

Risk Adjustment and the ACA: How will it change payments to health insurers?

Speaker Biographies

Monday, July 25, 2011

John Bertko, FSA, MAAA

John Bertko is the Director of Special Initiatives and Pricing in the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). He serves as a senior actuarial advisor on various private insurance initiatives, including risk adjustment, insurance programs, and insurance oversight activities. Mr. Bertko formerly was a Senior Fellow at the LMI Center for Health Reform, Adjunct Staff at RAND, a Visiting Scholar at the Brookings Institution, a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Health Policy at Stanford, and the retired Chief Actuary of Humana Inc., where he managed the corporate actuarial group and directed work by actuarial staff for Humana's major business units, including developing Part D, Medicare Advantage, and consumer-driven health care products.

Mr. Bertko has extensive experience with risk adjustment and has served in several public policy advisory roles. He served on the panel of health advisors for the Congressional Budget Office and completed a 6-year term on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC). He served the American Academy of Actuaries as a board member from 1994 to 1996 and as vice president for the health practice council from 1995 to 1996. Mr. Bertko is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries. He has a BS in mathematics from Case Western Reserve University.

William Dow, PhD

William H. Dow is Professor of Health Economics at the University of California–Berkeley, where he is chair of the Health Services and Policy Analysis graduate group. He is also a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and previously served as Senior Economist at the White House Council of Economic Advisers. Dr. Dow has worked with both Democratic and Republican groups on health reform at the federal, state, and local levels. He holds a PhD in economics from Yale University.

Sandra Hunt, MPA

Sandi Hunt is a Principal in the San Francisco office of PricewaterhouseCoopers, with over 25 years of experience. She specializes in government health policy and insurance reform and works with states across the country on their efforts to expand health

insurance coverage. Ms. Hunt has extensive experience with public programs as well as with the health care industry. She specializes in government health policy, statistical modeling, Medicaid managed care plans, and development of models for new health care delivery systems. Among her particular areas of specialty is the development of appropriate risk assessment and risk adjustment methodologies for health care programs. Ms. Hunt has assisted many of the most complex programs in the country as they have sought to expand insurance coverage to low-income and high risk populations while containing costs. Most recently, she assisted a country in developing a strategy for developing and implementing a universal social health insurance system, including assessing the short and long term costs of the system.

Ms. Hunt holds a master's degree in public administration with an emphasis in Public policy analysis. She has been invited to participate in several study groups sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Center for Studying Health System Change, as well as the National PACE Association.

Edwin Park, JD

Edwin Park is Vice President for Health Policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a non-partisan, non-profit research organization based in Washington DC that analyzes fiscal policy and government policies affecting low- and moderate-income individuals and families at both the federal and state levels. Mr. Park's primary areas of expertise include federal health reform, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Medicare. He also analyzes tax policies related to health care, state regulation of the private health insurance market, and prescription drugs.

Mr. Park has testified before Congress, been interviewed by media outlets such as National Public Radio and CNBC, and has been cited in numerous publications including the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, and the San Francisco Chronicle.

Prior to joining the Center in 2001, Mr. Park served as the health policy advisor for the National Economic Council at the White House. He also has worked as a Medicaid professional staff member for the US Senate Finance Committee and as an attorney in private practice specializing in health law. Mr. Park has a JD from Harvard Law School and an AB in public and international affairs from Princeton University.