

Universal access: making health care more affordable

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Financial Crisis: Can We Afford Health Care?
 Billings, M. 1.3-4 October 2011

Abstract

The financial crisis has led to a global recession, with health care systems in many countries facing budget cuts and increased financial pressures. This paper discusses the impact of the financial crisis on health care systems and the need for universal access to health care. It examines the challenges faced by health care systems in different countries and the role of government in ensuring that health care is affordable for all. The paper also discusses the importance of financing and organisational arrangements in ensuring that health care is accessible to all. The paper concludes that universal access to health care is a goal that should be pursued by all countries, and that this requires a commitment to financing and organisational arrangements that are sufficient to cover the entire population, removing ability to pay as a barrier to accessing health services and protecting people from financial risks.

Background

Health care systems in many countries are facing budget cuts and increased financial pressures. This paper discusses the impact of the financial crisis on health care systems and the need for universal access to health care. It examines the challenges faced by health care systems in different countries and the role of government in ensuring that health care is affordable for all. The paper also discusses the importance of financing and organisational arrangements in ensuring that health care is accessible to all. The paper concludes that universal access to health care is a goal that should be pursued by all countries, and that this requires a commitment to financing and organisational arrangements that are sufficient to cover the entire population, removing ability to pay as a barrier to accessing health services and protecting people from financial risks.

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