

FIXING THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM: Eight essentials of change.

Oregon is known for its leadership in health care policy and reform. We're proud to be part of this effort, and we value working collaboratively with others in the community toward common goals. These are our principles:



“With these eight essentials in mind, we believe positive change is within reach.”

- 1 Everyone should have access to a defined set of health care services, paid for in ways that are not exclusively tied to employment.
- 2 A defined set of services should include all health care that is demonstrated to be beneficial.
- 3 Universal access will depend on a geographically well-distributed health care workforce, and reform must find ways to fund provider training and education. Without providers, there is no access.
- 4 Our new system should include an aggressive focus on preventive health care to improve quality and lower costs.
- 5 Universal access will depend on the participation of all health care providers, sharing responsibility and costs, such that no patient can be turned away due to their insurance type.
- 6 Continual evaluation and adoption of end-of-life health care that is high-quality, compassionate, and supports the wishes of patients and families, is essential.
- 7 Rewarding innovation and discoveries, and committing to transparency, so that all patients have access to outcomes and costs data, will ensure we are always improving health care.
- 8 Better use of information technology, including portable electronic records, will help us create a new health care system.

OHSU supports the goal of developing and passing a plan for health care reform in Oregon and the U.S. With these eight essentials in mind, we believe positive change is within reach.

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Seventh in a series.
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