

# SHAPE OF HEALTH CARE REFORM POLL...RESULTS (3/09)

**TOTAL NUMBER RESPONSES:**                      **PRIMARY CARE: 22**  
**SPECIALISTS: 17**

1. Are you satisfied with the way Health Care in the United States is currently financed?

<b>YES</b>	<b>Primary Care</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Specialists</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NO</b>	<b>Primary Care</b>	<b>22</b>
	<b>Specialists</b>	<b>17</b>

2. How much of your office overhead is related to billing and/or billing issues?; i.e. how much are you paying your billers/billing service or how much “productivity” you’re losing appealing insurance decisions (make a best guess estimate)

<b>&lt;10%</b> _____	<b>Primary Care:</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Specialists:</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>10-20%</b> _____	<b>Primary Care:</b>	<b>11</b>
	<b>Specialists:</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>&gt;20%</b> _____	<b>Primary Care:</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>Specialists:</b>	<b>6</b>

3. How much income are you losing because of denial of service(s)? (Please answer as a % of total billing) (best guess estimate)

<b>&lt;5%</b> _____	<b>Primary Care:</b>	<b>8</b>
	<b>Specialists:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5-10%</b> _____	<b>Primary Care:</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>Specialists:</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>10-15%</b> _____	<b>Primary Care:</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Specialists:</b>	<b>2</b>

15-20%\_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Care: 1**

**Specialists: 1**

>20%\_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Care: 1**

**Specialists: 0**

4. Have you found it difficult to provide, what you feel, are necessary services to your patients due to their insurance coverage?

**YES Primary Care: 21**

**Specialists: 14**

**NO Primary Care: 1**

**Specialists: 3**

5. Do you feel that there should be an “overhaul” of the way health care is financed, and if so, how much of an overhaul should there be (choose one)

a) NONE -0

b) MINOR **Primary Care: 0**

**Specialists: 2**

c) MAJOR **Primary Care: 22**

**Specialists: 15**

6. If you answered “b” or “c” to question #5, what role should CMA play in shaping that reform? (choose one)

a) LITTLE OR NONE -0

b) A MODERATE AMOUNT **Primary Care: 4**

**Specialists: 3**

c) MAJOR INFLUENCE **Primary Care: 17**

**Undecided: 1**

**Specialists: 14**

7. If you answered “b” or “c” to question #6, what form should that reform take? (mark all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ a) mandated purchasing of existing private insurance

**Primary Care: 2**

**Specialists: 0**

- \_\_\_ b) less interference from insurance in providing care by legislation or regulation
- Primary care: 6**  
**Specialists: 10**
- \_\_\_ c) increase reimbursement from existing payers by legislation or regulation
- Primary Care: 5**  
**Specialists: 3**
- \_\_\_ d) more simplified billing
- Primary Care: 13**  
**Specialists: 9**
- \_\_\_ e) single payer universal coverage
- Primary care: 18**  
**Specialists: 12**
- \_\_\_ f) reform of Medicare geographic payment system
- Primary Care: 9**  
**Specialists: 4**
- \_\_\_g) more physician input into system of negotiating fees
- Primary Care: 12**  
**Specialists: 8**
- \_\_\_h) reform of physician anti-trust legislation to allow physicians to take joint action
- Primary Care: 9**  
**Specialists: 8**
- \_\_\_ l) base Medicare payment on MEI (Medical Economic Index) rather than SGR (Sustained Growth Rate)
- Primary Care: 4**  
**Specialists: 7**
- \_\_\_ j) other:
- Primary Care: 4**  
**Specialists: 5**

## COMMENTS FOR J.

- Primary Care:** Tort Reform  
Abolish Private Insurance  
Get rid of Medicare Part D

**Specialists:** Tort Reform  
D/C Authorizations  
Unsure

8. To what degree should HDNCMS, collectively, influence CMA's adoption of advocacy for your preferences expressed in #7?

a) little or none

**Primary Care: 1**

**Specialists: 0**

b) a moderate amount

**Primary Care: 5**

**Specialists: 4**

c) major influence

**Primary Care: 13**

**Specialists: 11**

d) undecided:

**Primary Care: 1**

**Specialists: 2**

9. Other Comments-what would you like done:

**PRIMARY CARE COMMENTS:**

-Expanding insurance coverage to the uninsured will not work in a system facing the collapse of primary care. There are not enough PCP's currently to care for the insured. Only 10% of last year's medical school graduates expressed an intention of going into a primary care specialty. The solution to this crisis is simple, as everyone knows. Just pay PCP's more and the students will come. Unfortunately, since there is no more money to be put into the system (and probably less), this would have to come out of specialists' pockets. Since specialists dominate American medicine, I cannot see this happening politically until after the collapse (which I fear will occur sooner rather than later).

-since Obama took Single Payer off the table we should work towards some type of Kaiser-like system

-I find the survey to be poorly constructed, biased (oodles of leading questions), and reading as if it was created by a committee of people who don't understand surveys. Whatever results you get, they'll be non-scientific, biased, and of no help in moving forward the process of health care reform in America

-d/c medicaid, medicare vs private and try to strike a rational balance between pathological greed (private) and pathological regulation.

-we should have a “retreat” that would be facilitated with an open forum - not agenda-driven, with plenty of time to discuss the issues and at least see what we all agree on.

-strong advocacy for single payer

#### **SPECIALISTS' COMMENTS:**

-get the insurance companies out of healthcare!

-we need universal healthcare

-I'm disgusted how society handles medical care; many of us are considering new jobs.

-people don't need health insurance - they need healthcare.

-single payer is the ultimate goal - all the other choices above would be transition.

-get insurance companies totally out of the decision process as to who, what and when medical coverage will be rendered.

-fire away!!!!!!

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