

# The Origins of CD Health

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# Where We've Been

- The Formative Era, 1930 1949
- The Growth Era, 1950 1964
- The Regulatory Era, 1965–1980
- The Competitive Era, 1981 1999
- The Consumer Era, 2000 +

#### **Depression**

- Total HC spending
  - \$3.6 billion in 1929 -- \$2.8 billion in 1935.
- Physician income (California)
  - \$6,700 in 1929 -- \$3,600 in 1933
- Hospital receipts per person
  - \$236 in 1929 -- \$59 in 1930
- Hospital occupancy rates
  - 62% private -- 89% government

#### **Formation of Blue Cross**

- 1929 -- Baylor University Hospital prototype provided 21 days/year – "service benefits"
- 1932 AHA endorses plans in St. Paul, Cleveland, and Washington
- 1933 --Blue Cross logo developed & owned by AHA
- 1934 -- First state enabling act in New York
- 1939 -- 25 states had enabling laws. Non profit, tax exempt, provider majorities on Boards



#### **Blue Cross**

- Not-for-profit
- Tax exempt
- Hospitalization only
- "Subscriber"
- "Service benefits"
- First dollar coverage
- Community rating
- Providers at risk
- Single state

#### **Commercial Carriers**

- Mutual or investor-owned
- Tax-paying
- Major Medical in 1948
- "Insured"
- Indemnity, with assignment
- Deductibles, coinsurance
- Risk-based rating
- Reserve requirements
- Multi-state

#### **Federal Encouragement**

- WWII --Wage & Price Freeze, but benefits exempt
- 1943 -- Benefits not taxable income
- 1946 -- Hill-Burton, hospital construction funds
- 1947 -- McCarran-Ferguson, state regulation
- 1947 -- Taft-Hartley, labor/management agreements
- 1949 Benefits subject to collective bargaining

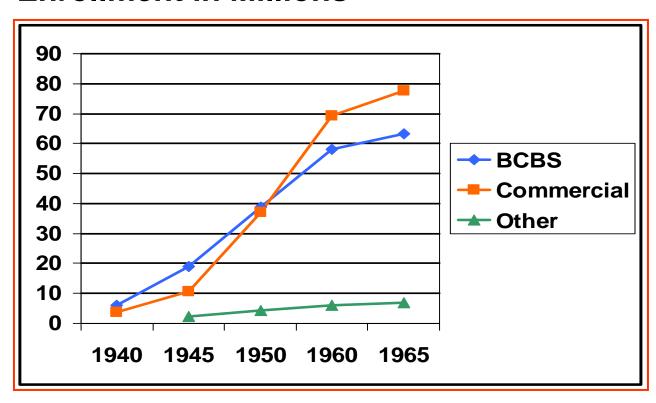
### The Growth Era, 1950 -- 1964

#### **Enrollment Growth**

- 1950
  - 50% Hospitalization
  - 31% Surgical
  - 14% Medical
  - HC 4.6% of GNP
- **1965** 
  - 72% Hospitalization
  - 50% Major Medical
  - HC 5/9% of GNP

# The Growth Era, 1950 - 1964

#### **Enrollment in Millions**





#### **Market Distortions:**

- Subsidies favor hi-tech institutional care
- Tax code favors employer-sponsored insurance
- Tax code favors spending on benefits over wages
- Anti-trust exemptions favor insurance over other financial arrangements
- State enabling laws favor third-party arrangements over two-party indemnity contracts



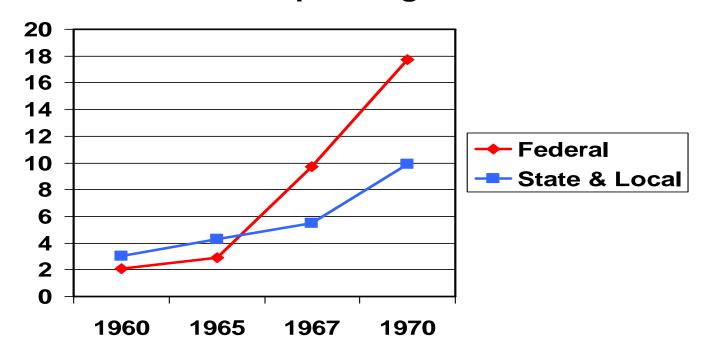
#### **Results of market distortions**

- Costs rise as money pours into the system
- Demand for services rise as more people are subsidized
- Supply is increasingly high-tech and expensive
- Third-party payment divorces patients from costs
- People not associated with employer are disadvantaged
  - Have to pay inflated costs
  - Have to go to higher-tech providers
  - Have no subsidy, either employer or government

