grade distribution in your favor (e.g., A=91%+). Any grade less than a D- is failing. For credit/no credit, any grade less than a C is considered as no credit.

Grade percentages:

Attendance	18%
Visit office hours	5%
Weekly reading quizzes	15%
Exam	20%
Assignments for paper	12%
Final paper	30%

Attendance: Course attendance is required. If you cannot attend a lecture (for any reason), you can receive credit by emailing me within 24 hours after the class time of the lecture at least 500 original words (typed) answering the discussion questions that were assigned for that lecture.

Office hours: You must come to my virtual office hours (Tuesdays 2-4 and Thursdays 9-11) at least once by October 1. No appointment necessary. If you are unavailable during that time please email me to schedule an alternate time. We'll have an informal conversation about your background and interests.

Reading: You are expected to do all of the reading assigned for each lecture. For each item you read, please write down one thing you learned and one thing you found confusing. I will provide you with copies of all reading that is not in either course book. You will also be assigned a podcast, mostly from NPR's Planet Money. The reading is designed to prepare you for a lively class discussion. Without it you will likely be unprepared and unable to participate intelligently.

Quizzes: For each weekly set of readings I will assign several terms. At the beginning of each class you will have a multiple choice test on five of those terms. This will help you learn the jargon for health insurance / health care public policy, given you the vocabulary necessary to a great class discussion. The terms can be found in the reading or by Googling. There may also be other questions from the reading on the quizzes. If you are absent, then I will drop that quiz and calculate your quiz average from the remaining quizzes. You may consult your notes or the internet but not each other. You won't have much time, though, so I strongly encourage to study the terms.

Exam: The exam will be in-person on 11/10, during class. You may consult your notes or the internet but not each other. As with the quizzes, you won't have much time to look things up, though, so I strongly encourage to study the terms. Please speak to me if you are a varsity athlete who will be traveling and in need of a proctor. If you believe I have made an error in grading your exam send me a detailed email within 48 hours of me returning the exam and then come to my office hours to discuss. I will re-grade your entire exam – your score may increase or decrease.

Make-up exams: A make-up exam for religious holidays will be provided with documentation from a religious official. (If you need to find such an official you can search for campus religious organizations at <https://rockchalkcentral.ku.edu/organizations>.) Please speak to me by September

5. Last minute make-up exams will only be provided in extreme situations, such as incapacitating illness or a death in the family. Please come speak to me and bring official documentation.

Final paper: The final project in this course will be an 800 word health-related policy proposal. There will be multiple intermediate assignments due throughout the semester, including a list of topics, an annotated bibliography, an initial draft, and an in class presentation. Intermediate assignments will not be accepted late. The final project will lose a full letter grade per day late.

Disability Requirements: If you have a disability and require accommodations, please contact the Disabilities Resources Office at the University of Kansas (<http://disability.ku.edu>).

Academic Integrity: The rules of academic integrity will be strictly enforced (please refer to the University of Kansas's guidelines). Breaches will not be tolerated under any circumstances. More information can be found at <https://studentaffairs.ku.edu/academic-integrity>.

Nondiscrimination: The instructor considers this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being – regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, political beliefs, age, or ability. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided you can agree to disagree. It is my expectation that ALL students experience this classroom as a safe environment.

Inclusiveness: The University of Kansas supports an inclusive learning environment in which diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, and appreciated. We believe that all students benefit from training and experiences that will help them to learn, lead, and serve in an increasingly diverse society.

Civility: Civility and respect for the opinions of others are very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected at all times. When you disagree with someone, be sure that you make a distinction between criticizing an idea and criticizing the person. Expressions or actions that disparage a person's or race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, gender, gender identity / expression, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability, or marital, parental, or veteran status are contrary to the mission of this course and will not be tolerated.

Disclaimer: I reserve the right to modify this syllabus in the event of an unforeseen situation.

Tentative reading list (required readings are to be completed BEFORE that lecture)

(Note: Thanks to the Student Senate, KU students have access to the New York Times through <http://nytimesaccess.com/jayhawks/>.)

1: 8/25 Overview

No required reading. I will introduce the class and we will read Gruber chapter 1 together. We will also talk about time management strategies for completing the reading.

2: 9/1 The American Health Care System (Meet at the Dole Institute)

Required reading:

Gruber chapter 2 (pg 17-34)

Emanuel chapters 2, 3 (pg 34-94)

Podcast: Planet Money: Health Insurance Is Like an All-You-Can-Eat Buffet

http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2009/08/podcast_health_insurance_is_li.html

Terms:

Health insurance

Uninsured

Medical Bankruptcy

Premium

Medicare

Medicaid

Veteran's Affairs Health Care

Employer Sponsored Insurance

Deductible

Copayment

Coinsurance

Out of Pocket Maximum

Skin in the Game

Discussion questions:

1. How is my out of pocket spending for health care determined?
2. What are the differences between Medicaid and Medicare?
3. How does employer sponsored health insurance work?
4. What are medical bankruptcies and why are they a problem?
5. How do hospitals, physicians, pharmaceutical companies, device manufacturers, insurance firms, and consumers primarily interact?

3: 9/8 Where We Were in 2010

Required reading:

Gruber chapters 3-4 (pg 35-49)

Emanuel chapter 4 (pg 95-124)

Gawande, Atul. 2009. "The Cost Conundrum: What a Texas town can teach us about health care." *The New Yorker*

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2009/06/01/the-cost-conundrum> (pg 1-16)

Planet Money: 439: The Mysterious Power Of a Hospital Bill

<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2013/02/26/172996963/episode-439-the-mysterious-power-of-a-hospital-bill>

Terms:

Rescission

Negotiated Rate

Malpractice

Defensive Medicine

Expenditures Per Capita

Overutilization

Health Maintenance Organization (HMO)

Fee-for-service

Capitated Payment

For-profit Provider (e.g., hospital, physician practice)

Not-for-profit Provider (e.g., hospital, physician practice)

Pre-existing Condition

Lifetime maximum

Discussion questions:

1. How are for-profit providers different from non-profit providers?
2. Before the Affordable Care Act to limit payments, how did health insurers use pre-existing conditions, recession, and lifetime maximums to limit payments?
3. What is the relationship between fee-for-service, defensive medicine, and malpractice lawsuits?
4. Why is there so much variation in expenditures per capita across geographic areas?
5. How do HMOs limit payments?

