

What Has Caused the Growth in Medicaid Spending in Recent Years?
Barbara Jordan Conference Center
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Speaker Biographies

Nancy V. Atkins, is commissioner for the Bureau for Medical Services, West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, and chairperson to the National Association of State Medicaid Directors. Ms. Atkins has more than 30 years experience in the health care field, and has served as commissioner for BMS, the state Medicaid agency, since her appointment in May 2001 by Governor Bob Wise. She is a registered nurse practitioner with a master's degree in nursing administration and is currently working toward her doctorate in holistic health sciences.

John Holahan, PhD, is director of the Health Policy Research Center at The Urban Institute. He has managed numerous health research projects in the last 25 years and authored many books and papers on health policy. Much of his work has focused on the Medicaid program, as well as state health policy more broadly, and issues of federalism and health. These include analyses of the recent growth in Medicaid expenditures, variations across states in Medicaid expenditures, and the implications of block grants, and expenditure caps and changes in matching formulas on states. He has also published research on the reasons for the growth in the uninsured over the past decade and on the effects of proposals to expand health insurance coverage on the number of uninsured and the cost to federal and state governments. He has recently completed a monograph on the impacts of options for expanding health insurance for children. Other research interests include health system reform, managed care, physician payment, and hospital cost containment.

John Iglehart, is the editor of Health Affairs, a bimonthly policy journal that he founded in 1981 under the aegis of Project HOPE. During this same period, Iglehart also has served as national correspondent of The New England Journal of Medicine, for which he has written more than 100 essays called Health Policy Reports. Health Affairs, a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary journal, is the largest circulating health policy periodical published in the United States. It has subscribers in 25 foreign countries as well. Before 1981, he was a vice president of the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and director of its Washington, D.C. office. During the decade 1969 to 1979, he held a variety of editorial positions, including the editorship of the National Journal, a privately published weekly on federal policymaking. Iglehart was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences in 1977 and served on its Governing Council for six years (1985-1991). He also is an elected member of the National

Academy of Social Insurance and serves on the boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties, the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates and the Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy. He holds a degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin and has been a journalist-in-residence at Harvard University.

Diane Rowland, ScD, (moderator) is the executive vice president of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and the executive director of the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. She is also an adjunct associate professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Rowland is a noted authority on health policy, Medicare and Medicaid, and health care for low-income, elderly, and disadvantaged populations and has published widely on these subjects. Her federal health policy experience includes service on the staff of the Subcommittee on Health and the Environment of the Committee on Energy and Commerce in the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, as well as senior health policy positions in the Department of Health and Human Services in the Office of the Secretary and the Health Care Financing Administration. Dr. Rowland holds a Bachelor's degree from Wellesley College, a Masters in Public Administration from the University of California at Los Angeles and a Doctor of Science in health policy and management from the Johns Hopkins University.

William J. Scanlon, Ph.D., is a health policy consultant at Health Policy R&D. Until April 2004, he was the Managing Director of Health Care Issues at the U.S. General Accounting Office. At GAO, he oversaw Congressionally requested studies of Medicare, Medicaid, the private insurance market and health delivery systems, public health, and the military and veterans' health care systems. Before joining GAO in 1993, he was the co-director of the Center for Health Policy Studies and an associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Georgetown University and had been a principal research associate in Health Policy at The Urban Institute. His research at Georgetown and The Urban Institute focused on the Medicare and Medicaid programs, especially provider payment policies, and the provision and financing of long-term care services. He has been engaged in health services research since 1975. Dr. Scanlon has published extensively and has served as frequent consultant to federal agencies, state Medicaid programs, and private foundations. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.