

Paying for Healthcare





Part 2

Dr. Omnia Elmahdy

Government Financing

Health facilities built, and managed by the government.

The consumer is treated for free or minimal expenses as possible





- •Government spending on health is essential for the accessibility and sustainability of health care services and programs.
- For those people who would otherwise go without care due to <u>lack</u>
 of financial means, any quality care is an improvement.
- •Since people perceive universal health care as *free*, they are more likely to seek **preventive care**.
- •Public funds can be better rationalized to provide **emergency care** services **regardless of insured status** or ability to pay.

Privately funded health care:

- •Privately funded medicine leads to greater quality and efficiencies through increased access to and reduced waiting times for specialized health care services and technologies.
- •Privately funded and operated health care <u>reduces the requirement</u>

 for governments to <u>increase taxes</u> to cover health care costs.

Insurance is a FINANCIAL
GUARANTEE. Health insurance
plans pay for a portion of the
bill when patients are
hospitalized, visit a doctor,
have an X-ray,





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WHAT IS HEALTH INSURANCE

Health insurance is a type of insurance coverage that covers the cost of an insured individual's medical and surgical expenses.

- Not long ago, individuals paid for medical expenses out of their pocket directly to the provider.
- As the costs of healthcare continued to rise, it was apparent that the <u>public needed a way to help pay for the services</u>

Health Insurance: The Basics

- At some point in our life, we may probably <u>need expensive</u>

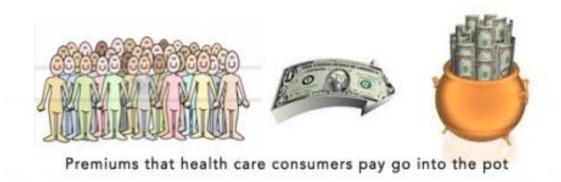
 <u>medical care</u>
- Health Insurance, like other kinds of insurance, <u>protects us</u>
 <u>against significant financial loss.</u>
- It ensures us can **afford medical help** when we need it.
- Health Insurance can help keep us <u>healthy</u> by <u>detecting</u> and treating dangerous medical conditions before they become serious.

WHY YOU NEED HEALTH INSURANCE?????

- 1. HI protects you from high unexpected **costs**.
- 2. Makes quality treatment affordable.
- 3. Cashless services.
- 4. Insurance status, type of coverage, and out-of-pocket costs affect <u>adherence</u> to recommended <u>treatment</u> <u>plans</u>. (× non-compliance)
- 5. Given large differences in coverage/affordability, we must all seek to modify patient care to improve quality and safety and decrease unnecessary costs.

The more <u>unpredictable and costly</u> the events become, the more it makes sense to <u>POOL our savings</u> with others to cover these expenses (in other words, to <u>purchase insurance</u>)

Premise: فرضية (Insurers rely on the fact that not all enrollees will actually use their insurance)



Health Insurance Sector

Unified (Public)

Fragmented

USA



As: Medicare Medicaid



Australia
Universal Health Insurance

MEDICARE

(Health Insurance for those <u>65 and older</u>)



MEDICAID

(Health Insurance for the poor)

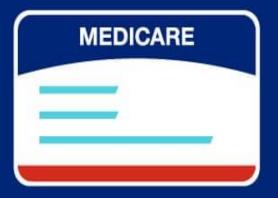
State-run program offering low-cost or free custodial and medical services to those with low incomes who qualify



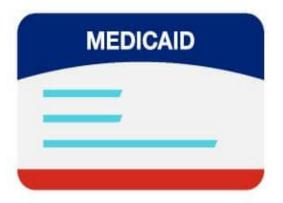
Medicare



Medicaid



Generally for people who are 65 & older, or who have a qualifying disability



For individuals, families, and children with limited income & resources

Pre-existing Conditions

The more likely that people need health insurance, the more likely they are to seek it.

An <u>insurer may refuse to cover treatment</u> if the condition existed <u>prior to enrolling</u> in a health insurance plan

Two Basic Plans:

- Group Plans and
- Individual Plans

Insurance Glossary

Contract or Policy or Plan

The agreement which is issued by the <u>insurer</u> (insurance agency) to the <u>insured</u> (subscriber) and states the commitments of each side.



Premium or Prepayment

What the insured pays to the insurance agency in regular installments اقساط منتظمة

- Weekly.
- Monthly.
- Semiannually.
- Annually.

• The premium paid by the subscriber is calculated by an

خبير حساب أقساط التأمين Actuarial

قسط التأمين الصحي PREMIUM

Premiums are a small but <u>certain</u> (<u>fixed</u>) <u>financial loss</u> that <u>risk-averse people</u> الأشخاص الذين يتجنبوا المخاطرة would prefer to pay <u>rather than to gamble</u> on a potentially catastrophic hospitalization.