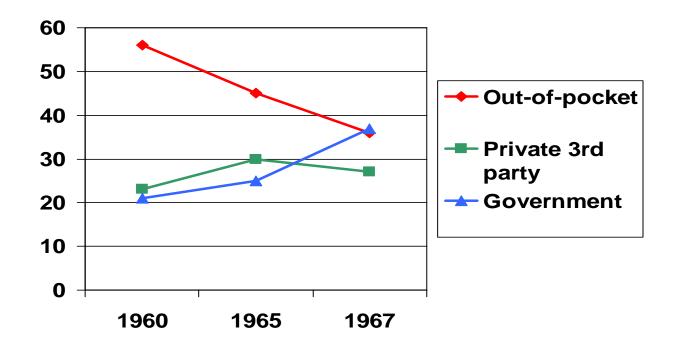
#### **Medicare & Medicaid**

- Aimed at the elderly and the poor, two populations not associated with employers
- Based on a Blue Cross Blue Shield model from 1965
- Half of elderly already had coverage
- Seen as a foot-in-the-door for NHI
- Massive infusion of new money

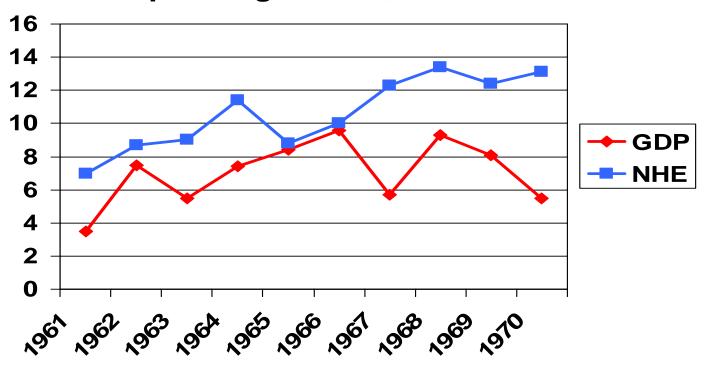
#### Federal v. State Spending in \$Billions



#### Sources of spending, percent of total



#### Health Spending v. GDP, 1961-1970



#### Near Hysteria Over Health Care Costs

- Sylvia Law, 1974 -- "The crisis in medical has arrived. The nation now spends more than any other country in the world 7% of GNP."
- Friedman & Rakoff, 1977 "The thrust towards greater regulation arises from astronomical increases in costs. Expenditures have tripled since 1965, from 5.9% to 8.3% of GNP."
- Stuart Altman, 2001 -- "When I was 32 years old, I became the chief regulator in this country for health care. At that point, we were spending about 7.5% of our GDP on health care. The prevailing wisdom was that we were spending too much, and that if we hit 8 percent, our system would collapse."

#### Regulate with a vengeance:

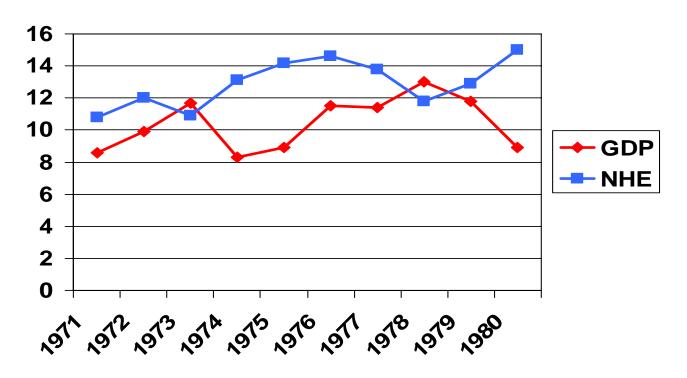
- Nixon wage and price controls, 1971 1974
- PSROs for Medicare Docs, 1972
- Federal HMO Act, 1973
- National Health Planning Act, 1974
  - HSAs, SHPDAs, SHCCs
- ERISA, 1974
- State actions
  - Hospital rate setting system 30 states
  - Mandated benefits All states
  - CON, and other controls 38 states

All of these provisions are designed to reduce costs by limiting the supply and controlling the price of services – precisely the wrong remedy at a time of artificially inflated demand

