
Call for Papers

How Can We Bend the Cost Curve?

The ongoing increase in health care spending has been recognized as a significant threat to our long-term fiscal health and ability to maintain our commitment to social welfare programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, among others. Concern over rising health care spending also was an important justification underlying passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), and controlling this spending is viewed as a particular challenge for this landmark legislation.

Inquiry is seeking papers for a special thematic issue focusing on pragmatic strategies to stem rising health care costs. Our goal is to publish a set of papers that explores the promise of alternative cost containment strategies and their implications for patients, providers, and insurers. Such papers can encompass: evidence-based reviews of specific approaches to contain health care costs; conceptual or empirical assessments of strategies that will be implemented under the PPACA; consideration of proposed payment strategies related to Medicare and Medicaid;

the expected payoff to wellness and prevention efforts; the implications and expected changes in insurer and consumer behavior from the implementation of health insurance exchanges and the taxing of “Cadillac” health plans; the implications of implementing information technology; efforts to enhance quality and reduce medical errors; and approaches that would yield improved management and coordination of care for high-cost and chronically ill patients. Other relevant approaches to cost containment will also be considered.

If you are interested in submitting a proposal for this special issue, please email a double-spaced, two-page description of your paper by **April 30, 2011**, to Ronny Frishman, *Inquiry*'s managing editor, at frishman@rochester.rr.com. Include all authors' names and contact information for a corresponding author. Decisions regarding the proposed papers will be made by the end of May 2011 and full manuscripts must be received by September 1, 2011. All selected papers will go through *Inquiry*'s peer review process to ensure their quality and relevance.
