

US Health Policy and Health Care Delivery

The unique composition and configuration of doctors and hospitals in the United States is leading to a crisis in primary care provision. There are significantly more specialists than generalists, and many community hospitals and outpatient facilities are concentrated in affluent areas with high rates of comprehensive insurance coverage. These particular features present difficult challenges to policymakers seeking to increase access to care. Carl F. Ameringer shows why the road to universal health care is not built on universal finance alone. Policymakers in other countries successfully align finance with delivery to achieve better access, lower costs, and improved population health. This book explains how the US health care system developed, and why efforts to expand insurance coverage in the absence of significant changes to health care delivery will fuel higher costs without achieving the desired results.

CARL F. AMERINGER is retired Professor of Health Policy and Politics at Virginia Commonwealth University.

US Health Policy and Health Care Delivery

Doctors, Reformers, and Entrepreneurs

CARL F. AMERINGER



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For Suzanne, Caroline, and Katie

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Abbreviations

AAGP	American Academy of General Practice
AALL	American Association for Labor Legislation
ACO	Accountable Care Organization
ACP	American College of Physicians
ACS	American College of Surgeons
AHA	American Hospital Association
AMA	American Medical Association
ASC	Ambulatory Surgery Center
BME	Bureau of Medical Economics (American Medical Association)
CAH	Critical Access Hospital
CCMC	Committee on the Costs of Medical Care
CME	Council on Medical Education (American Medical Association)
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
COGME	Council on Graduate Medical Education
CON	Certificate of Need
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology (Codes)
DOJ	Department of Justice
DRG	Diagnosis-Related Group
FMC	Foundation for Medical Care
FTC	Federal Trade Commission
GP	General Practitioner
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization
IDS	Integrated Delivery System
IOM	Institute of Medicine

IPA	Independent Practice Association
MCO	Managed Care Organization
MSO	Medical Staff Organization
NHS	(British) National Health Service
NP	Nurse Practitioner
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPS	Oregon Physicians Service
PCP	Primary Care Physician
PPO	Preferred Provider Organization
PPS	Prospective Payment System
PSRO	Professional Standards Review Organization