

**The Health Services Research Core Library Project
Module One
Order No. 467-MZ-901214**

**Submitted to
The National Information Center on Health Services Research & Health Care Technology
National Library of Medicine**

**by
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**for
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Introduction

The purpose of this project is to create a list of selected books, journals, and websites that will serve as the basis of a core health policy collection or library. The idea for such a list comes from the medical community, which has long been fortunate to have the “Brandon/Hill Selected List of Books and Journals for the Small Medical Library” and “A Library for Internists: Recommendations from the American College of Physicians” to use as collection development tools for their personal and professional libraries. The health policy community has no equivalent resource. Therefore, they should benefit from a similar tool that will provide them with a professionally evaluated body of resources to be used to enhance their libraries, both personal and professional, as well as their research practices.

Scope of Coverage

Health policy is an incredibly broad field that encompasses many disciplines. The members of the Association for Health Services Research Technical Advisory Group, which convened on December 8, 1999 for the purpose of soliciting expert opinions and advice about the development of a core library collection for health policy (see Appendix A for a summary of the meeting), included the following as the disciplines that inform health policy:

Economics	Sociology
Public Health	Psychology
Law	Health Education
Legislation	Public Administration
Medicine	Health Services Research
Nursing	Methodology
Other Health Care Professions	Environmental Health
Ethics	Mass Communication
Epidemiology	Biostatistics
Demography	Business/Management
Informatics	History

A review of the tables of contents of more than 50 health policy textbooks, journals, and reports, as well as the reading lists of approximately 35 graduate health policy course syllabi, generated the following additional disciplines:

- Government and Politics
- Mental Health (which could be included with Psychology)
- Operations Research
- Planning
- Rural Health

Identifying a library collection that would include the important works from all of the above disciplines was beyond the scope of this project. Therefore, it was decided to limit this core

library list to resources in general health policy, health economics, health services research, and public health. No specialty (for example, nursing, pediatrics, gerontology, rural health, etc.) titles would be included.

Methodology

Journals (see also Appendix B)

The AHSR TAG members sorted a preliminary list of health policy journal titles that had been created by the author and her associate, Katherine Slack, M.L.S. The titles were then categorized as to whether they had received more than 10 votes, 6 to 10 votes, 1 to 5 votes, or no votes. In addition, the TAG members suggested a number of titles that were not on the initial list. The titles were then sorted into two categories: most crucial and under consideration. The AHSR membership was asked their opinions of these titles and rankings: A journal (*The Western Journal of Medicine*) that is not a health policy title was added to that list in order to see if the membership was really thinking about the value of the titles or just agreeing with us. A majority questioned the inclusion of the *Western Journal of Medicine* in a core health policy list! They also commented on many of the titles. Their responses were sorted by frequency.

The HealthSTAR database was searched for citations on health policy as a major subject heading. The more than 10,000 resulting citations were imported into an EndNote library and then sorted by journal title frequency.

The Sociological Abstracts and EconLit databases also were searched by health policy or medical policy and the results sorted by journal frequency.

The reading lists from more than 35 graduate health policy classes offered at Boston University, Brown University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Indiana University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Arizona, University of Colorado, University of Connecticut, University of Iowa, University of Rochester, University of Wisconsin and University of Wisconsin, as well as the bibliography from the classic health policy textbook, Health Politics and Policy (3rd ed.), by Theodor J. Litman and Leonard S. Robins were also examined and sorted by citation frequency.

Finally, the Institute for Scientific Research's Journal Citation Ranking Social Sciences Edition (www.isinet.com) for health policy was examined.

The 20 titles that were ranked most highly by at least three of the above sources were chosen for the core library collection are presented in the table on the following page:

Journal Title	ISI Rank	Textbook & Syllabi Rank	HealthSTAR Rank	AHSR Evaluation	Soc. Abst. Top Ten
American Journal of Public Health		7	14	yes	
Health Affairs	1	1	6	yes	
Health Care Financing Review	9	8	45	yes	
Health Care Management Review	25	14		yes	
Health Economics	3		12	yes	
Health Policy	17	15	9	yes	
Health Policy and Planning	19		26	yes	yes
HSR Health Services Research	8	12	13	yes	
Inquiry	13	4	26	yes	
International Journal of Health Services	22	9	56	yes	yes
JAMA		6	5	yes	
The Joint Commission Journal on Quality Improvement	24		49	yes	
Journal of Health Economics	4		49	yes	
Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law	6	2	8	yes	yes
Journal of Public Health Policy		10	46	yes	
Medical Care	5	11	7		
Medical Care Research and Review	11		43	yes	
The Milbank Quarterly	2	3	45		yes
The New England Journal of Medicine		5	28	yes	
Social Science and Medicine		13		yes	yes

Online Notification Services (see also Appendix C)

The internet was searched for sites that provide notification of current health policy issues either by e-mail or independent searching. Opinions of these sites were obtained from a number of health policy researchers. Five sites were chosen for their currency, completeness and relevance:

American Health Line
Electronic Policy Network (Idea Central: Health Policy)
Health Policy Tracking Service
Medscape (Medscape eMed journals)
Policy.com (Issues Library: Health)

Organizations (see also Appendix D and E)

The following 25 non-government health policy organizations and 20 government health policy related agencies were identified by analyzing the links sections of more than 75 relevant websites. Particularly useful were the links provided by the Duke University Center for Health Policy, Law and Management's Duke Health Policy Cyberexchange and the National Library of Medicine's National Information Center on Health Services Research & Health Care Technology websites. All the organizational links were evaluated on accuracy, original content, timeliness and practicality for the health policy professional. In addition, the author's personal experience with these organizations and sites was taken into consideration.

