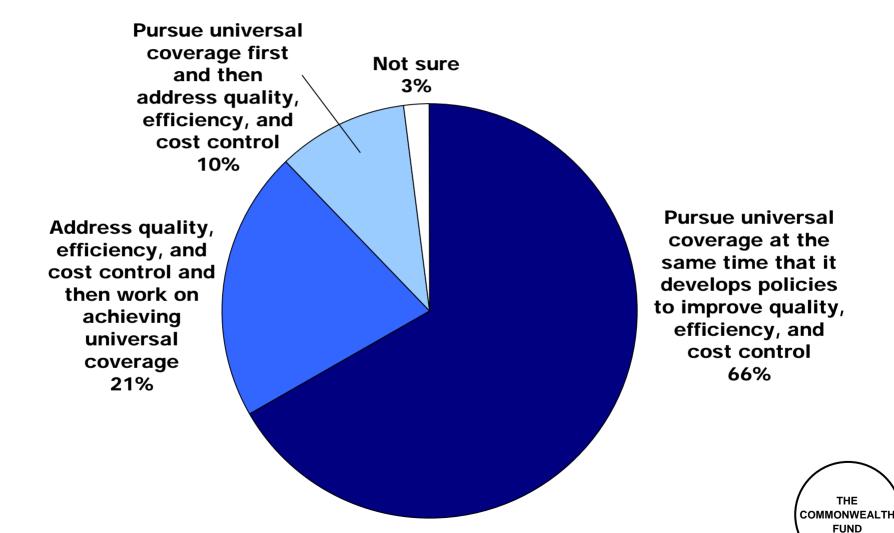
Figure 1. Priorities for Improving Health Care

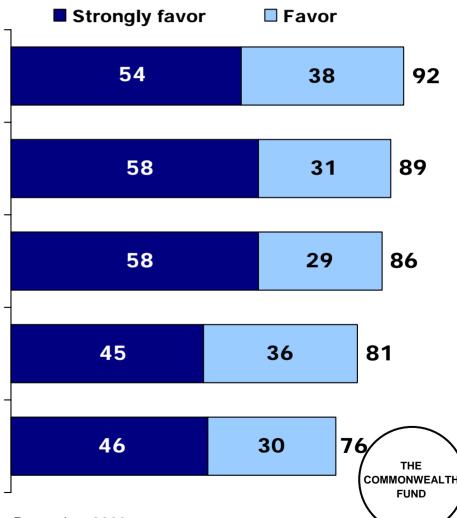
"President-elect Obama's campaign proposal included provisions that would improve quality, efficiency and cost control as well as increase coverage. In your view, in what order should the Obama administration focus on these broad areas of health reforms?"



Source: Commonwealth Fund Health Care Opinion Leaders Survey, December 2008.

Figure 2. Support for Key Elements of President-elect Obama's Proposal to Expand Health Insurance Coverage

"President-elect Obama's proposal to expand health insurance coverage includes several features. To what extent do you favor or oppose each of the following key elements of his proposal?"



Allow individuals who do not have coverage through their employers, Medicaid, or State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to purchase a plan through a new national health insurance exchange

Expand income eligibility for Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program to low-income adults and children

Implement federal insurance market rules such as guaranteed issue and community ratings

Require employers to either offer coverage or pay a percent of their payroll to help finance expanded coverage

Include a public plan option like Medicare in a new National Health Insurance Exchange so that people can choose between private and public plans

Source: Commonwealth Fund Health Care Opinion Leaders Survey, December 2008.

Figure 3. Perceived Effectiveness of Policies for Controlling Health Care Costs

"Below is a list of policies that aim to control health care costs, many of which were part of President-elect Obama's healthcare reform proposal. How effective do you think each of these features would be in reducing the growth in health care costs?"