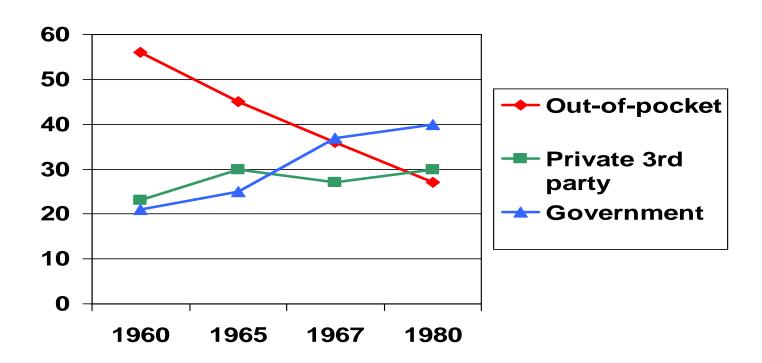
# The regulations completely failed to do what they had promised – restrain costs

- Total spending in 1980 = 8.6% of GDP
- 1980 NHE went up 15%
- 1981 NHE went up 16%

#### Health Spending v. GDP, 1971-1981



#### Sources of spending, percent of total





# Employers pay the bills for 2/3 of the population, but had not been considered important players

- **Ginzberg, 1977** Four power centers of health policy -- medicine, insurers, hospitals, and "profit makers" (i.e., pharmacies and nursing homes)
- Friedman & Rakoff, 1977 Three important players government, providers, and academics.
- **Starr, 1982** No mention of ERISA in 600 pages in "The Social Transformation of American Medicine."
- Johnson, 1992 Five power centers medicine, legal, insurance, pharmaceutical, and consumers

- Joe Califano (HEW Chrysler): "The key to cost containment is an aroused private sector .. Frustration of trying to get government to deal with the problem.. Chrysler cut its health bill by \$58 million in 1984."
- Richard Egdahl: "(Employers) can do a more efficient and effective job of managing health benefits (than insurers)
- Richard Stefan (Acme Steel): "When we were insured, the insurer got paid a percentage of claims – they had no interest in holding down costs."

#### Self-fund benefits to lower utilization:

- Control data and reserves
- Improve home health, substance abuse
- Beef up outpatient, downplay inpatient
- Install second opinions, pre-admission certification

#### Astonishing Results:

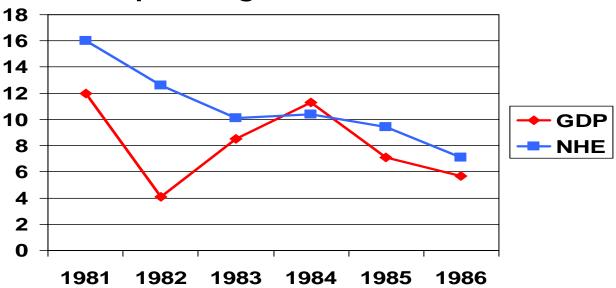
- IP days down from 278 million in 1981 to 220 million in 1990
- OP visits up from 203 million in 1981 to 300 million in 1990
- Admissions per 1000, down from 162 in 1980 to 129 in 1988
- Hosp Occupancy down from 76% in 1980 to 64% in 1985



#### Margaret Heckler, 1985:

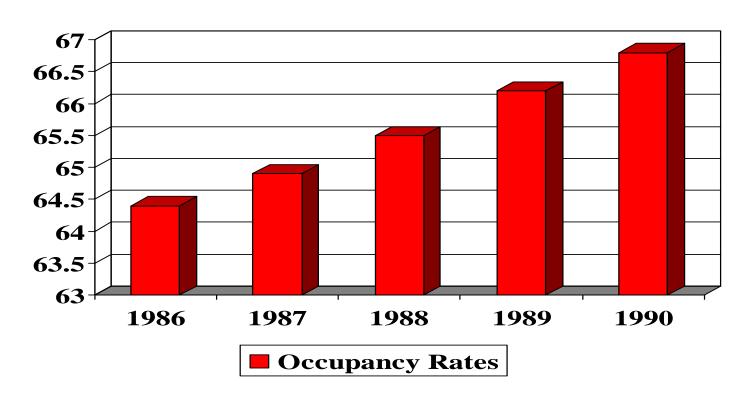
"We have broken the back of the health care inflation monster."