Non-government

AARP
Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy
American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research
American Public Health Association
The Brookings Institution
Center for Studying Health System Change
The Commonwealth Fund
Employee Benefit Research Institute
FamiliesUSA
Grantmakers In Health
The Heritage Foundation
Institute of Medicine
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
Kaiser Family Foundation
Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.
The Milbank Memorial Fund
National Committee for Quality Assurance
National Conference of State Legislatures
National Governors' Association
National Health Policy Forum
Rand
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Society for Medical Decision Making
The Urban Institute
World Health Organization

Government

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Commerce Department Bureaus of Economics and Statistics
Congressional Budget Office
Department of Health & Human Services
Department of Labor
General Accounting Office
Government Printing Office
Health Care Financing Administration
Health Resources and Services Administration
Library of Congress
Medicare Payment Advisory Commission
National Center for Health Statistics
National Institutes of Health
National Library of Medicine
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Office of Inspector General
Office of Management and Budget
United States House of Representatives
United States Senate

Books

Since health policy is so dependent upon current information, the author decided to include very few books in the core collection. Although this is a major departure from traditional core library development, it probably will not be so unconventional in the future as we become more dependent upon the internet. The following books were chosen because they are either classics in the field, very current (or forthcoming) books by experts in the field, or part of well-regarded series:

Altman, S. H. & Reinhardt, U. E. (Eds.). (1996). Strategic choices for a changing health care system. Chicago: Health Administration Press.

Blank, R. H. & Bonnicksen, A. L. (Eds.). (1992). Emerging issues in biomedical policy: An annual review. Volume 1. New York: Columbia University Press.

Feldman, R.D. & Pauly, M. V. (Eds.). (2000). American health care: Government, market processes, and the public interest. Somerset, NJ: Transaction Publishers.

Feldstein, P. J. (1996). The politics of health legislation: An economic perspective (2nd ed.). Chicago: Health Administration Press.

Fuchs, V. R. (1994). The future of health policy. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Garber, A. M. (Ed.). (2000). Frontiers in health policy research (3rd ed.). Cambridge: MIT Press.

Ginzburg, E. (Ed.). (1991). Health services research; Key to health policy. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Lee, P. R. & Estes, C. L. (Eds.). (2000). The nation's health (5th ed.). Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett Publishers.

Marmor, T. R. (2000). The politics of medicare (2nd ed.). New York: Aldine De Gruyter.

Rover, J. (1999). Health care policy and politics A to Z (CQ's ready reference encyclopedia of American government). Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly Books.

Shortell, S. M., Gillies, R. R. & Anderson, D. A. (2000). Remaking health care in America (2nd ed.). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Shortell, S. M. & Reinhardt, U. E. (Eds.). (1992). Improving health policy and management: Nine critical issues for the 1990s. Ann Arbor: Health Administration Press.

Starr, P. (1982). The social transformation of American medicine. New York: Basic Books

Plus titles from the Delmar Series in Health Services Administration. Albany, NY: Delmar Publishers, including: Feldstein, P. J. (1999). Health care economics (5th ed.). Litman, T. J. & Robins, L.S. (Eds.). (1997). Health politics and policy (3rd ed.). [wait for new edition]
Shortell, S. M. & Kaluzny, A. D. (Eds.). (2000). Health care management: Organization, design and behavior (4th ed.).

And titles from the RWJF Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research , including:
Millenson, M. L. (1997). Demanding medical excellence: Doctors and accountability in the information age.
Robinson, J. C. (1999). The corporate practice of medicine: Competition and innovation in health care.

Publishers and Distributors (see also Appendix F)

The following are publishers and distributors of health policy books that should be consulted on a regular basis in order to maintain an up-to-date core library:

Amazon.com
Brookings Institution Press
Delmar Publishers
Health Administration Press
National Academy Press
Robert Wood Johnson Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research
Urban Institute Press

The complete core library for health policy can be found on the next pages.

