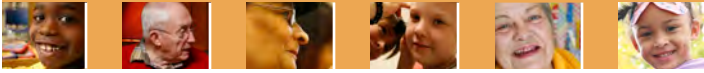




What Ohioans Think about *What Will Improve the Healthcare System*

August 2009



Results From The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati



The healthcare reform debate involves many ideas that could improve our healthcare system. The 2009 Ohio Health Issues Poll asked Ohio adults if they thought potential reform elements would improve our current healthcare system or make it worse.

Ohioans Think a Public Option Would Improve the System

Some healthcare reform proposals include a public health insurance option. This would be an insurance plan offered by the federal government rather than a private insurance company.

Over 7 in 10 Ohio adults stated that the option of an affordable public health plan that any American can opt into would improve our current system. Over 6 in 10 Ohioans stated that allowing people who are unemployed and cannot afford health insurance to be eligible for a public health plan (like Medicaid or Medicare) would improve our current health system.

Ohioans Think Electronic Medical Records and Preventing and Managing Illnesses Would Improve the System

A number of proposed healthcare reforms include changes in how

Do you think the following elements would significantly improve, improve, make worse, or make significantly worse our current health care system? (Graph presents the percentage reporting it would significantly improve or improve the system only.)

The option of an affordable public health plan that any American can opt-into



Allowing people who are unemployed and cannot afford health insurance to be eligible for a public health plan (like Medicaid or Medicare)



Increasing the use of electronic medical records in patient care



Changes in payment structure so that your main doctor is paid more to prevent and manage chronic illness rather than paid for every test or procedure



Having a national health plan in which all Americans would get their insurance from a single government plan



Significantly improve the system

Improve the system

healthcare is delivered. About 3 out of 4 Ohioans stated that increasing the use of electronic medical records (EMR) in patient care would improve our current healthcare system. In addition, 6 out of 10 Ohio adults stated that changes in the payment structure so that your main doctor is paid more to prevent and manage chronic illness rather than paid for every test or procedure would improve our current system.

Ohioans Split on Whether a Single Payer Plan Would Improve System

Some would like to see a single payer system in the U.S. This would mean that everyone in the country would get their health insurance from a single source. Ohioans were split about 50/50 on whether having a single government plan would improve our current system or make it worse.