4: 9/15

The Political Context

Required reading:

Gruber chapters 5-6 (pg 50-66)

Emanuel chapters 5-6 (pg 127-187)

Podcast: Planet Money: Should Government Run Our Health Insurance?

http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2009/09/podcast_should_government_run.html

Terms:

Clinton Health Care Reform Effort (i.e., Hillarycare)
Universal Coverage
Federal Budget Deficit
National Debt
Romneycare
Death Panel
Congressional Budget Office (CBO)
Tax Exclusion for Health Insurance Premiums
Cornhusker Kickback
Three Legged Stool
American Medical Association (AMA)

Discussion questions:

1. What are the pieces of the three-legged-stool and how were they essential to Romneycare?
2. What was the role of the CBO in the passage of the ACA?
3. What were the main positions and arguments of the AMA during the passage of the ACA?
4. What policy proposal was labeled “death panels” and what problem was it trying to solve?
5. What was the Cornhusker Kickback and how was it related to passing the ACA?

5: 9/22

The Individual Mandate, Medicaid Expansion, and the Supreme Court

Required reading:

Emanuel chapters 7-8 (pg 188-258)

Podcast: Planet Money: 379: Does Medicaid Actually Help People?

<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2012/06/15/155135781/episode-379-does-medicaid-actually-help-people>

Terms:

Individual Mandate
Medicaid Expansion
Medicaid Eligibility
Spending Clause
Commerce Clause
Necessary and Proper Clause
National Federation of Independent Business Et Al. v. Sebelius
Medicaid Primary Care Parity (i.e., Medicaid Fee Bump)

Discussion questions:

1. What was the original purpose of the Medicaid expansion?
2. How would the Medicaid expansion change Medicaid eligibility?

3. What is the individual mandate and what role does it play in the success of the ACA?
4. What was the result of the Supreme Court's decision in 2012 with regard to the individual mandate and Medicaid expansion?
5. What was the purpose of the Medicaid Fee Bump?

6: 9/29

Insurance Coverage Details, Subsidies, Taxes

Required reading:

Gruber chapters 7 and 9 (pg 67-80 and 91-98)

Emanuel chapter 9 (pg 250-278)

Fisman, Ray. 2012. "The Wisdom of the Ailing: The real reason health insurers won't cover people with pre-existing conditions." slate.com,

http://www.slate.com/articles/business/the_dismal_science/2012/03/pre_existing_conditions_the_real_reason_insurers_won_t_cover_people_who_are_already_sick.html

----- 2014. "Explaining Health Care Reform: Questions about Health Insurance Subsidies." Kaiser Family Foundation. <http://kff.org/health-reform/issue-brief/explaining-health-care-reform-questions-about-health/>

Mulligan, Casey B. 2015. "The ACA's Unintended Consequences." City Journal, <http://www.city-journal.org/html/aca%E2%80%99s-unintended-consequences-11577.html>

Emanuel, Ezekiel J. and Bob Kocher. 2015. "Don't Repeal the Cadillac Tax," New York Times. <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/02/opinion/dont-repeal-the-cadillac-tax.html>

Kliff, Sarah. 2015. "2 experts make the case against Obamacare's controversial 'Cadillac tax.'" vox.com. <http://www.vox.com/2015/10/20/9570781/cadillac-tax-economic-case-against>

Podcast: Reply All: #121 Pain Funnel.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/reply-all/id941907967?i=1000411802386&mt=2>

Terms:

Single payer

Preventive Screening

Minimum Essential Coverage

Catastrophic Coverage

Health Insurance Exchanges

Parental Mandate

Accountable Care Organization (ACO)

Medicare bundled-payment model

Medical Savings Accounts (aka Health Savings Account – HSA)

High Deductible Insurance Plan

Community Rating

Internal Revenue Service
Premium Subsidy (i.e., Premium Tax Credit)
Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI)
Gold/Silver/Bronze Plans
Federal Poverty Line
Advanced Tax Credit Repayment (i.e., Clawback)
Donut Hole
Cadillac Tax
Implicit Labor Tax
Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments
Individual Penalties
Employer Penalties
Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
Medical Device Excise Tax (i.e., Medical Device Manufacturer Tax)
Medicare Payroll Tax Increase

Discussion questions (choose 5 for makeup assignment):

1. What are examples of minimum essential coverage and why did the ACA include this provision?
2. What is a community rating and what is its role in the health insurance exchanges?
3. How is a premium subsidy calculated?
4. What are the arguments for and against the Cadillac Tax?
5. What implicit taxes do the premium subsidies create?
6. What does the ACA do to DSH payments and why?
7. Why does the ACA include a tax on medical devices?
8. What is the purpose of the Medicare payroll tax increase?

7: 10/6 Technology, Hospital Penalties

Required reading:

Emanuel chapter 10 (pg 279-294)

Gawande, Atul. 2007. "The Checklist," The New Yorker.

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2007/12/10/the-checklist>

Meyer, Robinson. 2015. "The Secret Startup That Saved the Worst Website in America," The Atlantic.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2015/07/the-secret-startup-saved-healthcare-gov-the-worst-website-in-america/397784/>

Gawande, Atul. 2018. "Why Doctors Hate Their Computers," The New Yorker.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/11/12/why-doctors-hate-their-computers>

Podcast: The Impact: "It's time to face the fax"

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/its-time-to-face-the-fax/id1294325824?i=1000394173036>

Terms:

Marketplace
State Run Exchange
Healthcare.gov
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
Electronic Health Records (EHR)
Interoperability
Epic Systems
Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act.
Cerner
Readmission
Hospital Acquired Complication (HAC)
Computerized Alert
Medical Error
Malpractice
Fax Machine

Discussion questions:

1. Why was the healthcare.gov rollout such a disaster?
2. Why do we still use fax machines in healthcare?
3. How do checklists reduce medical errors?
4. What are the costs and benefits of computerized alerts?
5. “Why do Doctors Hate Their Computers?”

We will also spend a significant amount of time today reviewing how to search for popular and academic articles, including

<https://lib.ku.edu/databases/econlit>

<http://www.nber.org/papers.html>

<https://scholar.google.com/>

We will spend the second half of today working with the data librarians at KU.

8: 10/13 What Do We Know Now in 2020? TOPICS DUE

Required reading:

Gawande, Atul. 2015. “Overkill,” The New Yorker.

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/05/11/overkill-atul-gawande>

Kliff, Sarah. 2015. “This study is forcing economists to rethink high-deductible health insurance,” vox.com.

<http://www.vox.com/2015/10/14/9528441/high-deductible-insurance-kolstad>

Guth, Madeline, Rachel Garfield, Robin Rudowitz. 2020. “The Effects of Medicaid Expansion under the ACA: Updated Findings from a Literature Review,” Kaiser Family Foundation.

