

# QUESTIONNAIRE

## Health Care

### How Can We Bring Costs Down While Getting the Care We Need?

You may also fill out this questionnaire online: [www.nifi.org/questionnaires](http://www.nifi.org/questionnaires)

NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD a chance to participate in a forum on this issue, we'd like to know what you're thinking. Anonymous responses will be included in summary reports on the forums and in research to help us better understand how people are thinking about current issues.

1. Here are some priorities for improving the US health-care system. Thinking about yourself and your community, which of these items do you see as one of the top two or three priorities for improving the system, which do you see as helpful but not a top priority, which is not a priority at all, and which do you oppose? Keep in mind that making major changes in the US health-care system will be difficult, and we'll have to make some choices about what to work on first.

	One of my top three priorities	Helpful but not a top priority	Not a priority at all	I oppose this	I am unsure about this
A. Reducing what federal, state, and local governments spend on health care to control taxes and our growing debt					
B. Making health-care costs much more transparent so patients know what things cost					
C. Reforming the health-care system gradually to avoid jolts to the system and unintended consequences					
D. Keeping private insurance available so people have choices and there's some competition in the system					
E. Making sure all government and private insurance covers dental and eye care					
F. Putting much more emphasis on preventive care and healthy lifestyles					
G. Making sure every person is insured through a single national government program					
H. Cutting people's out-of-pocket costs by reducing insurance premiums, deductibles, and co-pays					
I. Giving people a chance to buy into a government-run, Medicare-like plan if they want					

For the following questions, let us know *which is more important to you*. If you're not sure, please let us know.

2. Making sure everyone has insurance so no one has to rely on public hospitals or go bankrupt
- VERSUS:**  
 Making sure our health-care system always provides plenty of choice between public and private insurance plans
- OR:**  
 Not sure
3. Moving the country to a national, Medicare-for-all, government-backed insurance plan. Health care is a right, and it's time to do this.
- VERSUS:**  
 Ensuring that health-care costs don't drive up taxes or add trillions of dollars to our already enormous federal debt or both
- OR:**  
 Not sure

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4. Making gradual, measured changes that would cover more people, control costs, and keep the parts of our current health-care system that people like
- VERSUS:**  
Making the bold changes our system needs in order to cover everyone and keep people's out-of-pocket costs as low as possible
- OR:**  
Not sure

**For the following questions, let us know which statement comes closer to your view. If you're not sure, please let us know.**

5. If people had easy-to-understand price information about medical procedures, tests, and drugs, they could be powerful consumers, helping to control rising costs and spurring competition.
- VERSUS:**  
Most people don't know enough about medicine and health care to make good purchasing decisions, especially when they're sick. "Shopping for health care" just doesn't work in real life.
- OR:**  
Not sure
6. All in all, government does a better job administering insurance plans since it doesn't need to make a profit and is responsible to the voters.
- VERSUS:**  
I don't trust government to set up and run insurance plans. Having a private alternative and a choice of different insurance plans is essential.
- OR:**  
Not sure

7. How much disagreement was there about this issue in your forum?  
 A lot of disagreement       Some disagreement       Hardly any disagreement at all

8. Did you talk about aspects of the issue you hadn't considered before?  Yes       No

If so, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. Were there ideas or proposals that you tended to favor coming into the forum that you now have second thoughts about?  
 Yes       No

If so, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. What could citizens, working together, do in their own communities to address this problem? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Not including this forum, how many National Issues Forums have you attended?  
 0       1-3       4-6       7 or more       Not sure

12. Are you male or female?  Male       Female       Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

13. How old are you?  
 17 or younger       18-30       31-45       46-64       65 or older

14. Are you:  African American       Asian American       Hispanic or Latino       Native American  
 White/Caucasian       Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

15. In what type of community do you live?  City/Urban       Suburban       Rural

16. What is your ZIP code? \_\_\_\_\_ What state do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_

17. What issue would you like to see covered in a future forum? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please give this form to the moderator, email to [forumreports@nifi.org](mailto:forumreports@nifi.org), or mail to: National Issues Forums Institute, 100 Commons Road, Dayton, Ohio 45459. You may also fill out this questionnaire on line at [www.nifi.org/questionnaires](http://www.nifi.org/questionnaires).**