

Scoring the Plays in U.S. Health Care

“Upon Further Review...
Less & More than Meets the Eye”

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“America’s Health System Scorecard”

Alliance for Health Reform briefing

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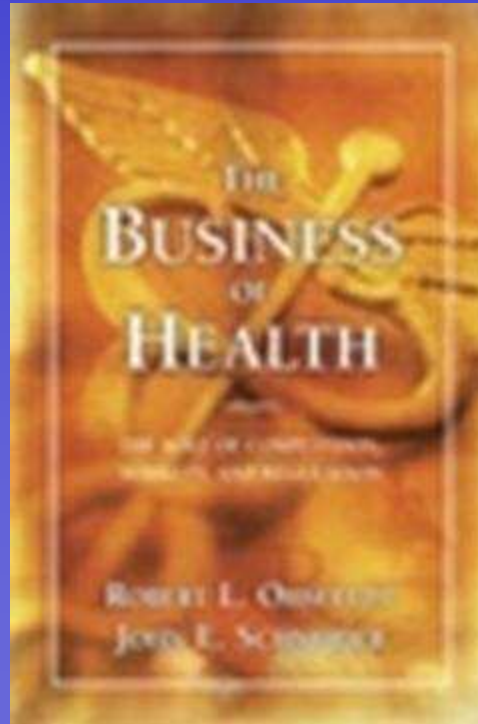
The Opening Lineup

- Starting somewhere, even if first base is in left field
- Value & accountability
- Baseline for future assessment of relative progress
- Limits of data and measures
- Correlation vs. causation
- A small step toward tentative findings;
a giant leap toward policy conclusions

Technically Speaking

- Floating baselines and moving pockets
- Don't be distracted by the "scores"
- To vary is human; to discover it is not divine
- Objects in the rear view mirror are less clear than they appear
- Example: Mortality (possibly) amenable to health care

Now Pitching “The Business of Health”



Now Pitching “The Business of Health”

- Standards & Measures

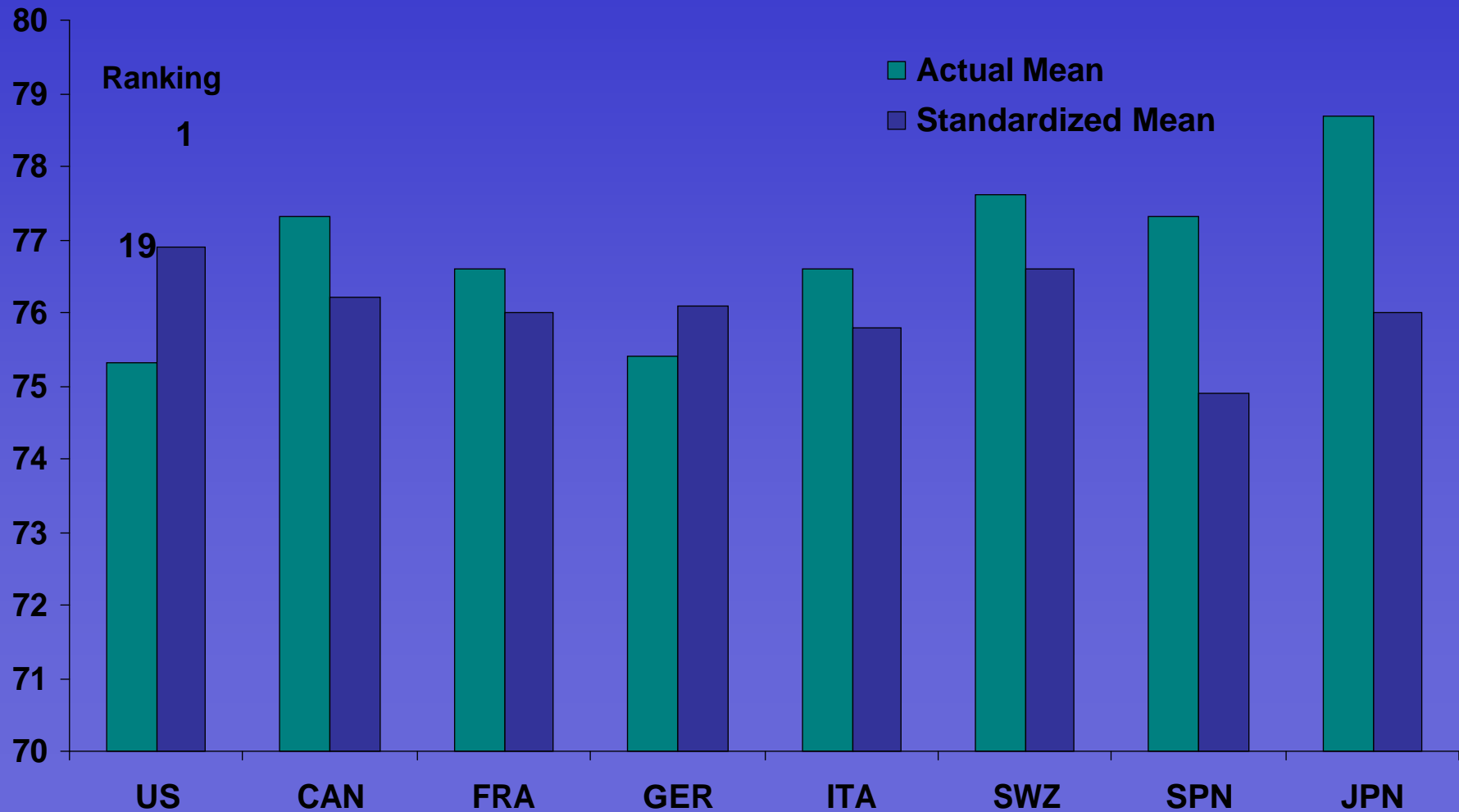
American spending

Infant mortality

Life expectancy

Mean Life Expectancy at Birth

Actual & Standardized by
OECD Mean Fatal Injury Rates, 1980-1999



Third Time through the Lineup: Late Inning Adjustments

- Questions not asked
- Get outside the health services input box
 - “Measuring Distributive Injustice on a Different Scale”
Journal of Law & Contemporary Problems, (forthcoming)
- Cultural, historical, & political context

U.S. Health Care in Perspective

Different Paths to Progress

- Remember how we got here
- Reforms:
Transparency, accountability, portability, expanded time horizon, targeted subsidies, value-based competition, patient engagement, shared decision making
- Efficiency first, to afford and then focus better on targeted equity
- Trial and error; supply & demand interaction