<http://files.kff.org/attachment/Report-The-Effects-of-Medicaid-Expansion->

[under-the-ACA-Updated-Findings-from-a-Literature-Review.pdf](#) (pages 1-20)

- Kliff, Sarah. 2018. "I read 1,182 emergency room bills this year. Here's what I learned," vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/health-care/2018/12/18/18134825/emergency-room-bills-health-care-costs-america>
- Scott, Dylan. 2019. "Major study suggests Medicaid work requirements are hurting people without really helping anybody," vox.com <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/6/19/18691249/medicaid-work-requirements-health-care-reform-study-nejm>
- Golshan, Tara. 2019. "Study: the US could have averted about 15,600 deaths if every state expanded Medicaid," vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/7/23/20703776/medicaid-expansion-obamacare-health-care-2020>
- Kliff, Sarah. 2019. "The I.R.S. Sent a Letter to 3.9 Million People. It Saved Some of Their Lives." New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/10/upshot/irs-letter-health-insurance-fine-study.html>
- Press, Eyal. 2020. "A Preventable Cancer Is on the Rise in Alabama." The New Yorker. <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2020/04/06/a-preventable-cancer-is-on-the-rise-in-alabama>

Podcast: The Weeds: Why insurers are quitting Obamacare, explained <https://www.vox.com/2017/5/30/15690832/why-insurers-quitting-obamacare-tennessee-humana-explained>

Terms:

Opioid Epidemic
Surprise Emergency Room Bills
Medical Debt
Financial Satisfaction
Uncompensated Care
Self-Reported Health
Work Requirements
High Deductible Health Insurance Plans

Discussion questions:

1. What has happen to health care in McAllen, TX over the past several years?
2. What did a new research paper find about high deductible insurance plans?
3. What have been some of the effects of the ACA Medicaid expansion?
4. What are surprise emergency room bills and why do they exist?
5. What was the effect of work requirements for Medicaid?

Attempts at Repeal*Required reading:*

- Kliff, Sarah. 2017. "About last night," vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/health-care/2017/7/28/16059336/voxcare-about-last-night-skinny-repeal-vote>
- Scott, Dylan. 2018. "Obamacare will survive as Republicans give up on repeal." Vox.com <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/12/18/16777418/obamacare-will-survive>
- Sanger-Katz, Margo. 2019. "So You Want to Overturn Obamacare. Here Are Some Things That Would Be Headaches," New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/10/upshot/overturning-obamacare-unexpected-results.amp.html>
- Scott, Dylan. 2019. "Healthcare.gov glitches almost ruined the end of open enrollment. Is there a better way?" vox.com <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/12/16/21024820/healthcare-gov-open-enrollment-2020-deadline-website-down>
- Tankersley, Jim and Emily Cochrane. 2019. "Congressional Negotiators Agree to Extend Some Tax Credits and Add to Debt." New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/17/business/congress-tax-breaks-debt.html>
- Scott, Dylan. 2020. "Obamacare looks surprisingly sturdy after the individual mandate's repeal." Vox.com <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2020/1/6/21052264/obamacare-still-in-effect-mandate-gone-voxcare>
- Millhiser, Ian. 2020. "Trump's DOJ asks the Supreme Court to strip health care from 23 million people." Vox.com <https://www.vox.com/2020/6/26/21304229/supreme-court-trump-justice-department-health-care-obamacare-affordable-care-act-texas-california>
- Scott, Dylan. 2020. "How Trump gave insurance companies free rein to sell bad health plans." Vox.com <https://www.vox.com/2020/6/30/21275498/trump-obamacare-repeal-short-term-health-care-insurance-scam>
- Millhiser, Ian. 2020. "The Supreme Court just gave Republicans a powerful new weapon against Obamacare." Vox.com <https://www.vox.com/2020/7/8/21317323/supreme-court-obamacare-little-sisters-clarence-thomas-pennsylvania-birth-control>
- Podcast: The Weeds. "Mueller's investigation is over. Obamacare repeal isn't." <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/voxs-the-weeds/id1042433083?i=1000433525383> (start at 25:30)

Terms:

American Health Care Act
 Better Care Reconciliation Act
 Obamacare Repeal Reconciliation Act
 Health Care Freedom Act:

Restaurant Menu Labels
Government Shutdown
Short-term health insurance plans
Little Sisters v. Pennsylvania

Discussion questions:

1. What ultimately happened on July 27, 2017 in the United States Senate?
2. What would some of the headaches be if the ACA were repealed?
3. How did the Trump administration give insurance companies free rein to sell bad health plans?
4. What happened to the Cadillac Tax?
5. What was the powerful new weapon the Supreme Court gave those who want to repeal the ACA?

We will also spend time today preparing for the **First-Year Seminar Colloquium**

10: 10/27 COVID-19

- Scott, Dylan. 2020. "Thousands will go uninsured in the Covid-19 outbreak because Republicans rejected Medicaid expansion." Vox.com <https://www.vox.com/2020/5/5/21247204/coronavirus-unemployment-medicaid-eligibility-health-insurance>
- Kliff, Sarah. 2020. "Hospitals Knew How to Make Money. Then Coronavirus Happened." New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/15/us/hospitals-revenue-coronavirus.html>
- Narea, Nicole. 2020. "Cory Booker's new bill would expand immigrants' health care access during the pandemic". Vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/2020/5/20/21263978/booker-immigrant-health-care-insurance-coronavirus>
- Scott, Dylan. 2020. 4 aftershocks of the coronavirus pandemic that will be felt for years. Vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/2020/5/11/21254892/coronavirus-us-economy-primary-health-care-insurance>
- Oster, Emily. 2020. "Grandparents & Day Care." Parent Data. <https://emilyoster.substack.com/p/grandparents-and-day-care>
- Mehrotra, Ateev, Michael Chernew, David Linetsky, Hilary Hatch, and David Cutler. 2020. "The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Outpatient Visits: Practices Are Adapting to the New Normal." Commonwealth Fund. <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/2020/jun/impact-covid-19-pandemic-outpatient-visits-practices-adapting-new-normal>
- Boseley, Sarah. 2020. "US secures world stock of key Covid-19 drug remdesivir." The Guardian. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/jun/30/us-buys-up-world-stock-of-key-covid-19-drug>

Emanuel, Ezekiel J., Cathy Zhang, and Aaron Glickman. 2020. “Learning from Taiwan about responding to Covid-19 — and using electronic health records.” <https://www.statnews.com/2020/06/30/taiwan-lessons-fighting-covid-19-using-electronic-health-records/>

Kliff, Sarah. 2020. “Two Friends in Texas Were Tested for Coronavirus. One Bill Was \$199. The Other? \$6,408.” New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/29/upshot/coronavirus-tests-unpredictable-prices.html>

Jena, Anupam B. and Christopher W. Worsham. 2020. “What Coronavirus Researchers Can Learn From Economists.” New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/30/upshot/coronavirus-economists-dexamethasone.html>

Seabrook, John. 2020. “The Promise and the Peril of Virtual Health Care.” New Yorker. <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2020/06/29/the-promise-and-the-peril-of-virtual-health-care>

Llopis-Jenpsen, Celia. 2020. “What It Took For This Coronavirus Patient's \$80,000 Air Ambulance Charge To Go Away.” KCUR. <https://www.kcur.org/news/2020-07-21/what-it-took-for-this-coronavirus-patients-80-000-air-ambulance-charge-to-go-away>

Bui, Quoctrung, Sarah Kliff, and Margot Sanger-Katz. 2020. “How to Test More People for Coronavirus Without Actually Needing More Tests.” New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/07/27/upshot/coronavirus-pooled-testing.html>

Leonhardt, David. 2020. “The Unique U.S. Failure to Control the Virus.” New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/06/us/united-states-failure-coronavirus.html>

Podcast: Tradeoffs: “Summer Concerns.” <https://tradeoffs.org/2020/07/23/summer-concerns/>

Terms:

COVID-19 / Coronavirus
 Pooled Testing
 Remdesivir
 Contact tracing
 R naught

Discussion questions:

1. What’s the interaction between Medicaid expansion, unemployment, and the coronavirus?
2. How did Taiwan use EHR to respond to COVID-19?
3. Why do we have such variation in out of pocket healthcare costs?
4. What has happened to outpatient care due to COVID-19?
5. What is unique about the U.S. Failure to control the virus?

