



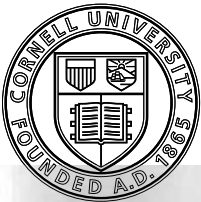
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Friday, September 26th, Noon, MVR G87 (note new location)

Helping Poor People Obtain Health Care - Recent History and Future Issues

The US history of helping poor people with health care has been primarily a welfare assistance approach – help for “deserving” groups of the poor. For the past two decades, efforts have expanded eligibility to such deserving groups with higher incomes – especially children, pregnant women, and the elderly and disabled. But with the expanded eligibility has come rapid increases in expenditures – and a growing recognition that the rate of increase is not sustainable. What’s to blame? Is the approach of a separate program(s) for poor people viable in the next two decades as the country rapidly ages? And is financial access to health care – public insurance – enough to obtain good medical outcomes for low-income people?



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