The Health Policy Core Library

Journals

American Journal of Public Health
<http://www.apha.org/journal/journal.htm>

Health Affairs
<http://www.projhope.org/HA/>

Health Care Financing Review
<http://www.hcfa.gov/pubforms/hcfrdesc.htm>

Health Care Management Review
<http://www.aspenpub.com/pgHCMR.html>

Health Economics
<http://www.interscience.wiley.com/jpages/1057-9230/>

Health Policy
<http://www.elsevier.nl/inca/publications/store/5/0/5/9/6/2/505962.pub.htm>

Health Policy and Planning
<http://heapol.oupjournals.org>

HSR Health Services Research
<http://www.hsr.org>

Inquiry
<http://www.inquiryjournal.org>

International Journal of Health Services
<http://www.baywood.com/site/new2/viewbook.cfm?id=100126&c=10105372>

JAMA
<http://jama.ama-assn.org>

The Joint Commission Journal on Quality Improvement
<http://www.jcaho.org/lwapps/online/journal.htm>

Journal of Health Economics
<http://www.elsevier.nl/inca/publications/store/5/0/5/5/6/0/505560.pub.htm>

Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law
http://www.jhpppl.org/home_page.htm

Journal of Public Health Policy
<http://www.members.aol.com/jphpterris/jphp.htm>

Medical Care

<http://www.medicalcare.org/homeTop.htm>

Medical Care Research and Review

<http://www.sagepub.com/shopping/journal.asp?id=4683>

The Milbank Quarterly

<http://www.milbank.org/quarterly.html>

The New England Journal of Medicine

<http://www.nejm.org/content/index/asp>

Social Science and Medicine

<http://www.elsevier.nl/inca/publications/store/3/1/5/index.htm>

Online Notification Services

American Health Line

<http://www.americanheathline.com>

Electronic Policy Network

<http://www.epn.org>

(Idea Central: Health Policy)

Health Policy Tracking Service

<http://www.hpts.org>

Medscape

<http://www.medscape.com>

(Medscape eMed journals)

Policy.com

<http://www.policy.com>

(Issues Library: Health)

Organizations (non-government)

AARP

<http://research.aarp.org/health/index.html>

Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy

<http://www.ahsrhp.org>

American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research

<http://www.aei.org>

American Public Health Association

<http://www.apha.org>

The Brookings Institution
<http://www.brookings.org>

Center for Studying Health System Change
<http://www.hschange.com>

The Commonwealth Fund
<http://www.commonwealthfund.org>

Employee Benefit Research Institute
<http://www.ebri.org>

FamiliesUSA
<http://www.familiesusa.org>

Grantmakers In Health
<http://www.gih.org>

The Heritage Foundation
<http://www.heritage.org>

Institute of Medicine
<http://www4.nas.edu/iom/iomhome.nsf>

Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
<http://www.jcaho.org/mainmenu.html>

Kaiser Family Foundation
<http://www.kff.org>

Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.
<http://www.mathematic-mpr.com>

The Milbank Memorial Fund
<http://www.milbank.org/home.html>

National Committee for Quality Assurance
<http://www.ncqa.org>

National Conference of State Legislatures
<http://www.ncsl.org>

National Governors' Association
<http://www.nga.org>

National Health Policy Forum
<http://www.nhpf.org>

Rand
<http://www.rand.org>

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

<http://www.rwjf.org>

Society for Medical Decision Making

<http://gwis.circ.gwu.edu/~smdm>

The Urban Institute

<http://www.urbaninstitute.org>

World Health Organization

<http://www.who.int>

Government Agencies

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

<http://www.ahrq.gov>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov>

Commerce Department Bureaus of Economics and Statistics

<http://www.doc.gov/bureaus.econ.htm>

Congressional Budget Office

<http://www.cbo.gov>

Department of Health & Human Services

<http://www.dhhs.gov>

Department of Labor

<http://www.dol.gov>

General Accounting Office

<http://www.gao.gov/main.html>

Government Printing Office

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html

Health Care Financing Administration

<http://www.hcfa.gov>

Health Resources and Services Administration

<http://www.hrsa.dhhs.gov>

Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov>

Medicare Payment Advisory Commission

http://www.pprc.gov/body_index.html

National Center for Health Statistics
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs>

National Institutes of Health
<http://www.nih.gov>

National Library of Medicine
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov>

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
<http://aspe.hhs.gov>

Office of Inspector General
<http://www.dhhs.gov/progrg/oig>

Office of Management and Budget
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/OMB>

United States House of Representatives
<http://www.house.gov>

United States Senate
<http://www.senate.gov>

Books

Altman, S. H. & Reinhardt, U. E. (Eds.). (1996). Strategic choices for a changing health care system. Chicago: Health Administration Press.

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Robinson, J. C. (1999). The corporate practice of medicine: Competition and innovation in health care.

Publishers and Distributors

Amazon.com

<http://www.amazon.com>

Brookings Institution Press

http://www.brook.edu/press/press_hp.htm

Delmar Publishers

<http://www.delmar.com>

Health Administration Press

<http://www.ache.org/hap.html>

National Academy Press

<http://www.nap.edu>

Robert Wood Johnson Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research

<http://www.ahsr.org/rwjf/orderform.htm>

Urban Institute Press

http://www.urban.org/uipress/about_uipress.html