

>> Medicare and Medicaid

How Can We Afford Them?

Now that you've had a chance to participate in a forum on this issue, we'd like to know what you are thinking. Your opinions, along with those of thousands of others who participated in these forums, will be reflected in a summary report that will be available to all citizens, including those who took part in the forums, as well as officeholders, members of the news media, and others in your community.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure
1. Do you agree or disagree with the statements below?					
a. Health care is a basic human right in a civilized society.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. We could sharply curb the rising cost of health care if we maintained healthier life styles.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. The government should exert more control over what doctors, hospitals, and drug companies charge.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. We should raise taxes to keep the Medicare and Medicaid programs solvent for our children and grandchildren.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. Waste and fraud are the chief culprits in the rising costs of government health care programs.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. Too many of our health dollars go to the treatment of preventable conditions, such as diabetes, obesity, smoking-related illnesses	<input type="checkbox"/>				
2. Do you favor or oppose each of these actions?	Strongly Favor	Somewhat Favor	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Not Sure
a. The government should negotiate much lower prices for drugs EVEN IF pharmaceutical companies end up with less money for research and development of new drugs.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. The government should raise the age at which people become eligible for Medicare EVEN IF this is a hardship on those who do physical labor for a living.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. Doctors should be paid on the basis of flat fees instead of for each separate service EVEN IF that means fewer doctors will accept Medicare and Medicaid patients.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. People who smoke, drink, or abuse drugs should be charged more for insurance premiums EVEN IF questions about their life styles would intrude on their private lives	<input type="checkbox"/>				

>> QUESTIONNAIRE

(Question 2 continued from previous page)

Strongly Favor Somewhat Favor Somewhat Oppose Strongly Oppose Not Sure

- e. Retirees who have higher incomes should pay more of the cost of Medicare EVEN IF this is likely to erode support for the program. Strongly Favor Somewhat Favor Somewhat Oppose Strongly Oppose Not Sure
- f. The government should require all adults to have annual physicals EVEN IF this would force many perfectly healthy people to pay for unnecessary doctors visits. Strongly Favor Somewhat Favor Somewhat Oppose Strongly Oppose Not Sure
- g. There should be a cap on benefits Medicare and Medicaid patients receive EVEN IF that means that the sickest patients might ultimately die for lack of care. Strongly Favor Somewhat Favor Somewhat Oppose Strongly Oppose Not Sure
- h. The government should take ads for alcohol off the air, as it did for tobacco, EVEN if this could be seen as a violation of Americans' rights of free speech. Strongly Favor Somewhat Favor Somewhat Oppose Strongly Oppose Not Sure
- i. Doctors should order fewer tests EVEN IF that means that some conditions or diseases will go undiagnosed. Strongly Favor Somewhat Favor Somewhat Oppose Strongly Oppose Not Sure

3. Are you thinking differently about this issue now that you have participated in the forum? Yes No

If yes, how? _____

4. In your forum, did you talk about aspects of the issue you hadn't considered before? Yes No

If yes, please explain. _____

5. What, if anything, might citizens in your community do differently as a result of this forum?

6. Not including this forum, how many National Issues Forums have you attended?

- 0 1-3 4-6 7 or more Not sure

7. Are you male or female? Male Female

8. How old are you?

- 17 or younger 18-30 31-45 46-64 65 or older

9. Are you: African American Asian American Hispanic or Latino Native American

White/Caucasian Other (please specify) _____

10. Where do you live? Rural Small Town Large City Suburban

11. What is your ZIP code? _____ What State do you live in? _____

Please give this form to the moderator, or mail it to National Issues Forums Institute, 100 Commons Road, Dayton, Ohio 45459-2777.