

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 Chapter 16 and the You tube 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 3/13/2025.

1. What are the most common ways individuals use to raise money for healthcare costs not covered by insurance? What are your thoughts on using social media to raise money for healthcare costs? What are some of the costs not covered by insurance?
 - **Many individuals turn to crowdfunding platforms like GoFundMe, personal savings, loans, payment plans with hospitals, and charitable organizations for financial help.**
 - **I personally think using social media to raise money for healthcare costs is a great way to pay off these bills. GoFundMe is especially a great and helpful way to pay medical bills because it allows kind and generous people to donate and support those in need, offering financial relief when insurance won't cover the costs.**
 - **Some medical expenses that are not covered by insurance include experimental treatments, specific prescription drugs, dental/vision care, and long term nursing home care.**
2. Who are all the entities fighting for monetary payment for healthcare services provided?
 - **Hospitals, insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, and debt collectors all compete for payments in the healthcare system. This often leads to inflated costs and financial struggles for patients.**
3. What are the metrics used to judge hospitals and do you think these are the appropriate metrics, explain your answer?
 - **Hospitals are evaluated based on patient outcomes, readmission rates, patient satisfaction scores, infection rates, and cost efficiency. While these metrics provide some insight into hospital performance, they still usually prioritize financial success over the true quality of patient care.**
4. Explain what “unbundling” is?
 - **Unbundling is when healthcare providers split services into separate charges instead of billing them together, making medical bills higher for patients. Like how a plane ticket has a bunch of other things squeezed into the bill (water, snacks, boarding ect.)**

5. If you had the ability to create a health care system from scratch, what would you do differently?
- **If I could create a healthcare system from scratch, I would make healthcare more affordable and accessible for everyone, with universal coverage. Additionally, I'd work to lower prescription drug prices to make medications more affordable for everyone.**

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.