

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES
“WHICH TREATMENT WORKS BETTER?”
A Look at Ways to Improve the Quality of Medical Decisions”
April 27, 2007

STEVEN D. PEARSON, M.D., is a senior fellow at America’s Health Insurance Plans, and director of the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER) at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Pearson’s work examines the scientific and ethical foundations of evidence-based policy making in health care. In 2006, Dr. Pearson received grant funding to support the creation of the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER). ICER produces appraisals of the clinical effectiveness and cost effectiveness of medical innovations, with the goal of providing new information to decision makers intent on improving the value of health care services. From 2005-2006, he served as special advisor on technology and coverage policy at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. His published work includes the book *No Margin, No Mission: Health Care Organizations and the Quest for Ethical Excellence*. Dr. Pearson received his B.A. from Stanford University and his M.D. from the University of California at San Francisco. He also received an M.S. in health policy and management from the Harvard School of Public Health.

IAN SPATZ serves as vice president of health policy for the global pharmaceutical company Merck & Co., Inc. Mr. Spatz leads Merck’s public policy efforts on a broad range of domestic policy issues affecting patients, health plans, and U.S. industry including national health care policies, pharmaceutical pricing, intellectual property protection and policies related to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Prior to joining Merck in 1994, Mr. Spatz served a legislative director for Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.). Earlier, he served in a variety of legislative and public policy positions with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Mr. Spatz is a graduate of the New York University School of Law and holds a masters degree in public affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

SEAN TUNIS, M.D., is the founder and director of the Center for Medical Technology Policy in San Francisco, where he is works to support the rapid evaluation and effective use of new medical technologies. He is also a principal at Rubix Health, which consults with early-stage life sciences companies on reimbursement strategy. Through September 2005, Dr. Tunis was director of the Office of Clinical Standards and Quality and chief medical officer at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). In this role, he had lead responsibility for clinical policy and quality for the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Before joining CMS, Dr. Tunis was a senior research scientist with the Lewin Group. He also served as director of the health program at the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment and was a health policy advisor to the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. He received a bachelor’s degree from Cornell University, and a master’s in health services research and his medical degree from the Stanford University. He holds adjunct faculty positions at Johns Hopkins and Stanford University School of Medicine.

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GAIL WILENSKY, Ph.D., is an economist and a senior fellow at Project HOPE (an international health education foundation), where she analyzes and develops policies relating to health care reform and to ongoing changes in the health care environment. Currently, Dr. Wilensky is a commissioner on the World Health Organization's Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, and is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine and its governing council. She is an advisor to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Commonwealth Fund, is immediate past chair of the board of directors of AcademyHealth and is a director on several corporate boards. In addition, she serves as a trustee of the Combined Benefits Fund of the United Mineworkers of America, the American Heart Association and the National Opinion Research Center. From 1990 - 1992, Dr. Wilensky was administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration (now the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services), directing the Medicare and Medicaid programs. She also served as deputy assistant to the first President Bush for policy development, advising him on health and welfare issues from 1992 to 1993. From 1997 to 2001, she chaired the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, which advises Congress on payment and other issues relating to Medicare, and from 1995 to 1997, she chaired the Physician Payment Review Commission. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology and a Ph.D. in economics at the University of Michigan.