Required reading:

- Gawande, Atul. 2017. "Is Health Care a Right?" *The New Yorker*.
www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/10/02/is-health-care-a-right
- Keith, Katie. 2018. "New Jersey Becomes Second State To Adopt Individual Mandate; Ohio Attempt To Waive Mandate Rejected," *Health Affairs*.
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20180601.345116/full/>
- Goldstein, Amy. 2019. "Why Vermont's single-payer effort failed and what Democrats can learn from it," *Washington Post*.
https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/why-vermonts-single-payer-effort-failed-and-what-democrats-can-learn-from-it/2019/04/29/c9789018-3ab8-11e9-a2cd-307b06d0257b_story.html
- Kliff, Sarah. 2019. "The Lessons of Washington State's Watered Down 'Public Option'," *New York Times*.
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/27/upshot/washington-state-weakened-public-option-.html>
- Appleby, Julie. 2019. Trump's Plan To Lower Your Hospital Costs: Here's What You Need To Know 2019," *NPR*. <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/06/24/735578519/trumps-plan-to-lower-your-hospital-costs-heres-what-you-need-to-know>
- Colliver, Victoria. 2019 "California goes even bigger on Obamacare," *Politico*.
<https://www.politico.com/story/2019/06/16/california-obamacare-health-care-1530461>
- Garthwaite, Craig. 2019 "Drug Pricing Policy Means Deciding When To Say 'No'," *Forbes*.
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/craiggarthwaite/2019/07/25/drug-pricing-policy-means-deciding-when-to-say-no/#44a0514530e6>
- Golshan, Tara. 2020. "The answer to America's health care cost problem might be in Maryland." *Vox.com*. <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2020/1/22/21055118/maryland-health-care-global-hospital-budget>
- Slusky, David. 2020. "Health Economics Research Relevant to Senate Bill 252". *Kansas Senate*.
http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2019_20/committees/ctte_s_phw_1/documents/testimony/20200123_03.pdf
- Klein, Ezra. 2020. "In the UK's health system, rationing isn't a dirty word." *Vox.com*. <https://www.vox.com/2020/1/28/21074386/health-care-rationing-britain-nhs-nice-medicare-for-all>
- Frakt, Austin. 2020. "The Health System We'd Have if Economists Ran Things." *New York Times* <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/17/upshot/health-system-economists-survey.html>
- Wingerter, Meg, and Saja Hindi. 2020. "Colorado consumers could save up to 20% under state health insurance option, Polis says." *Denver Post*.
<https://www.denverpost.com/2020/02/24/colorado-public-option-health-insurance-reimbursement-hospitals/>

Stolberg, Sheryl Gay and Noah Weiland. 2020. "House Votes to Limit Health Costs as Drug Maker Adds Price Tag to Virus Treatment." New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/29/us/politics/coronavirus-drug-prices.html>

Podcast: The Weeds: "Do we need private insurance?"
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/voxs-the-weeds/id1042433083?i=1000429250513> (stop at 40:00)

Terms:

Profit-innovation Tradeoff
Medicare for All
Medicare Buy-in
Medicare Extra
Weakened Public Option

Discussion questions:

1. Can President Trump reduce drug prices?
2. Why did single-payer health insurance fail in Vermont?
3. "Do we need private insurance?"
4. How does rationing work in the U.K.?
5. What healthcare system would we have if economists were in charge?

Also, the **2020 First-Year Seminar Colloquium** will take place on **Monday, November 9th, 7 PM** in the Burge Union. Attendance counts for your grade for the course. Please email me a picture or screenshot of yourself at the event to show you attended.

If you cannot attend, please read:

Schoen, Cathy. 2016. "The Affordable Care Act and the U.S. Economy: A Five Year Perspective," The Commonwealth Fund
http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/files/publications/fund-report/2016/feb/1860_schoen_aca_and_us_economy_v2.pdf (pg 1-24)

and write a 500 word response in which you summarize and critique the article.

You are also encourage to bring a draft of your paper to the Writing Center (<http://writing.ku.edu/>)

12: 11/10 EXAM, End of Life Care, Visit to Watkins Health Center (DRAFT OF PAPER DUE)

No required reading or podcasts – study for the exam.

The second half of the class will be listening to and discussing Planet Money Episode 521: The Town That Loves Death.

<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2016/10/05/496751771/episode-521-the-town-that-loves-death>

Discussion questions:

1. What is a medical advanced directive?
2. Why are possible reasons why La Crosse, Wisconsin has the lowest Medicare spending per capita?
3. How does this all relate to “death panels”?
4. What is Watkins Health Center?
5. What are possible ways that the ACA has affected Watkins Health Center?

We will also spend time today talking about how to write your presentation.

13: 11/17 Presentation of Student Papers

Required:

First half of student papers. (Will be posted on Blackboard)

For each paper, please make notes as to what was:

- 1) Excellent
- 2) Unclear / confusing
- 3) Contradictory
- 4) Surprising

Discussion questions:

Please summarize each paper.

14: 11/24 Presentation of Student Papers

Required:

Second half of student papers. (Will be posted on Blackboard)

For each paper, please make notes as to what was:

- 1) Excellent
- 2) Unclear / confusing
- 3) Contradictory
- 4) Surprising

Discussion questions:

Please summarize each paper.

15: 12/1 (no class) READING WEEK

16: 12/8 (no class) FINAL PAPER DUE BY 5 PM

Assignment 1: Two Possible Paper Topics (Due 10/6)

Pick a topic. E.g.:

Medicare
Medicaid
Individual mandate
Subsidies
Exchanges
Pre-existing conditions discrimination ban
Public option
Cadillac Tax
Healthcare.gov
Electronic Medical Records
Hospitals cuts
Physician reimbursements
Drug payments
End of life care
Parental mandate
Essential benefits

Pick an economic concept it doesn't meet (i.e., the problem):

Distortionary (creates incentives that reduce other desired behavior)
Inefficient (prevents resources from being allocated to where marginal benefit equals marginal cost)
Too expensive (costs so much that no plausible benefit would justify it)
Ineffective (doesn't do what it is supposed to)
Implausible (won't or can't work)
Inequitable (provides gains for only very few while the costs are borne more broadly)

For each topic, please write a paragraph where you answer the following questions:

- 1) What do we know about this topic from the course?
- 2) Why do you in particular care about this topic?
- 3) Why do you think your hypothesis (i.e., that the topic doesn't meet the concept) is true?