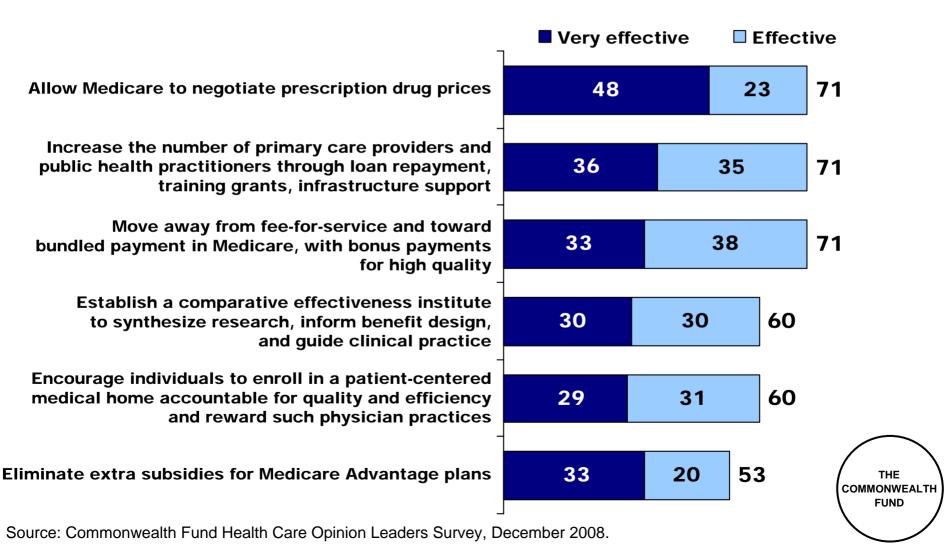
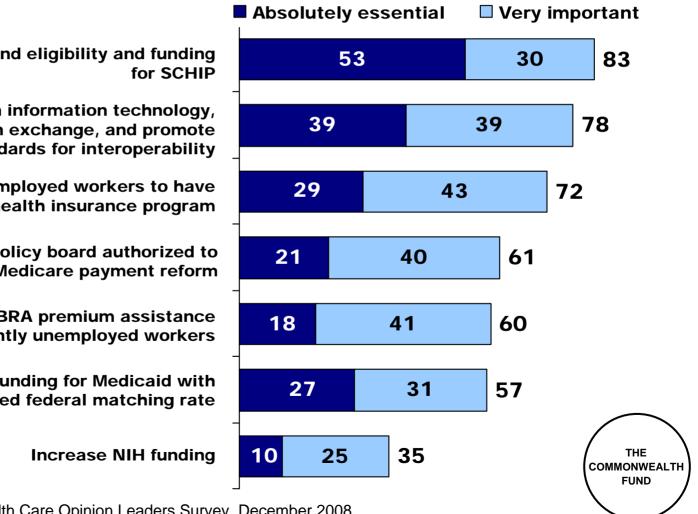


Figure 4. Perceived Importance of Health Care Reform Measures in an Economic Stimulus Package

"Policy makers are considering including healthcare reform measures as part of an economic stimulus package. Please indicate the importance of including the following policy changes in such a package."



Reauthorize and expand eligibility and funding

Invest in health information technology, health information exchange, and promote standards for interoperability

Allow long-term unemployed workers to have access to a public health insurance program

Establish a new Medicare policy board authorized to develop and implement Medicare payment reform

> **Provide Federal COBRA premium assistance** for recently unemployed workers

Provide countercyclical funding for Medicaid with an enhanced federal matching rate

Source: Commonwealth Fund Health Care Opinion Leaders Survey, December 2008.

Figure 5. Perceived Importance of Including Various Policies in the First Phase of a Phased Approach to Universal Coverage

"Given the current economic and fiscal challenges facing the country, analysts have discussed the possibility of 'phasing-in' universal coverage and other system reforms. If President Obama were to follow a phased approach to universal coverage please indicate how important you think it is that each of the following policies be included in the first phase."

