

October 26, 2009

Request for Abstracts

***Health Affairs* theme issue: “Reinventing Primary Care,” May 2010**

Requirements

Abstracts not to exceed 500 words

Abstracts due Friday, November 13, 2009

Submit abstracts to Don Metz, at dmetz@projecthope.org

Background, Objectives, and Details

Health Affairs is planning a theme issue in May 2010 on the topic of “Reinventing Primary Care.” The objective of this issue is to spur discussion, deliberation and ultimately, policy change that would spur innovation to increase the overall supply and cost-effective provision of primary care in general in the United States – including but not limited to the supply of primary care physicians. Our goal is to produce a kind of road map for policymakers on getting to a “reinvented” primary care delivery system for the 21st century – one that is higher quality, more cost effective, more accessible to millions more Americans and better attuned to advancing public health.

This issue of *Health Affairs* is supported by grants from the American Academy of Physician Assistants, the American Board of Internal Medicine, the California HealthCare Foundation, CVS/Caremark, and the United Health Foundation.

As part of our theme issue development process, we are issuing a limited request for abstracts, which are **due Friday November 6, 2009**. The editors will evaluate the abstracts and commission several authors to write papers based on their abstracts, pending the outcome of the evaluation. We plan to complete the abstract evaluation process by mid-November 2009, at which time we will notify authors of abstracts selected for invitation. These invited papers will be due at the journal in mid-December 2009.

Invited papers will then be subjected to peer review from November 2009 to December 2009. Those papers that the reviewers and editors deem appropriate will be revised and resubmitted in January and February 2010; copyediting and production for the issue will take place following that, with publication scheduled for early-May 2010.

A list of topics for which we are soliciting abstracts is provided below.

Abstract submissions should not exceed 500 words, and should include (in this order): author names and affiliations, proposed title, and abstract (along with contact information for the corresponding author).

If you wish to submit an abstract, please send it as an e-mail attachment directly to executive editor Don Metz, at dmetz@projecthope.org (he can also be reached by phone at 301-347-3907).

We thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to pass this invitation along to colleagues who might be interested, as well.

Topics of interest

We plan to publish papers on a variety of topics and have already filled our needs in many areas. In addition, we are actively seeking new content in the following areas:

- **Case Studies on Transformation**

How various primary care settings/practices around the country have transformed themselves and what are the lessons learned? What are the outcomes of redesign? What were the facilitators and barriers to change? How was progress achieved?

- **Case Studies/Lessons From Abroad**

Careful examinations of exemplary primary care systems in other countries. What makes other countries' systems of primary care work better than that of the U.S.? What can policymakers from the U.S. and elsewhere learn from these other nations?

- **Health Information Technology and “e care”**

- Update one year beyond the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. How are stimulus dollars being used? What is on the horizon in terms of challenges in getting these dollars into small practices and using them effectively? Are there examples of lessons learned yet?
- What are the latest developments in the use of information/communication technology to expand the reach of primary care, such as televisits? Who are the innovators, and what can we learn from them? What are the issues for policymakers? Can/should policymakers be developing policies to stimulate the use of such technology?

Again, we invite abstracts not to exceed 500 words by November 6, 2009.

Questions? Email Don Metz at dmetz@projecthope.org

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