Assignment 2: Annotated Bibliography (10/20)

Please tell me your topic, hypothesis, and proposed fix.

Please include at least five articles on your idea, including

At least one academic economic research article (e.g., search <https://lib.ku.edu/databases/econlit>, <http://www.nber.org/papers.html> or <https://scholar.google.com/>)

At least two popular articles that are not in the syllabus or the additional readings below, from websites such as:

vox.com
fivethirtyeight.com
nyt.com
slate.com
nationalreview.com
city-journal.org
nationalaffairs.com
Kaiser Foundation
Commonwealth Fund
Health Affairs

The rest can be from the required or additional readings (see below).

Please include a paragraph about each source that answers the following questions:

- 1) Who is the author? What is his or her training, background, prior writing, etc.?
- 2) What is the mission of magazine/website/foundation/etc publishing this piece? It is more left-leaning or right-leaning?
- 3) What does the source say? Does it support your hypothesis? Does it agree with or contradict other sources?

Please indicate which source satisfies which requirement.

Use the American Economic Association's References Style:

Journal Articles:

Author Last name, First name. Year. "Article Title." Journal Title, Volume (Issue number if applicable): Page numbers.

Examples:

Acemoglu, Daron. 2002. "Technical Change, Inequality, and the Labor Market." Journal of Economic Literature, 40(1): 7–72.

Baker, George, Robert Gibbons, and Kevin J. Murphy. 2002. "Relational Contracts and the Theory of the Firm." Quarterly Journal of Economics, 117(1): 39–84.

Online Magazine Articles:

Author Last name, First name. Year. "Title." Magazine, date. URL

Example:

Becker, Gary S. 1993. "The Evidence against Blacks Doesn't Prove Bias." Business Week, April 19. <http://bwarehouse.businessweek.com/index.jsp>.

Assignment 3: Draft of Paper (11/3)

~1000 words

State the problem

Suggest a solution

Explain how the solution will fix the problem

This will be read by the entire class

Please use in text citations for references. No need to quote verbatim - paraphrasing is fine. Examples: The Clinton Healthcare Plan was never brought up for a vote in Congress (Emanuel 2014). McAllen, Texas has one of the highest rates of Medicare spending per capita in the country (Gawande 2009).

Please include your bibliography at the end of the paper, and indicate which source satisfies which requirement. You will still need to satisfy the requirements for the minimum number of sources in each category.

Assignment 4: Presentation (11/17 or 11/24)

A 6 minute talk with slides, followed by a brief class discussion. I recommend structuring the talk like your paper. Use as few words as possible on each slides. Please also practice it aloud several times to ensure you are under 6 minutes.

Assignment 5: Final Paper (12/8)

~ 800 words (part of the exercise is cutting down your rough draft to make it more concise)

Incorporate suggestions and corrections from comments from your classmates.

I will evaluate the final draft of the policy recommendation based on the following criteria:

- Is the problem described substantial?
- Is the recommendation plausible and internally consistent?
- Does the recommendation fix the problem?
- Are there at least five sources cited, with at least two popular articles and one academic article all of which are not on the reading list?

Additional readings:

1: Overview

<https://medium.com/@yonatanzunger/how-to-ask-good-questions-about-health-reform-725887002c03#.efqttfrz4>

2: The American Health Care System

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/15/business/dealbook/a-whistle-blower-tells-of-health-insurers-bilking-medicare.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share>

3: Where We Were in 2010

Brill, Steven. 2013 “Bitter Pill: Why Medical Bills Are Killing Us.” Time Magazine. Available through KU Library.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/29/magazine/those-indecipherable-medical-bills-theyre-one-reason-health-care-costs-so-much.html>

5: The Individual Mandate, Medicaid Expansion, and the Supreme Court

<http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/11pdf/11-393c3a2.pdf>

2015. “Medicaid Primary Care Parity.” Health Affairs

http://healthaffairs.org/healthpolicybriefs/brief_pdfs/healthpolicybrief_137.pdf

6: Insurance Coverage Details, Subsidies, Taxes

On Single Payer:

<http://www.vox.com/2016/1/16/10779270/pollack-single-payer-in-america>

<http://www.vox.com/2016/5/9/11640292/sanders-single-payer-urban-institute>

----- 2009. “A Public Insurance Plan.” Health Affairs.

http://www.healthaffairs.org/healthpolicybriefs/brief_pdfs/healthpolicybrief_4.pdf (pg 1-5)

Pollack, Harold. 2015 “Medicare for All— If It Were Politically Possible—Would Necessarily Replicate the Defects of Our Current System.” Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law 40(4): 921-929. <http://jhppl.dukejournals.org/content/early/2015/06/09/03616878-3150172.full.pdf>

On the Public Option:

http://www.slate.com/blogs/moneybox/2016/02/23/hillary_clinton_once_again_backs_the_public_option_what_took_so_long.html

<http://www.vox.com/2016/5/11/11652900/hillary-clinton-medicare-buy-in>

Planet Money: Father of the 'Public Option' Defends His Big Idea

http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2009/09/podcast_father_of_the_public_o.html

On Subsidies:

[Http://Www.Supremecourt.Gov/Opinions/14pdf/14-114_Qo11.Pdf](http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/14pdf/14-114_Qo11.Pdf)

<http://blogs.wsj.com/experts/2014/11/12/heres-the-math-for-calculating-aca-subsidies/>
<https://thefinancebuff.com/irs-guidance-on-circular-reference-in-obamacare-premium-subsidy-and-deduction.html>
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/apr/27/66-pct-obamacare-customers-paid-back-subsidies-irs/#>
http://www.healthaffairs.org/healthpolicybriefs/brief.php?brief_id=97
<http://whatifpost.com/how-your-obamacare-insurance-subsidy-is-calculated-an-advanced-lesson.htm>
<http://www.governing.com/blogs/fedwatch/gov-obamacare-mistake.html>
<http://kff.org/health-reform/issue-brief/explaining-health-care-reform-risk-adjustment-reinsurance-and-risk-corridors/>

Gruber, Jonathan, and Ian Perry. 2011. "Will the Affordable Care Act Make Health Insurance Affordable?" The Commonwealth Fund.

http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/files/publications/issue-brief/2011/apr/1493_gruber_will_affordable_care_act_make_hlt_ins_affordable_reform_brief_compressed.pdf (pg 1-14).

