



www.dr sforamerica.org

Top 5 things physicians should know about Health Reform legislation:

1. Enhances Choice:

- Allows Americans to keep the coverage they have if they like it
- Small businesses and individuals who qualify can enter the health insurance exchange and choose from a range of private and public health insurance options.
- Ends the practice of insurance companies denying coverage for pre-existing conditions

2. Provides better access to care:

- Enhances the primary care workforce
 - Increase payments to primary care providers under Medicare and Medicaid.
 - Provides loan forgiveness for primary care physicians who practice in underserved areas
- Increases funding for the National Health Service Corp

3. Decreases the cost of care for individuals, families and small businesses:

- Limits out-of-pocket spending for health insurance and preventative services
- Includes subsidies for the middle class to purchase health insurance
- Includes subsidies for small businesses to purchase health insurance for their employees
- Expands pharmacy benefits in Medicare to close the “doughnut hole”

4. Improves Medicare:

- Completes reform of the flawed physician payment mechanism in Medicare (sustainable growth rate or “SGR” formula)
- Pilots for innovative concepts such as accountable care organizations, medical homes, and bundling of acute and post-acute provider payments.
- Creates new payment incentives to decrease preventable hospital readmissions.
- Creates new methods for administrative simplification.

5. Improves Quality:

- Prohibits co-payments for preventive services
- Creates of community-based programs to deliver prevention and wellness services
- Invests in efforts to better identify and address health disparities along racial, ethnic, and regional lines
- Expands Community Health Centers funding