

prescription

Improve quality with evidence-based medicine and increased transparency

- Pilot mandatory electronic medical records in a specified geographic area to assess cost and implementation issues.
- Allow consumers to make informed choices by requiring transparency with quality, cost and payment data.
- Pilot quality reporting of healthcare providers. Reporting must be based upon evidenced-based medicine and patient satisfaction – not insurance claims data.
- Require insurers to report covered services and out-of-pocket costs as well as reimbursement to providers and administrative cost information.

Create a healthcare financing system that is self-sustaining and emphasizes personal responsibility

- Create a dedicated healthcare funding stream, based on taxes on lifestyle choices that are detrimental to good health.
- Eliminate tax penalties for private spending on health insurance.

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The Ohio State Medical Association's

Vision for Creating a Healthier Ohio



Ohio State Medical Association
The power of many. The voice of one.

the current



Ohio physicians have long recognized the need for change in the current health system. Patients find the system to be confusing, costly and inconvenient. Employers see the cost of labor rising rapidly - often as a direct result of the cost of healthcare for current and retired employees. Government sees healthcare costs rising at alarming rates. Healthcare resources are often poorly allocated - focused on end-of-life situations, and not on wellness and prevention. Taxpayers are reluctant to increase funding for programs they perceive as inefficient and wasteful.

Physicians have witnessed steady erosions in the practice of medicine. Even while physicians have dramatically improved the science of medicine, bringing startling improvements to the treatment of almost every human affliction, physicians themselves have been subjected to more controls, taxes, red tape, lower fees, higher liability and less autonomy.

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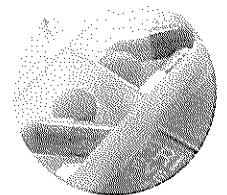
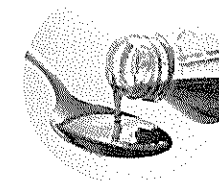
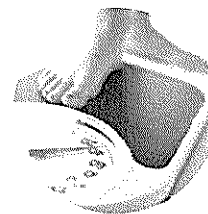
Our current healthcare system is in critical condition, but with efforts from each of the many stakeholders in the system, reform is possible and the prognosis is positive.

Universal Coverage for Basic Services

- Require all Ohioans to have health insurance, and make changes to the system so individuals can select and truly own their health insurance.
- Create a mechanism through which individuals who are not currently covered can purchase private insurance through a public agency or private broker.
- Require employers who offer coverage to offer multiple plans from which their employees can choose. Competition will drive down price and force insurance companies to offer plans that better meet individual needs.
- Subsidize coverage for low-income Ohioans.

Create a system that focuses on wellness and prevention instead of treatment for illness

- Incentivize patients, healthcare providers and insurers to focus on improved health outcomes and healthy lifestyles.



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