On cost sharing

<https://www.cbo.gov/publication/53009>

On essential benefits

Planet Money: 432: The Price of Free Breast Pumps

<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2013/01/29/170583430/episode-432-the-price-of-free-breast-pumps>

----- 2010. "Health Reform: Overview of the Affordable Care Act: What Are the Implications for Behavioral Health?" Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 18(3): 1-2

http://media.samhsa.gov/samhsaNewsletter/Volume_18_Number_3/AffordableHealthCareAct.aspx

On taxes

Mulligan, Casey B. 2015. *Side Effects and Complications: The Economic Consequences of Health Care Reform*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press (especially chapters 2, 7, and 11)

http://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/cadillac_tax_letter.pdf (pg 1-3)

Planet Money: Taxing Health Care

http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2010/01/podcast_taxing_health_care.html

7: Technology, Hospital Penalties

On Technology:

Brill, Steven. 2014. "Code Red," Time Magazine

<http://fivethirtyeight.com/features/its-2015-why-havent-our-medical-records-entered-the-digital-age/>

<https://www.fastcompany.com/3068773/innovation-agents/ipads-in-every-hospital-apples-plan-to-crack-the-3-trillion-health-care-se>

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/04/03/ai-versus-md>

Wachter, Robert. 2015. "The Overdose: Harm in a Wired Hospital." Backchannel. <https://backchannel.com/how-technology-led-a-hospital-to-give-a-patient-38-times-his-dosage-ded7b3688558#.2x8cfluk2> (5 parts: pg 1-11, 1-15, 1-13, 1-10, and 1-11).

Caldwell, Patrick. 2015. "We've Spent Billions to Fix Our Medical Records, and They're Still a Mess. Here's Why." Mother Jones. <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/10/epic-systems-judith-faulkner-hitech-ehr-interoperability> (pg 1-6)

Fry, Erika and Fred Schulte. 2019. "Death by a Thousand Clicks: Where Electronic Health Records Went Wrong." Fortune and Kaiser Health News. <https://fortune.com/longform/medical-records/>
https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/the-most-remote-emergency-room/2019/11/16/717d08e2-063e-11ea-b17d-8b867891d39d_story.html

On Hospital Penalties

<http://www.vox.com/2015/7/9/8905959/medical-harm-infection-prevention>
<http://khn.org/news/half-of-nations-hospitals-fail-again-to-escape-medicare-readmission-penalties/>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/obamacare-hospital-readmissions_us_55f732e1e4b0c2077efbb909
<https://www.propublica.org/article/when-evidence-says-no-but-doctors-say-yes>
<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2010/12/-god-help-you-youre-on-dialysis/308308/>
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/car-crash-hospitals-vs-plane-crash-hospitals/id1294325824?i=1000393880675>

----- 2013. "Medicare Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program." Health Affairs. http://www.healthaffairs.org/healthpolicybriefs/brief.php?brief_id=102 (pg 1-5).

----- 2015. "Medicare's Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program." Health Affairs. http://www.healthaffairs.org/healthpolicybriefs/brief.php?brief_id=142 (pg 1-5)

8: What Do We Know Now in 2020?

----- 2017. "Continuing Progress On The Opioid Epidemic: The Role of the Affordable Care Act," HHS. <https://aspe.hhs.gov/system/files/pdf/255456/ACAOpoid.pdf>. (pg 1-14)

Creswell, Julie, Reed Abelson and Margot Sanger-Katz. 2017. "The Company Behind Many Surprise Emergency Room Bills," The New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/24/upshot/the-company-behind-many-surprise-emergency-room-bills.html?mcubz=0> (pg 1-6)

Sojourner, Aaron and Ezra Golberstein. 2017. "Medicaid Expansion Reduced Unpaid Medical Debt And Increased Financial Satisfaction," Health Affairs Blog. <http://healthaffairs.org/blog/2017/07/24/medicaid-expansion-reduced-unpaid-medical-debt-and-increased-financial-satisfaction/> (pg 1-6)

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/papers/2015/10/04-thp-papers-on-health-care/six_economic_facts_about_health_care_and_insurance_after_the_affordable_care_act.pdf
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/insurance-options-dwindle-in-some-rural-regions-1463356031>

<http://www.vox.com/2016/5/17/11690370/obamacare-uninsured-2015>
<http://ldi.upenn.edu/healthpolicysense/how-does-having-health-insurance-impact-preventive-care-and-health-behaviors>
<http://www.vox.com/2016/6/21/11981610/health-spending-slowdown-obamacare>
<http://www.vox.com/2016/5/16/11673558/obamacare-marketplace-competition>
<http://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/the-effects-of-medicaid-expansion-under-the-aca-updated-findings-from-a-literature-review/>
<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2533697>
<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1605913>
http://www.slate.com/articles/business/moneybox/2016/08/is_obamacare_doomed_all_your_questions_answered.html
<http://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/3/15/14908524/obamacare-lessons-ahca-gop>
<http://www.consumerreports.org/personal-bankruptcy/how-the-aca-drove-down-personal-bankruptcy/>
<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2533698>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/07/19/obamacares-surcharge-for-smokers-may-have-backfired/>
<http://ashecon.org/2017/04/newsletter/v2017n1i2/>
<http://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/4/13/15262614/obamacare-alaska-reinsurance>
<http://www.kff.org/health-reform/issue-brief/individual-insurance-market-performance-in-early-2017/>
http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/07/18/537696772/pushing-hospitals-to-reduce-readmissions-hasnt-increased-deaths?utm_content=bufferd88e6&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
<https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/policy-and-politics/2017/8/24/16193682/obamacare-empty-counties-fixed>
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20171022.321462/full/>
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucejapsen/2018/03/18/how-medicaid-expansion-pays-for-itself/#3396059f5fdd>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/9/4/17806348/obamacare-trump-bundled-payments-hospitals-research>
<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/healthcare/reports/2018/10/24/459676/expanding-medicaid-states-save-14000-lives-per-year/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/02/upshot/finally-some-answers-on-the-effects-of-medicaid-expansion.html>
<https://www.nber.org/papers/w25932.pdf>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/13/us/politics/hospital-prices-online.html?smid=fb-nytimes&smtyp=cur>
https://www.huffpost.com/entry/iowa-teenager-obamacare-scapegoat_n_59f4715de4b077d8dfc9dd70
<https://www.vox.com/science-and-health/2019/7/19/20698355/health-insurance-scam-united-cigna-aetna-southwest>

Schoen, Cathy. 2016. "The Affordable Care Act and the U.S. Economy: A Five Year Perspective," The Commonwealth Fund

http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/files/publications/fund-report/2016/feb/1860_schoen_aca_and_us_economy_v2.pdf (pg 1-24)
Kliff, Sarah. 2018. "Obamacare is having a surprisingly good year," vox.com.
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/11/26/18113313/obamacare-mandate-tax>
<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2019/10/when-medicaid-takes-everything-you-own/596671/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/27/upshot/expensive-health-care-world-comparison.html>
<https://www.cnbc.com/2019/12/29/how-the-affordable-care-act-transformed-the-us-health-care-system.html>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/12/23/21035158/obamacare-health-care-2010s>