#### Health Spending v. GDP, 1981-1986

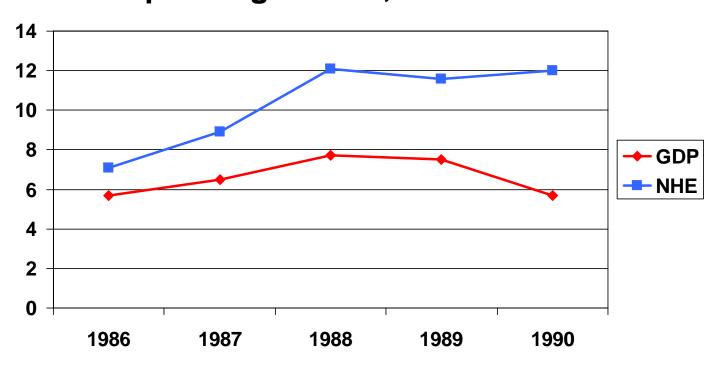




#### **Nothing Lasts Forever**



#### Health Spending v. GDP, 1986 - 1990



### **Employers turn to managed care**

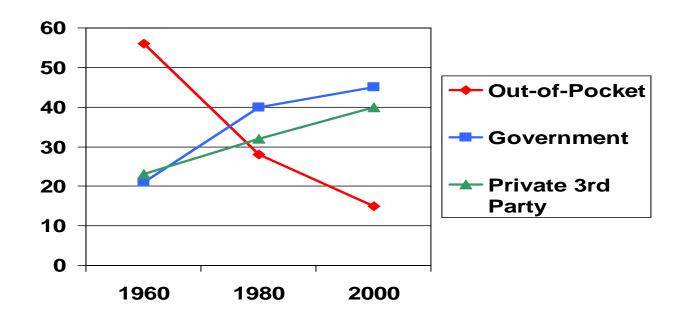
#### **HMO Growth**

- 1960 6 million
- 1970 8.1 million
- 1980 33.1 million

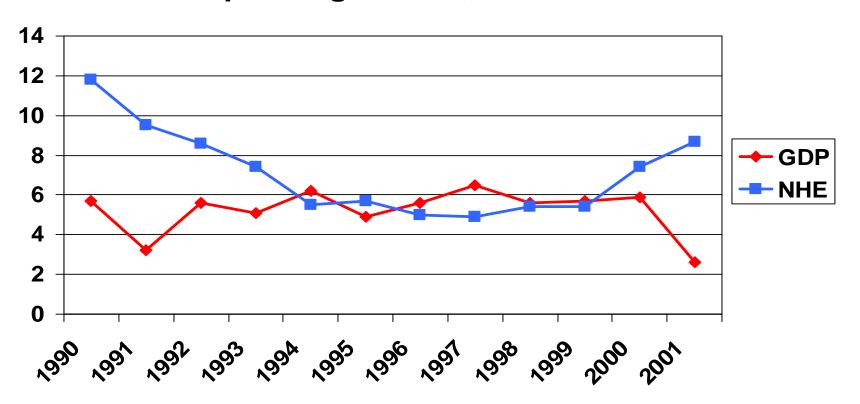
#### **HMO** and **PPO** market share

- **1984 7%**
- **1990 34%**
- **1995 65%**
- **1997** 85%+

#### Third-Party payment continues to grow



#### Health Spending v. GDP, 1990 - 2001





#### Consequences

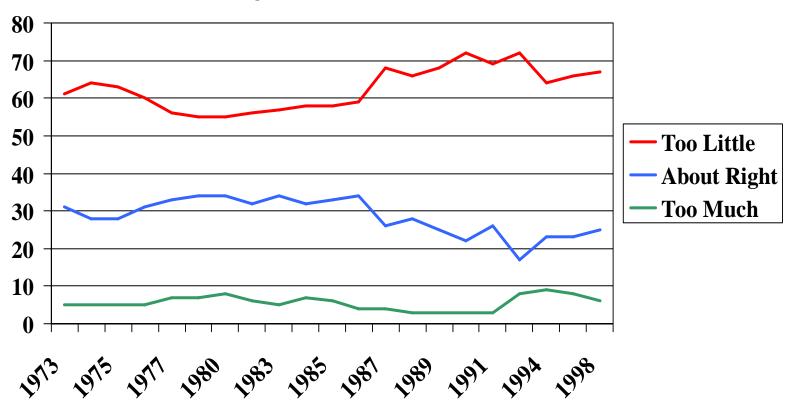
- Managed care based on a false premise that fee-forservice is inflationary
- It is not. It is third-party payment that is inflationary
- Managed care increased the role of third-party payers
- Managed care worked by external rationing, not by changing behaviors
- Rationing causes discontent and demands for governmental intervention



