Health Policy 101: A Video for Future Clinicians

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By Stephanie Salvi, RN

Many students have limited knowledge about US healthcare policy.
- 2005 study: Knowledge gap discovered via questionnaire completed by 1,400 medical students
  - 72% unable to quantify amount of uninsured in the US
  - 27% unaware that US spends more per person on healthcare coverage than any other nation

Students are inheriting a healthcare system that is in transition.
- Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”): Expand availability of healthcare
  - Medicaid Expansion is optional: 16 states have NOT participated
  - High consumer out of pocket costs with high deductible health care plans

Current policy discussions are shaping the future of healthcare.
- Triple Aim – Healthcare 2.0
  - Population Health
  - Patient Experience of Care (Quality)
  - Cost

How students can get involved.
- Patients
  - Understand cost of treatment(s)
- Payers & The Practice
  - Payer Risk Sharing Agreements
  - Quality of Care Committees
- Government/Advocacy Groups
  - Committee hearings
  - Board positions reserved for clinicians

References