9: Attempts at Repeal

----- 2017. 2017. "Health Care Freedom Act," Senate Budget Committee.
<https://www.budget.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/HealthCareFreedomAct.pdf> (pg 1-8).
----- 2017. "Estimate of Direct Spending and Revenue Effects of H.R. 1628, the Healthcare Freedom Act of 2017, an Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute," CBO.
<https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/115th-congress-2017-2018/costestimate/s.a.667.pdf> (pg 1-4).
<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1616577>
<https://www.vox.com/the-big-idea/2017/3/20/14982528/geography-ahca-adjustment-political-premiums-aca>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/6/16/15810524/senate-ahca-explain-please>
<http://healthaffairs.org/blog/2017/05/04/house-passes-ahca-how-it-happened-what-it-would-do-and-its-uncertain-senate-future/>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/6/22/15846728/senate-plan-better-care-reconciliation-act>
<https://www.vox.com/the-big-idea/2017/6/28/15881720/deaths-senate-health-care-bcra>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/7/20/16005960/voxcare-4-draft-senate-health-care-bills-explained>
<https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/the-republicans-have-three-health-care-bills-and-no-clear-paths-forward/>
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/theapothecary/2017/06/23/republican-senate-healthcare-bill-creates-scary-marginal-tax-rates/#4c8509161a9f>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/6/22/15856114/senate-health-bill-death-spiral>
https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/26/opinion/senate-bipartisan-health-bill.html?_r=0
<http://theincidentaleconomist.com/wordpress/waivers-are-dead-long-live-waivers/>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/7/27/16049892/obamacare-medical-device-tax>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/8/1/16074746/cassidy-graham-obamacare-repeal>
<https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/health-care/2017/9/20/16333338/obamacare-repeal-graham-cassidy>
www.slate.com/business/2017/09/graham-cassidy-repeals-obamacare-but-doesnt-really-replace-it.html
www.vox.com/platform/amp/policy-and-politics/2017/9/19/16328928/obamacare-repeal-cassidy-graham-health-care-women
www.forbes.com/sites/theapothecary/2017/09/17/take-two-inside-bill-cassidys-plan-to-replace-obamacare/#285f6f61181c

www.vox.com/platform/amp/health-care/2017/9/20/16333338/obamacare-repeal-graham-cassidy

www.vox.com/platform/amp/policy-and-politics/2017/9/24/16359332/graham-cassidy-revised-billions-funding-alaska

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/10/13/16468788/obamacare-open-enrollment-cost-sharing-reductions-trump>

<https://www.vox.com/the-big-idea/2017/10/17/16489526/take-care-clause-obamacare-trump-sabotage-aca-illegal-cities-sue>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/10/18/16458316/obamacare-premiums-trump>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/2/21/17029822/obamacare-trump-idaho>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/2/21/17037866/idaho-anti-obamacare-plan-not-illegal>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/2/26/17055076/trump-drive-up-obamacare-premiums>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/3/8/17098604/idaho-obamacare-trump-letter-cms>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/2/20/17031640/short-term-insurance-trump-obamacare>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/7/2/17527526/trump-drug-prices-massachusetts-medicaid>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/5/7/17328296/voxcare-trump-state-medicaid-cuts-lifetime-limits-kansas>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/06/opinion/the-ticking-time-bomb-under-obamacare.html>

<https://www.thenation.com/article/arkansas-medicaid-work-requirement-healthcare/>

Soffen, Kim and Darla Cameron. 2017. “What the Senate bill changes about Obamacare,” Washington Post. https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2017/politics/obamacare-senate-bill-compare/?utm_term=.a7d200176505. (pg 1-8)

Eibner, Christine. 2017. “Here Are 4 Better Options Than the GOP Health Care Bills,” Fortune. <http://fortune.com/2017/07/10/senate-health-care-republican-bill-trumpcare-obamacare-vote/> (pg 1-4)

Yglesias, Matthew. 2017. “What do conservatives want American health care to look like?” vox.com/ <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/6/28/15874636/conservative-health-vision> (pg 1-5)

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/08/14/750859901/cadillac-tax-on-generous-health-plans-may-be-headed-to-congressional-junkyard>

Garthwaite, Craig. 2017. “Why replacing Obamacare is so hard: It’s fundamentally conservative.” Washington Post. https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-replacing-obamacare-is-so-hard-fundamentally-conservative/2017/07/10/c5d64634-6351-11e7-84a1-a26b75ad39fe_story.html

----- . 2018. “Potential Administration Marketplace Reforms,” Politico. <https://www.politico.com/f/?id=00000160-e381-dcd4-a96b-f7a9bd5d0001>

Scott, Dylan. 2018. “We have a new worst-case scenario for Obamacare,” vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/12/3/18124353/obamacare-insurance-premiums-waivers-trump>

Cohn, Jonathan. 2018. “There’s A Christian Alternative To Obamacare. But There’s A Catch,” Huffington Post. https://www.huffpost.com/entry/christian-health-ministry-obamacare_n_5a9d66fee4b0a0ba4ad6754b

www.nytimes.com/2019/12/16/us/politics/congress-spending-government-shutdown.amp.html

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2020/3/2/21161829/supreme-court-obamacare-2020-case>
<https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/18/politics/obamacare-appeal-ruling/index.html>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2020/1/11/21061595/trump-administration-obamacare-supreme-court-2020-election>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/courts_law/supreme-court-obamacare-birth-control-mandate/2020/07/08/0b38a352-c123-11ea-b4f6-cb39cd8940fb_story.html

10: The ACA and COVID-19

<https://www.vox.com/2020/5/18/21262528/coronavirus-us-state-lockdown-stay-at-home-orders-study>
<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2020/05/11/why-werent-we-ready-for-the-coronavirus>
<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2020/04/20/how-anthony-fauci-became-americas-doctor>
<https://www.vox.com/future-perfect/2020/5/11/21246992/coronavirus-pandemic-collateral-damage-hunger-poverty>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/05/18/us-should-pay-people-get-tested-covid-19/>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/07/01/coronavirus-drug-overdose/>
https://www.washingtonpost.com/powerpost/trumps-gop-party-of-health-care-has-no-coverage-plan-for-millions-amid-pandemic/2020/05/16/272ac718-96dd-11ea-82b4-c8db161ff6e5_story.html
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/13/world/coronavirus-updates.html>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/22/opinion/coronavirus-reopen-hospitals.html>
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20200720.378943/full/>
https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/house-democrats-push-through-first-bill-in-a-decade-expanding-affordable-care-act/2020/06/29/350d3046-ba0f-11ea-8cf5-9c1b8d7f84c6_story.html

11: Where Do We Go From Here?

