

**HARRIS INTERACTIVE**  
111 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10003

**Project Manager: Sandra Ackermann**  
email: sackermann@harrisinteractive.com  
Phone: 212-539-9661

**Job 22434**

**November 16, 2004**

**TITLE FOR INITIAL SURVEY PAGE: The Commonwealth Fund Health Care Opinion Leaders Survey**

**Field Period: 11/22/04-12/08/04**

---

**SUBJECTS FOR QUESTIONNAIRE**

300: Introduction  
400: Congressional Action  
500: Cost and Quality  
600: Medicare  
700: Health Insurance and Expansion  
1000: Demographics

<b>SECTION 300 INTRODUCTION</b>
---------------------------------

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

**Q305** Thank you for participating in the Commonwealth Fund Health Care Opinion Leaders Survey. We would like to ask for your input on a few timely questions regarding health policy, health care financing and delivery. Your responses will be reported in the aggregate only and will never be linked to you personally.

SECTION 400: Congressional Actions
------------------------------------

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

**Q410** Which of the following health care issues should be the top priorities for Congress to address in the next five years? Please select up to five (5) issues.

	<u><b>TOTAL</b></u>
01 Expand coverage to the uninsured	<b>87</b>
02 Enact reforms to moderate the rising costs of medical care for the nation	<b>48</b>
03 Improve the quality and safety of medical care, including increased use of information technology	<b>69</b>
04 Medicare payment reform to reward performance on quality and efficiency	<b>38</b>
05 Malpractice reform	<b>30</b>
06 Medicaid reforms to improve coverage	<b>24</b>
07 Administrative simplification and standardization	<b>27</b>
08 Address racial/ethnic disparities in care	<b>31</b>
09 Medicare reforms to ensure long-run solvency	<b>50</b>
10 Improve the quality of nursing homes and long-term care	<b>21</b>
11 Control rising cost of prescription drugs	<b>35</b>
12 Control Medicaid costs	<b>6</b>
96 Other	<b>6</b>
98 Not sure	<b>-</b>
99 Decline to Answer	<b>-</b>

**BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO SAID "OTHER" PRIORITY(Q410/96)**

**Q415** What other health care issue should be a top priority for Congressional action?

[TEXT BOX]

SECTION 500: Cost and Quality
-------------------------------

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

**Q500** Below is a list of ways that have been proposed to control the rising costs of health care and improve the quality of care. Which of the following should be the top priorities for action? Please select up to five (5) actions.

	<u>TOTAL</u>
01 Encourage competition among insurers and providers	18
02 Reduce inappropriate medical care and fraud	27
03 Require consumers to pay a substantially higher share of their health care costs	13
04 Reduce administrative costs of insurers and providers	42
05 Consolidate purchasing power by public and private insurers working together to moderate rising costs of care	36
06 Make information on comparative quality and costs of care of hospitals and physicians available to the public	56
07 Reward more efficient medical care providers and effective disease management	69
08 Increased and more effective use of information technology	67
09 Malpractice reform	31
10 Create a national agency to set quality standards and practice Guidelines	32
11 Legalize the importation of brand name prescription drugs from Canada or other countries	18
12 Encourage small employers to join larger group purchasing pools to buy health insurance for their employees	34
13* National health plan/Universal health plan/Single payer system	3
96 Other	4
98 Not sure	-
99 Decline to Answer	-

*\*New code created from responses in "other" (Q510)*

**BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO SAID "OTHER" PRIORITY(Q500/96)**

**Q510** What other action should be a top priority for Congress to control the rising costs of health care and improve the quality of care?

[TEXT BOX]

SECTION 600: Medicare
-----------------------

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

**Q600** Major Medicare reform legislation enacted within the past year included a new prescription drug benefit. Which of the following are the most important next steps in Medicare reform? Please select up to five (5) next steps.

	<u><b>TOTAL</b></u>
01 Link increases in Medicare physician payments to quality performance	<b>58</b>
02 Use Medicare's purchasing power to negotiate lower prescription drug prices	<b>75</b>
03 Improve Medicare's benefit package other than prescription drugs	<b>26</b>
04 Cap federal spending per beneficiary by premium support or other means	<b>7</b>
05 Eliminate the "donut hole" in the Medicare drug benefit	<b>43</b>
06 Raise taxes to ensure Medicare's long-term solvency	<b>35</b>
07 Have higher-income Medicare beneficiaries pay higher premiums	<b>49</b>
08 Eliminate extra payments for private health plans	<b>31</b>
09 Raise age of Medicare eligibility	<b>20</b>
10 Leave Medicare alone until prescription drug benefit is Implemented	<b>11</b>
11 Encourage more enrollments in Medicare Advantage or private plans	<b>20</b>
96 Other	<b>8</b>
97 None	<b>-</b>
98 Not Sure	<b>1</b>
99 Decline to Answer	<b>-</b>

**BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO SAID "OTHER" IMPORTANT NEXT STEPS (Q600/96)**

**Q605** What other next step do you consider most important in Medicare reform?

[TEXT BOX]

SECTION 700: Health Insurance and Expansion
---

**Q700** Below is a list of possible reforms to expand coverage for the uninsured. Which of the following should be the top priorities for action?