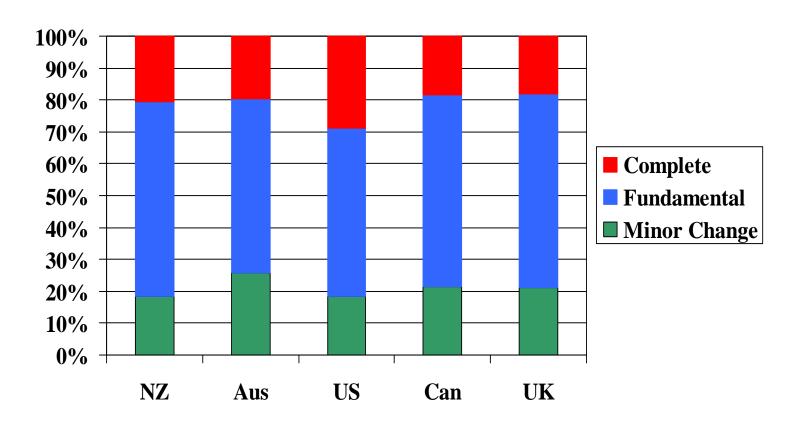
### Winston Churchill,

"Americans can always be counted upon to do the right thing, after all other possibilities have been exhausted"

Does the U.S. spend too much or too little on health care?



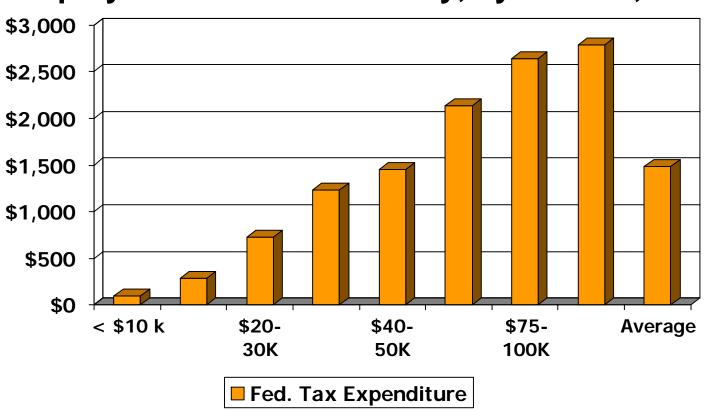
How much change is needed in your health care system?



#### 1945 benefits, industrial age model

- Sole breadwinner
- Lifelong employment
- Employer as Agent
- Employer as Risk Pool
- Unlimited, Regressive Tax Subsidy

#### Employer-Based Tax Subsidy, by Income, 2004



#### The New Paradigm

- Empower the Patient
- Balance insurance and direct pay
- Restore Patient/Physician relationship
- Personal and portable
- Web-enabled information
- Agency accountable to consumer
- Ability to merge resources

#### **Governmental Actions Done**

- Enact Health Savings Accounts
- Enable Health Reimbursement Arrangements
- Partial roll-over of FSAs
- Roll-Back State Regulations
- Modernize Medicaid, Medicare
- Encourage Information Systems

#### **Governmental Actions Pending**

- Expand FSA Rollovers or Cash-Out
- Employer Rebate for HSA Deposits
- Tax Credits/Deductions Individual Market
- Continue Rolling Back Regulations
- Association Health Plans/CHOICE Act
- Cap Employer Exclusion
- Malpractice Reform

#### **Private Sector Actions**

- Implement HSAs, HRAs, FSAs
- Defined Contribution, Individual Choice
- Physician Refuseniks
- Hospital Price Transparency
- Medical Globalization
- Individual Market Improvements
- Information, Patient Support

## **Results and Expectations**

#### Results so far

- Massive enrollment gains to date
- Encouraging effects on Rx, ER, Preventive care, patient support services
- High level of retention, satisfaction, but some frustration at lack of information
- Premium decrease of 15% over last year
- Widespread availability from insurers, banks, others
- New era of information technology

## **Results and Expectations**

#### **Expectations**

- Enrollment to continue growing:
  - Mellon 7% offer HSAs in 2005, 30%+ in 2006 16% offer HRAs in 2005, 36% in 2006
  - PWC 35% of jumbos offer HDHP, 25% offer HSA
  - Some predict 40% of market by 2010
- Uninsured could have major impact, esp. with deductibility of premium
- New Players Banks, Credit Unions, new providers
- Could have significant effects on HC costs
- May help with retiree health

## **Results and Expectations**

#### **Cautions**

- Hospitals worried about accounts receivables, bad debts, repricing of PPO claims
- Drug co-pay programs don't work with HSAs
- Education of employees essential
- Need employers to help fund HSA
- Admin costs of HSAs can be high
- Need for local banks to offer
- Labor missing an opportunity

#### Contact:

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