

# HEALTH REFORM AND OHSU HOW WE'LL CHANGE

SECOND  
IN A SERIES  
THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

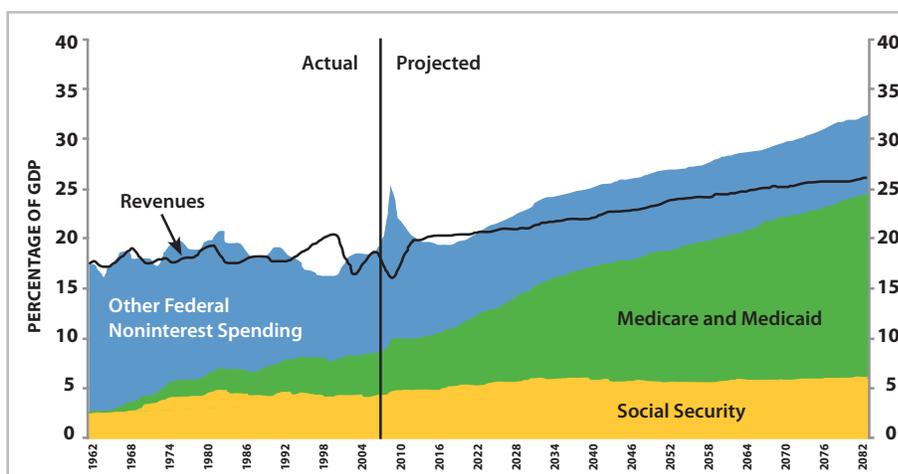
**Health reform will touch all of OHSU's missions.** The coming changes are about more than public policy and health insurance. We will see transformation in how care is delivered, how health professionals are trained and how we decide what health care to buy. OHSU's missions will have to grow and adapt to meet new challenges.

## WHAT'S AHEAD

For years, health reform has been a political football. Nationally, the debate has focused on how to address growth in health care costs and the number of uninsured. Proposals have been controversial, and the process has often stalled, but Oregon has often been ahead of the country.

What makes further change inevitable is the looming shortfall in funding for Medicare and Medicaid. The green portion of the chart to the right — representing spending required for Medicare and Medicaid — expands dramatically in the next few years. The solid line — representing expected revenues — is quickly outpaced, squeezing out other spending. The situation is unsustainable. Change must come.

### Health care is the primary driver of future federal spending



SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office, June 2009

# HEALTH CARE TRANSFORMATION

Oregon sees the crisis in health spending as an opportunity to transform health care in our state. The recent agreement between the State of Oregon and the federal government is a big boost for Governor Kitzhaber's transformation initiative, which lays the groundwork for a different kind of care for the patients served by the state's Medicaid program.

New "Coordinated Care Organizations," or CCOs, will receive funding to prevent health problems and improve health. With new technology, new ways to deliver care and new evidence-based information to determine what services are most effective, each CCO will provide dental, behavioral and physical health care for its "members."

What Oregon is trying to show — and the idea the federal government is supporting — is that CCOs provide lower cost care with better outcomes. Commercial insurers will likely adopt similar approaches for their policyholders, driving down the overall cost of health care in the economy.

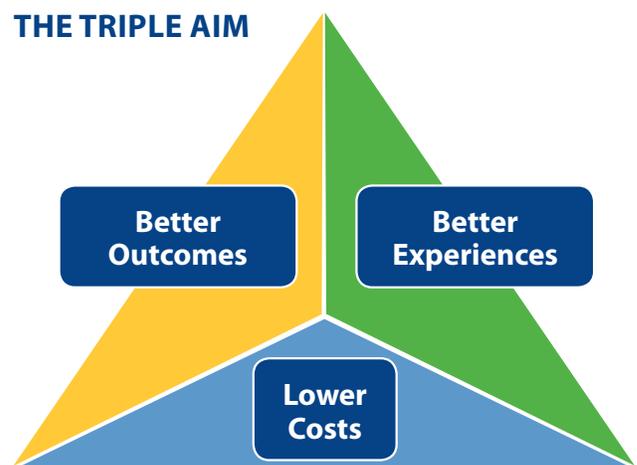
## ROLE OF OHSU

OHSU has already helped shape Oregon's solutions, supporting the triple aim of better outcomes, better experiences and lower costs. But our biggest role may be ahead: The pressure on health care providers to deliver on the triple aim is an opportunity for academic health centers like OHSU to truly lead.

Reform will touch all of OHSU's missions. Our hospitals, clinics and providers will improve the way health care is delivered — rethinking care across systems and with community partners. Our faculty will train health professionals to work together in the teams required to serve these new partnerships. Our researchers will move new knowledge to patients more quickly, design new systems of care and use outcomes studies to show how to keep everyone healthier.

Our mission is to improve the health and well-being of Oregonians. Our past success in achieving that mission depended on a system we must now help change. It won't be easy, and we will face challenges. But we must adapt. We will grow, and the result will be a system that's better for everyone — providers and patients alike.

### THE TRIPLE AIM



**OHSU has already helped shape Oregon's solutions, supporting the triple aim of better outcomes, better experiences and lower costs.**

**Next up:** *What's happening to state and federal government funding for OHSU's missions?*

*To see the whole series, search for "The Next Five Years" on the Staff News blog.*