

Health Affairs

AT THE INTERSECTION OF HEALTH, HEALTH CARE, AND POLICY

Call for Papers

The Care Span: A New Section in *Health Affairs*

Health Affairs is launching *The Care Span*, a new ongoing section of the journal in March 2011. *The Care Span* will examine the topics of aging and disability: not as isolated experiences, but as part of the full span of life. Toward this end, the journal aims to bring together the best current thinking on how to advance the development of a sustainable continuum of quality care for seniors and the disabled, and to highlight important trends and developments. We particularly want to surface key issues and proposals for consideration by policy makers at the local, state, federal, organizational, and industry level. All papers submitted for this section will undergo peer review.

Scope and Topics

By covering a wide variety of issues under its new *The Care Span* rubric, *Health Affairs* will examine policy integration at the whole system level.

Within the traditional health care sector, *The Care Span* will consider ambulatory and inpatient care delivered in diverse settings. In addition, it will look at such issues as care workforce education and expansion, integration and continuity of care, and consumer choice. *The Care Span* will also explore issues that span related disciplines such as ambulatory care and public health, as well as issues from other policy spheres that affect the continuum of care, including housing, transportation, and immigration.

Appropriate topics for *The Care Span* should fall within the following broad areas of interest: long-term services and supports, aging, disability, chronic disease (including multiple morbidities), end-of-life/palliative care, community-based care, the continuum of care, and related areas. At the same time, topics should be consistent with the section's main goals and objectives. These are:

- Helping surface key issues in implementation of health reform provisions related to long-term services and supports and the continuum of care.
- Publishing analysis and evaluation of implemented policies as data become available, thereby assisting both “rapid-cycle” innovation and fine-tuning of pilot and demonstration projects that will accompany health reform implementation.
- Examining longer-term challenges that provide the backdrop of new policy initiatives, such as ongoing issues with the long-term services workforce.
- Identifying best practices and promising innovations in policy and programs.
- Highlighting efforts to provide high-quality, cost-effective care across the care continuum, including care delivery in home and community-based settings that goes beyond the medical model.
- Informing policymakers and decision making at the federal, state, and local levels.

Other Considerations

Types of papers may include original research, trend data, and evidence-based commentaries. All papers will undergo peer review.

Submissions should advance the current policy debate through rigorous inquiry, yet be understandable to readers with varied backgrounds and levels of expertise.

Submission Requirements

Manuscripts should be submitted via the *Health Affairs* manuscript submission system at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ha>

Papers should be original submissions not previously published or being considered by other journals.

Additional details and style guidelines are available on the *Health Affairs* Web site under “Help for Authors” (http://www.healthaffairs.org/1410_for_authors.php).

Selection Process

Health Affairs’ editors will evaluate all submissions and make initial selections of those that warrant peer review by at least two outside experts. The editorial staff reserves the right to divert submissions for possible inclusion elsewhere in the journal.

Questions?

Authors who are uncertain of the appropriateness of their work for the section may informally send an abstract to *Health Affairs* associate editor, Donna Abrahams, at <mailto:dabrahams@projecthope.org>. Any other questions regarding *The Care Span* should also be directed to Ms. Abrahams.

Acknowledgement

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About Health Affairs

Health Affairs, published by Project HOPE, is the leading journal of health policy. The peer-reviewed journal appears each month in print and online, with additional Web First papers published regularly at www.healthaffairs.org. You can also find the journal on Facebook and Twitter.