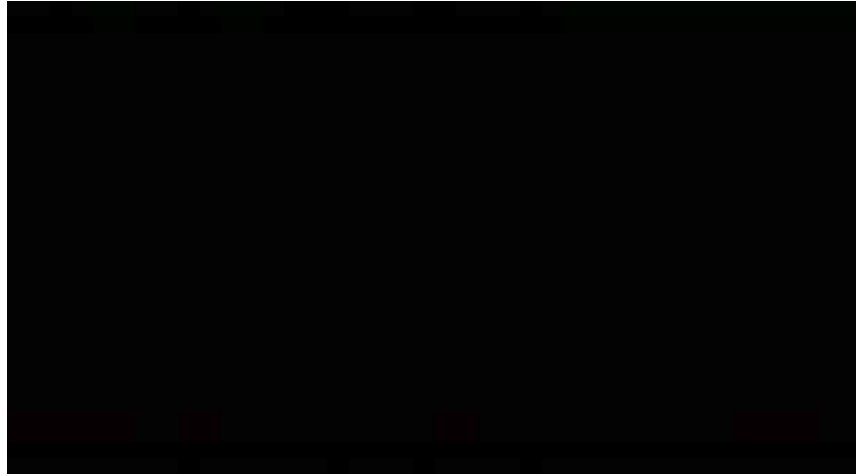


Hot Picks
2010 National Oral Health Conference
U. S. Health Care Reform

Reactor: Nicholas G. Mosca, DDS
Mississippi State Department of Health



2010 A U.S. Health Care Odyssey

Key Goals

- Improve access to care
- Drive down costs
- Improve quality of care
- **Context –**
 - **Fragmented political system**
 - **Fragmented health care system**

Are there lessons for dental public health leaders?

- How did this administration get health care reform passed?
- Can we use this knowledge to improve our efforts for policy making?

Some Things Will **Change!**

- Reaction to Dr. Edelstein's presentation

Some Things Will **Not Change!**

- **Law does not “re-engineer” the health care system**
- Current spend rate for health care is not sustainable
 - Adjustments needed to be made
 - Based on what we spend as a *nation* ??
 - Versus as a *government* ??
 - Or to reduce the *national deficit*??
- Where are the “*cost-containment*” provisions?

What Have We Learned?

- **Massachusetts** – *expanded access to insurance*
 - In three years, only 2.7% of adult residents remain *uninsured*.
 - Largest expansion of coverage among those at 150% of FPL or less.
 - Publicly sponsored options didn't “crowd out” or replace employer-sponsored insurance.
 - However, 25% increase in premiums in small companies compared to larger companies
 - Concerns over **primary care physician shortages**
 - Concerns over **gaming the system**

Implementation – What's Next?



Implementation – What's Next?

- Advocacy is needed
 - **Federal Appropriations**
(funding for initiatives)



Questions?
Feedback?