

Unit 6: Economics of Health Care
Z-Chapter 16
ONLINE CONTENT (1 H)

Unit Objectives:

- Define economics and health care economics. (5,7)*
- Use a basic knowledge of health care economics to analyze trends in the health care delivery system. Explain and apply the five rights of delegation in nursing practice. (5,7)*

***Course Objectives**

Review the YouTube video “Why Medical Bills in the US are so expensive” on this website <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NvnOUcG-ZI> and place your answers to the following questions in the Z-CH # 16 drop box by 0800 on March 14, 2024.

1. **What are the most common ways individuals use to raise money for healthcare costs not covered by insurance?** Gofund me campaign. **What are your thoughts on using social media to raise money for healthcare costs?** I personally understand why people do it, and its a great way to try to relieve some of the costs of healthcare. It is sad to me that many people have to go that route due to large and unreasonable medical bills, but I think utilizing resources like social media is beneficial. **What are some of the costs not covered by insurance?** Parking at bigger hospitals, and according to our book things such as a skilled nursing facility, some medical insurances do not cover routine dental care, denture, hearing aids, or eye exams. It also doesn't cover medical providers outside the provider network. Medications and most big testing such as MRIs need to be okay'd by insurance companies for them to cover it.
2. **Who are all the entities fighting for monetary payment for healthcare services provided?** Insurance and patients
3. **What are the metrics used to judge hospitals and do you think these are the appropriate metrics, explain your answer?** Profits and returns on investment and efficiency (a business approach). No, I do not think this is appropriate. A Lot of the people who have extreme medical debt are those who have no choice and it is solely about surviving. Charging people based on money factors and not just off of care, blows my mind. Example, Patients who are type one diabetic and need insulin have to pay an outrageous amount for their medications just to survive, and in today's economy many people have to decide on eating and paying bills to live or their medications.
4. **Explain what “unbundling” is?** Unbundling is looking at the individual cost on each item, test, stay, medication, meal, toothbrush..etc. Kind of like getting an itemized bill summary.
5. **If you had the ability to create a health care system from scratch, what would you do differently?** Honestly looking at other countries and their universal healthcare for all citizens is the route I'd go. Less about the healthcare business and back to caring for each person and their health. Making the patient the priority and not money.

In order to receive full credit (1 H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignments not completed in its entirety by the assigned due date and time will result in missed class time.