Barry-Jester, Anna. 2017. “The Obamacare Marketplaces Aren’t In A Death Spiral,” FiveThirtyEight. <https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/the-obamacare-marketplaces-arent-in-a-death-spiral/> (pg 1-7).

Sanger-Katz, Margot. 2017. “Obamacare’s Future Now Depends on an Unhappy White House,” The New York Times. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/18/upshot/obamacares-future-now-depends-on-an-unhappy-white-house.html?_r=0 (pg 1-3).

Kliff, Sarah. 2017. “Exclusive: House Democrats introduce new plan to fix Obamacare,” vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/7/12/15955982/democrats-fix-obamacare> (pg 1-7).

Stein, Jeff. 2017. “The new bipartisan House proposal to fix Obamacare, explained,” vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/7/31/16068130/problem-solver-house-proposal> (pg 1-5).

Cassidy, Bill. 2017. “The next step on health care: Let the states decide,” Washington Post. https://www.washingtonpost.com/amhtml/opinions/the-next-step-on-health-care-let-the-states-decide/2017/07/14/d9333c34-68c7-11e7-a1d7-9a32c91c6f40_story.html (pg 1-2).

http://www.rwjf.org/content/dam/farm/reports/issue_briefs/2012/rwjf401409
<http://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/4/20/15306068/trump-obamacare-hostage-threat-cost-sharing-explained>
<http://kff.org/health-reform/issue-brief/the-effects-of-ending-the-affordable-care-acts-cost-sharing-reduction-payments/>
<https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/trump-is-about-to-make-a-key-obamacare-decision/>
<http://www.kff.org/health-reform/issue-brief/an-early-look-at-2018-premium-changes-and-insurer-participation-on-aca-exchanges/>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/8/4/16089732/obamacare-california-marketplace>
<https://www.axios.com/what-could-be-in-a-bipartisan-health-care-package-2468027741.html>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/6/6/15731622/nevada-medicaid-for-all>
<http://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/1/11/14223470/progressive-obamacare-alternative-public-option>
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-the-gop-could-nudge-the-uninsured-toward-coverage-1492555423>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/29/health/aca-obamacare-repeal-how-to-fix-health-care.html>
<https://www.vox.com/health-care/2017/8/30/16229364/voxcare-single-payer-plans-prices>
<https://www.vox.com/health-care/2017/9/6/16263930/insurance-commissioners-fix-obamacare>
www.vox.com/platform/amp/policy-and-politics/2017/9/8/16275998/chris-murphy-single-payer
<https://www.vox.com/health-care/2017/8/30/16229364/voxcare-single-payer-plans-prices>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/9/15/16310490/berniecare-global-budget>
<https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/policy-and-politics/2017/9/15/16304082/bernie-sanders-single-payer-medicare>
https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2019-04/55094-CoverageUnder65_0.pdf
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/craiggarthwaite/2019/05/23/what-marthas-vineyards-gas-stations-can-teach-us-about-drug-pricing/>
https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2424.html
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/3/7/17090800/trump-obamacare-fix-bill-congress>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/3/7/17093644/obamacare-health-insurance-mandate-connecticut-states-voxcare>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/5/23/17385866/voxcare-prevent-surprise-er-bills>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/9/21/17887692/voxcare-surprise-er-bills-senate>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/10/8/17952702/hospital-down-drug-prices>
<https://www.vox.com/2018/10/29/18018098/hassan-emergency-room-bill>
<https://splinternews.com/how-to-not-die-in-america-1822555151>
<https://shadowproof.com/2018/08/22/two-challenges-single-payer-movement-must-address/>
<https://lithub.com/barbara-ehrenreich-why-im-giving-up-on-preventative-care/>
Sparer, Michael S. 2017. “‘Medicare for all’ is Democrats’ new rallying cry. ‘Medicaid for more’ would be even better,” vox.com <https://www.vox.com/the-big-idea/2017/8/11/16119292/medicare-for-all-medicare-health-care-expansion> (pg 1-10)
https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/99151/estimating_the_cost_of_a_single-payer_plan_0.pdf
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20180727.541089/full/>
<https://www.vox.com/health-care/2019/2/12/18215430/single-payer-private-health-insurance-harris-sanders>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/5/20/18632427/2020-democratic-presidential-candidates-policies-jay-inslee-health-care>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/7/8/20683368/democrats-2020-medicare-private-insurance-single-payer-debate>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/15/us/politics/biden-health-care.html>

<https://slate.com/business/2019/07/banning-private-insurance-democrats-health-care.html>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/12/14/18117917/medicare-for-all-explained-health-insurance-deductibles>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/08/opinion/sunday/hospitals-doctors-nurses-burnout.html>

Podcast But seriously, how are you going to pay for it?

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/vox-the-weeds/id1042433083?i=1000431160838>

Klein, Ezra 2019. “How “Medicare Extra” gets to universal coverage without single-payer,” vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/7/23/20699958/medicare-extra-center-american-progress-single-payer-health-reform>

Scott, Dylan. 2019. “On health care, there are 3 types of Democrats running for president,” vox.com <https://www.vox.com/2019/7/30/20747974/democratic-debate-health-care-medicare-for-all>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/8/27/20827210/senate-democrats-health-reform-medicare-obamacare-2020-filibuster>

Kliff, Sarah and Dylan Scott. 2019. “We read 9 Democratic plans for expanding health care. Here’s how they work,” vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/2018/12/13/18103087/democrats-universal-health-care-sanders-jayapal>

Scott, Dylan and Li Zhou. 2019. “The Democrats who are still undecided on Medicare-for-all, explained,” vox.com. <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/6/12/18660256/medicare-for-all-hearing-house-ways-and-means>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/12/19/21005124/2020-presidential-candidates-health-care-democratic-debate>

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/11/18/20971047/trump-health-care-transparency-executive-order-prices>

<https://www.kff.org/private-insurance/issue-brief/individual-insurance-market-performance-in-2019/>

<https://www.vox.com/health-care/2020/1/29/21075388/medicare-for-all-what-countries-have-universal-health-care>

<https://www.vox.com/2020/1/13/21055327/everybody-covered>

<https://www.vox.com/podcasts/2020/6/23/21298942/best-healthcare-germany-uk-france-the-ezra-klein-show>

Dranove, David, and Craig Carthwaite. 2017. “Can President Trump Reduce Drug Prices? Should He?” Code Red. <https://coderedblog.com/2017/01/19/can-president-trump-reduce-drug-prices-should-he/> (pg 1-3).

Gaynor, Martin, Farzad Mostashari, and Paul B. Ginsburg. 2017. “Making health care markets work: Competition policy for health care,” Brookings. <https://www.brookings.edu/research/making-health-care-markets-work-competition-policy-for-health-care/>