

Speaker Biographies

“Pathways to Universal Coverage: Payment Reform Strategies for Containing Costs”

March 20, 2009

ROBERT BERENSON, M.D., is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute. He is particularly known as an expert on Medicare. He was a member of the Obama transition team and earlier served in senior positions in two administrations. He also helped organize and manage a successful preferred provider organization. From 1998-2000, Dr. Berenson was in charge of Medicare payment policy and private health plan contracting in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Previously, he served as an assistant director of the domestic policy staff for President Carter. Dr. Berenson is a board-certified internist who practiced for 20 years, the last 12 in a Washington, D.C. group practice. He is a fellow of the American College of Physicians. He was co-author, with Walter Zelman, of *The Managed Care Blues & How to Cure Them*, and, with Rick Mayes, of *Medicare Payment Policy and the Shaping of U.S. Health Care*. He is a graduate of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and is a faculty member at the George Washington University Schools of Medicine and Public Health, and the Fuqua School of Business at Duke.

STUART GUTERMAN, PH.D., is assistant vice president for The Commonwealth Fund's Program on Medicare's Future. He is responsible for the Fund's research agenda on Medicare issues and Medicare's role in achieving a high performance health system; the development, management and review of grants to be funded under the program; and analyses related to the current performance and future improvements in the Medicare program. Mr. Guterman was director of the Office of Research, Development, and Information at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services from 2002 to 2005. Prior to that, he was a senior analyst at the Congressional Budget Office, a principal research associate in the Health Policy Center at the Urban Institute, and deputy director of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (and its predecessor, the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission) from 1988 through 1999. Previously, Mr. Guterman was chief of institutional studies in the Office of Research of the Health Care Financing Administration (now CMS), where he directed the evaluation of the Medicare Prospective Payment System for inpatient hospital services, and other intramural and extramural research on hospital payment. He holds an A.B. in economics from Rutgers College and an M.A. in economics from Brown University and did further work toward the Ph.D. in economics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Bruce Hamory, M.D., is executive vice president and system chief medical officer emeritus of Geisinger Health System. His current responsibilities include Geisinger's research institutes and medical and postgraduate education programs. From 1997 to 2008, Dr. Hamory helped to lead the 740-physician group practice and clinical activities in three hospitals. He was involved in oversight of clinical operations, capital planning and many other issues. Previously, Dr. Hamory was executive director of Pennsylvania State University Hospitals and chief operating officer of The Milton Hershey S. Medical Center, the integrated academic health center for Penn State. He has also taught at both the University of Missouri - Columbia and the Penn State College of Medicine. Dr. Hamory has published more than 50 papers in refereed journals and 11 book chapters. His research interests have been occupational diseases of health care workers, hospital-acquired pneumonias and

osteomyelitis. He is also involved in research comparing the performance of hospitals and physicians. Currently a board member for the American Medical Group Association, Dr. Hamory also serves on numerous advisory groups in the areas of quality improvement and measurement. He has held national office in two professional organizations concerned with hospital-associated infection and is a member of several professional societies actively interested in the areas of infectious diseases and internal medicine. Dr. Hamory obtained his undergraduate degree in microbiology at the University of Tennessee and his medical degree at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX.

NANCY NIELSEN, M.D., PH.D., an internist from Buffalo, New York, is president of the American Medical Association. Dr. Nielsen is a nationally recognized expert in the field of clinical quality and patient safety. She is the AMA's chief spokesperson for its Voice for the Uninsured campaign. She travels throughout the United States highlighting the AMA's plans for broad health system reform. Before becoming AMA president, Dr. Nielsen served four terms as speaker of the AMA House of Delegates, and three as vice-speaker. As a member of the AMA Council on Scientific Affairs, she helped develop policies on depression, alcoholism among women, Alzheimer's disease and a host of other issues. She serves on several national committees and has testified many times before Congress for the AMA. Dr. Nielsen holds a doctorate in microbiology and her medical degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. There, she is a clinical professor of medicine and senior associate dean for medical education.