(The <u>more risk-averse</u> enrollees are, the <u>higher a</u> <u>premium</u> they are willing to pay)

Factors That Influence Health Insurance Premiums



State and federal laws



Type of insurance



Income level



Employer size



State of residence



Type of community



County of residence



Plan type



Age



Tobacco use



• Subscriber المشترك

The person to whom the contract is issued

• Dependent

The person who <u>lives with</u> and is sponsored by the subscriber

عضو Member

A participant whether a subscriber or a dependent

• Benefits المزايا

What the insured receives in terms of service as stated in the contract.

• Enrollment نسجيل

An individual is enrolled when he <u>fulfils the plan's</u> <u>requirements.</u>

SELECTION

Sorting into plans based on health status

It is expected that <u>sicker people</u> join insurance plans with more generous benefits and <u>higher premiums</u>, and <u>healthier people</u> join plans with less benefits and <u>lower premiums</u>.

Moral Hazard

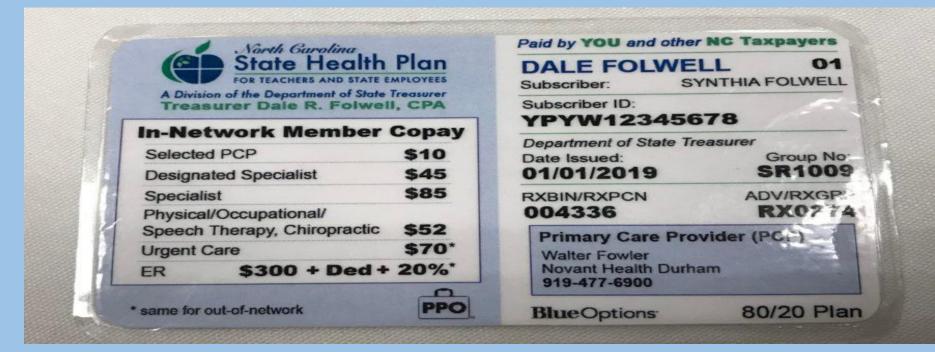
Insurance protects enrollees against risk, having insurance may encourage enrollees to <u>use more care</u> or <u>behave more</u>

<u>recklessly</u>, a phenomenon called **Moral Hazard**

Moral hazard is a situation in which one party gets involved in <u>a risky event</u> knowing that it is protected against the risk and the <u>other party will incur the cost</u>.

Copayments

A <u>fixed cost per episode of care</u>, such as a doctor's visit or hospitalization



Coinsurance

A <u>fixed percentage of the cost of care</u>, such as 10 or 20 percent of the cost of a doctor's visit.

The advantage of co-insurance is that it reduces the price of the service and still provides the patient with an incentive seek less costly out to providers



Coinsurance



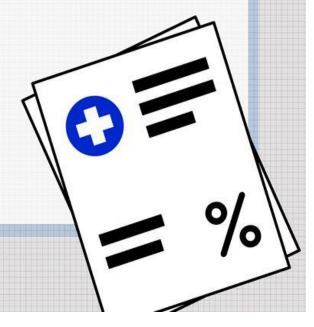
Copay

Percentage of costs you pay after you've met your deductible

- Encourage Cost-Sharing and Consumer Responsibility
- Lower Premiums for Policyholders
- Reduce Overutilization of Insurance Services

Set rate you pay for prescriptions, doctor visits, and other types of care

Doesn't count toward your deductible





• Deductibles

A <u>fixed</u> amount that the <u>enrollee has to pay before</u> insurance covers expenses

An important reason for using a deductible is that it lowers the administrative costs of claims processing when there are many small claims and the cost of handling these claims is high

Stop Loss Levels, Limits, and Maximums

• Deductibles and co-insurance can add up to a large financial loss to a person who has a serious illness.

Insurance therefore includes a "stop loss".

Once the patient's out-of-pocket medical expenses (deductible and co-insurance) reach a <u>certain dollar</u> <u>amount</u>, typically \$2,500, then the <u>patient is no longer</u> responsible for additional out-of-pocket payments.

While stop loss levels are meant to protect the patient from a large financial loss, "limits" and "maximums" are similarly used to protect the insurance company from large losses

- Insurance companies often include a <u>lifetime limit</u> on how much they are willing to reimburse for a patient's medical expenses.
- Expenditures <u>above</u> that limit become the responsibility of the patient

Most health insurance plans have:

1 BENEFITS: What the plan pays for.



Per NETWORKS:
Healthcare professionals that provide discounted services within health plan.



COSTS:
These can be premiums, deductibles, co-pays and coinsurance.

