


Government and the Health Care System



Companion to Jonas & Kovner's Health Care Delivery in the United States, Chapter Three: The Politics of Health Care in the United States

**HSC 4630**

---

Understanding U.S. Healthcare

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Presentation Objectives**

- Review the federal government's role in the U.S. healthcare system
- Describe the roles state and local government in the U.S. healthcare system
- Identify the roles of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government
- Articulate the role of 'fourth branch' in U.S. government
- Relate the Affordable Care Act to the policymaking process described above

---

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Government Involvement in Healthcare**

- High compared to other industries in U.S.
- Low compared to other industrialized countries
- Historical role of government
  - Sanitation
  - Communicable disease

---

---

---

---

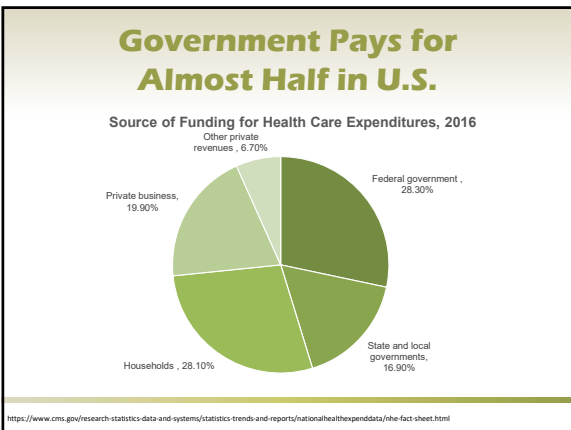
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

- ### Government as Payer
- Federal
    - Medicare
    - Share of Medicaid & SCHIP
  - State
    - Medicaid
    - SCHIP
  - Local
    - Hospital taxing districts
    - Voter-approved health care district

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

- ### Government as Regulator
- Federal
    - Testing and approval of pharmaceuticals
    - Access to emergency care (EMTALA)
  - State
    - Certificate of Need (CON)
    - Regulates health insurance companies
    - Licenses physicians, nurses, hospitals
  - Local
    - Water supplies and waste disposal
    - Food inspections

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Government as Provider

- Federal
  - Veterans Health Administration and Tricare
  - Indian Health Service
- State
  - Community health centers (CHC)
  - FQHC
  - The health care “safety net”
  - State hospitals
- Local/County
  - Example: Jackson Health System in Miami-Dade

<http://therealdeal.com/miami/blog/2013/11/06/miami-dade-oks-jackson-health-system-funding/>

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Other Government Roles

- Health care research
- General medical education (GME)
- Federal tax subsidy for employer-based insurance

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Three Branches of Government

- The Legislative Branch
  - Creates the legislation
  - Oversight of law
- The Executive Branch
  - Regulation of law
  - Administration of program financing
- The Judicial Branch
  - Interprets of the law

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Fourth Branch of Government**

- Special interests
- Media
- Public

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Example: ACA**

- Most important legislation of our generation(s): Affordable Care Act
- Legislation
- Regulation
- Judiciary

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Conclusion**

- Very complex
- Multiple levels
- Many stakeholders
- Government deeply involved in U.S. health care system

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---