Please select up to five (5) priorities.

	<u>TOTAL</u>
01 Create new tax credits for the uninsured to purchase insurance in the individual insurance market	22
02 Create new tax credit for the uninsured but limit to purchase of group coverage through state public programs or employers	20
03 Expand tax-free health savings accounts	22
04 Incentives or requirements to expand employer-based health Insurance	43
05 Single-payer system of health insurance through a new program or Medicare-for-all	45
06 Eliminate two-year waiting period for the disabled for Medicare	31
07 Let near-elderly adults buy into Medicare	48
08 Expand existing state-based public insurance programs, Medicaid and SCHIP	55
09 Reinsurance for small business insurance plans	37
10 Allow individuals and small businesses to buy into the Federal Employees Health Benefits program or similar federal group option	65
11* Mandate	1
96 Other	4
98 Not Sure	1
99 Decline to Answer	*

*\*New code created from responses in "other" (Q705)*

**BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO SAID "OTHER" REFORMS (Q700/96)**

**Q705** What other possible reform should be a top priority to expand coverage for the uninsured?

[TEXT BOX]

---

SECTION 1000: Demographics
----------------------------

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

**Q1100** How would you describe your current employment position? Please select all that apply.

	<u>TOTAL</u>
1 Policy Analyst	22
2 Researcher/Professor/Teacher	37
3 Dean or department head	8
4 Policymaker or policy staff (federal)	5
5 Policymaker or policy staff (state)	3
6 CEO/President	23
7 Management/Administration	16
8 Lobbyist	4
9 Consultant	14
10 Regulator	*
11 Physician	23
12 Other health care provider (not physician)	4
13 Consumer advocate	5
14 Health care purchaser	5
15 Foundation officer	5
16* Retired	3
96 Other [ASK Q1105]	3
99 Decline to answer	-

*\*New code created from responses in "other" (Q1105)*

**BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO ARE IN "OTHER" EMPLOYMENT POSITION (Q1100/96)**

**Q1105** Please describe your current employment position.

[TEXT BOX]

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

**Q1110** Which of the following best describes the type of place or institution for which you work? Please select all that apply.

	<u>TOTAL</u>
Academic and Research Institutions	<b>54 (net)</b>
1 Medical, public health, nursing, or other health professional school	31
2 University setting not in a medical, public health, nursing, or other health professional school	9
3 Think Tank/Health Care Institute/Policy Research Institution	15
4 Foundation	6
5 Medical Publisher	1
Government	<b>7 (net)</b>
6 Staff for a state elected official or state legislative Committee	1
7 Staff for a federal elected official or federal legislative Committee	2
8 Non-elected state executive branch official	1
9 Non-elected federal executive branch official	2

10	Staff for non-elected state executive branch official	*
11	Staff for non-elected federal executive branch official	1
Professional, Trade, Consumer Organizations		<b>20 (net)</b>
12	Medical society or professional association or organization	10
13	Allied health society or professional association or organization	1
14	Hospital or related professional association or Organization	3
15	Health insurance and business association or Organization	2
16	Pharmaceutical/Medical device trade association Organization	2
17	Labor/Consumer/Seniors' advocacy group	4
Health care delivery		<b>19 (net)</b>
18	Hospital	8
19	Nursing home/Long-term care facility	2
20	Clinic	3
21	Physician practice/Other clinical practice (patient care)	6
22	Health insurance/managed care industry	6
Pharmaceutical industry		<b>3 (net)</b>
23	Drug manufacturer	3
24	Device company	1
25	Biotech company	1
Other industry/business settings		<b>19 (net)</b>
26	CEO, CFO, Benefits Manager	4
27	Polling organization	1
28	Health care consulting firm	7
29	Health care improvement organization	4
30	Accrediting body and organization (non-governmental)	2
31*	Retired	2
96	Other	4
-	None	*
-	Decline to answer	-

*\*New code created from responses in "other" (Q1115)*

**BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO WORK FOR "OTHER" INSTITUTION (Q1110/96)**

**Q1115** What other type of place or institution do you work for?

[TEXT BOX]

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

**Q104** IN WHAT YEAR WERE YOU BORN?

Age Category	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>
30-34	1
35-39	3



40-44	5
45-49	7
50-54	19
55-59	22
60-64	14
65+	18
No answer	10

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

Q102 Are you...?

		<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>
1	Male	<b>71</b>
2	Female	<b>29</b>

**BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS**

**Q1500** All responses to this and future surveys will be kept confidential. Results will be reported to the Commonwealth Fund in such a way that no responses can be attributed to any individual.

In reporting the results of these surveys, the Commonwealth Fund would like to highlight the fact that the survey sample is made up of an authoritative collection of experts with a wide range of affiliations and perspectives.

For that purpose, may the Commonwealth Fund list your name as a participant in this survey?

		<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>
1	Yes	<b>91</b>
2	No	<b>9</b>

This completes the survey. Your answers have been recorded.

Thank you very much for taking the time to participate in this survey.