

Cost & Price Transparency: Presenting Health Care Costs to Consumers

Resources and Background Material July 2006

The Consumer-Purchaser Disclosure Project has been involved in a number of efforts to help leading consumer, employer and labor organizations better understand cost transparency efforts and how cost information is being presented to consumers. These efforts seek to engage these leaders in the dialogue to shape how cost information is provided to consumers. Examples of these activities include hosting an invitational meeting on May 2006, distributing background material, commenting on proposed federal rules regarding transparency and developing Principles for the Presentation of Health Care Costs to Consumers (still in development). This list of background resources is part of that effort to foster a better understanding of this complex issue and includes both general background information as well as diverse perspectives held by a variety of stakeholders.

General Background

- Price and Cost Transparency: Understanding the Issues & Shaping the Agenda, May 2006, Presentation by Peter Lee, Disclosure Project
 - <http://healthcaredisclosure.org/resources/>
- *Health Care Cost Comparison Tools: A Market Under Construction*, June 2006, California HealthCare Foundation, report prepared by Forrester Research
 - <http://www.chcf.org/documents/insurance/HealthCareCostComparisonTools.pdf>
- *Consumers in Health Care: Creating Decision-Support Tools That Work*, June 2006, California HealthCare Foundation
 - <http://www.chcf.org/documents/insurance/CreatingDecisionSupportTools.pdf>
- Price Check: The Mystery of Hospital Pricing, December 2005, California HealthCare Foundation
 - <http://www.chcf.org/documents/hospitals/PriceCheckMysteryHospitalPricing.pdf>
- Assessing Quality-Based Benefit Design, PricewaterhouseCoopers, April 2006, for Pacific Business Group on Health and the California HealthCare Foundation
 - <http://www.pbgh.org>
- The Price of Illness: Cost Sharing and Health Plan Benefits, September 2005, California HealthCare Foundation
 - <http://www.chcf.org/documents/insurance/ThePriceofIllnessConsumerCostSharing.pdf>

- Benefit Strategies to Promote Quality, Value and Access in High Deductible Health Plans, 2005, Pacific Business Group on Health
 - <http://www.pbgh.org/news/eletters/2005RetreatSummary.pdf>
- PBGH Member Benefit Strategies: Promoting Quality, Value and Access, February 2005, Pacific Business Group on Health
 - http://www.pbgh.org/programs/documents/PBGH_BenefitStrategyReport2005.pdf
- Medicare Beneficiaries Out-of-Pocket Costs: Are Medicare Advantage Plans a Better Deal? May 2006, Commonwealth Foundation
 - http://www.cmf.org/usr_doc/927_Biles_MedicarebeneOOPcosts_MA_ib.pdf

Congressional Hearings

- House of Representatives, Hearing: *Price Transparency*, July 18, 2006. Testimony with Background Materials from: Regina Herzlinger, Harvard Business School; Robin Downey, Aetna; Daniel Evans, Clarian Health Partners; Stephen Brenton, Wisconsin Hospital Association; Ha Tu, Center for Studying Health System Change
 - <http://waysandmeans.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=494>
- Joint Economic Committee Hearing: *The Next Generation of Health Information Tools for Consumers*, May 10, 2006. Statement by Paul Ginsburg, Center for Studying Health System Change
 - http://jec.senate.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Hearing&Hearing_ID=86
- House of Representatives, Hearing: *What's the Cost?: Proposals to Provide Consumers with Better Information about Healthcare Service Costs*, March 15, 2006. Testimony with Background Material from: Newt Gingrich, Center for Health Transformation; Paul Ginsberg, Center for Health System Change; David MacDonald, Liberty Health Group; John Goodman, National Center for Policy Analysis; Gerard Anderson, Johns Hopkins; William Gedwed, UICI; Sara Collins, Commonwealth Fund
 - <http://energycommerce.house.gov/108/Hearings/03152006hearing1813/hearing.htm>