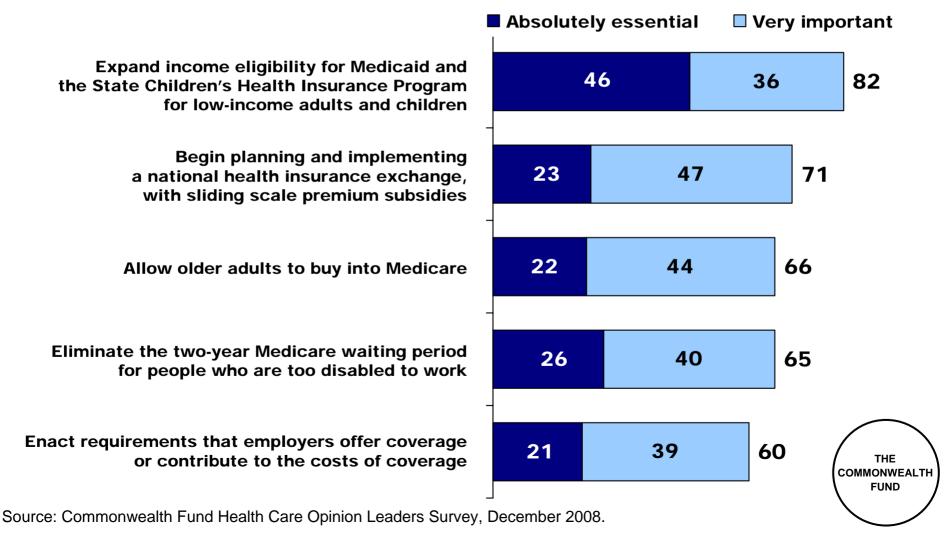
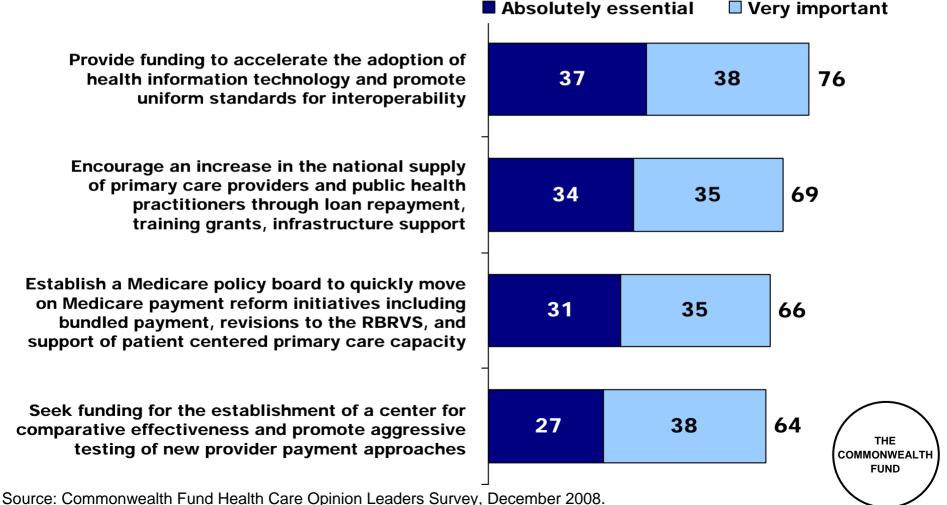


Figure 6. Perceived Importance of Payment Reform, Promoting Efficiency, and Controlling Costs in a Phased Approach to System Reform

"If President-elect Obama were to follow a phased approach to system reforms such as payment reform, promoting health system efficiency, and controlling costs, please indicate how important you think it is that each of the following policies be included in the first phase."



Provide funding to accelerate the adoption of health information technology and promote uniform standards for interoperability

Encourage an increase in the national supply of primary care providers and public health practitioners through loan repayment, training grants, infrastructure support

Establish a Medicare policy board to quickly move on Medicare payment reform initiatives including bundled payment, revisions to the RBRVS, and support of patient centered primary care capacity

Seek funding for the establishment of a center for comparative effectiveness and promote aggressive testing of new provider payment approaches