

Health Care

Since there are already a lot of people researching health care policy, IOPA will focus on exploring Plan B reform proposals. That means examining policy regimes that result from finishing this sentence: If we can't have policy X, we should go with [their Plan B]. There are many strong proponents of a much larger role for market-based approaches. That means a supply-and-demand-driven price system orchestrates what is produced, where, how, and for whom. Even if an objective assessment (IOPA-style) were to support that route, it may still not be politically feasible. What's the next best plan that is feasible, and that hopefully does not preclude gradual movement in the direction of best? Likewise, there are many strong proponents of 'single payer' approaches. From their perspective, what is Plan B?

The importance of this area of research extends beyond the desire to efficiently and equitably maximize life quality and duration. Health care is such a large budget item, with increased demand virtually certain in most countries, that the nature of health care reform will be a key determinant of whether there is a viable route to federal debt sustainability.

Revisit this page, periodically, to observe our progress in this research area. Hopefully, by your next visit, we will have a request for a proposal posted. Once we have an analysis completed, we will commission a review from a scholar likely to be a basis for civil, informed disagreement, and create conversation forums for further assessment. To be involved in any aspect of the process, e-mail us at: IOPACHief@policytalk.org