STABILIZING THE INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE MARKET
WHAT IS THE ROLE FOR RISK ADJUSTMENT AND RISK MITIGATION?

Speaker Biographies

M. Kate Bundorf is an associate professor of health research and policy at the Stanford University School of Medicine, an associate professor at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, a Stanford health policy fellow, and a senior fellow at the Stanford Institute for Economics and Policy Research. She is also a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. She received her MBA and MPH degrees from the University of California, Berkeley, and her PhD from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She was a Fulbright lecturer and visiting professor at Fudan University School of Public Health in Shanghai, China, in 2009 and 2010. Her research, which focuses on health insurance and health care provider markets, has been published in leading economics and health policy journals and has received funding from the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute. She received the Health Care Research Award from the National Institute for Health Care Management in 2007 and was a finalist for the award in 2013. She is an editorial board member of the Journal of Health Economics, American Journal of Health Economics, and Health Services Research and an associate editor for Medical Care Research and Review. She is a member of the Panel of Health Advisers for the Congressional Budget Office and the technical review panel on the Medicare Trustees Reports.

Stan Dorn is a senior fellow in the Health Policy Center at the Urban Institute. He focuses on national and state implementation of the Affordable Care Act, including strategies to enroll the eligible uninsured into subsidized health coverage. He has worked on low-income health issues at the state and national levels for more than 30 years. Before joining Urban, Dorn was a senior policy analyst at the Economic and Social Research Institute, health division director at the Children’s Defense Fund, director of the Health Consumer Alliance, and managing attorney at the National Health Law Program’s office in Washington, DC. Dorn is a graduate of Harvard College and the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law.

Douglas Holtz-Eakin is president of the American Action Forum. From 2001 to 2002, he was the chief economist of the president’s Council of Economic Advisers, where he helped formulate policies addressing the 2000–01 recession and the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. From 2003 to 2005, he was the sixth director of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which provides budgetary and policy analysis to the US Congress. During his tenure, CBO assisted Congress as they addressed numerous policies—notably the 2003 tax cuts, the Medicare prescription drug bill, and Social Security reform. During 2007 and 2008, he was director of domestic and economic policy for the John McCain presidential campaign. Since then, he has been a commissioner on the congressionally chartered Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission and is an outside adviser to the US Chamber of Commerce. Holtz-Eakin built an international reputation as a scholar doing research in applied economic policy, econometric methods, and entrepreneurship. He began his career at Columbia University in 1985 and moved to Syracuse University from 1990 to 2001. At Syracuse, he became trustee professor of economics at the Maxwell School, chairman of the Department of Economics, and associate director of the Center for Policy Research.
John Kaelin has diverse executive-level experience in the health care industry spanning government, academia, US-based health insurers, and health systems in the Middle East. In 2014, he moved to Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, where he was a special adviser to the government as it implemented a mandatory health insurance program. When Kaelin returned to the United States in 2015, he joined Centene as a senior adviser for health financing and policy and supports its commercial solutions group (exchange products) and health plans on rate setting, risk adjustment, and policy issues. Previous positions include senior vice president for health reform at UnitedHealth Group and executive director of the University of Maryland’s Hilltop Institute, where he supported Maryland’s efforts to implement managed care for Medicaid and a risk-adjusted payment system.

Timothy Layton is an assistant professor of health care policy at Harvard Medical School. His research focuses on the economics of health insurance markets, with emphasis on understanding insurer behavior in those markets and designing optimal health plan payment systems. Layton and his collaborators use economic models of health insurer behavior to design payment systems that combat inefficiencies caused by adverse selection. Layton’s work also focuses on problems with existing payment systems. He and Michael Geruso are studying insurer upcoding behavior in the Medicare Advantage program, where insurers are paid more for enrollees who have received diagnoses for more chronic conditions. Layton is also working with Geruso on a project studying whether the risk adjustment system in the state and federal health insurance Marketplaces adequately discourages insurers from discriminating against sick consumers whose treatment includes expensive prescription drugs.

Sarah Rosen Wartell became president of the Urban Institute in 2012 and is the third president since Urban was founded in 1968. During her tenure, Urban has articulated its strategy to “elevate the debate” by bringing more of its research insights to federal, state, and local government and practice; becoming a leader in research communications and data visualization; and undertaking an ambitious program of business systems and technology modernization. Previously, Wartell was deputy assistant to the president for economic policy and deputy director of the National Economic Council. At the US Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1993 to 1998, she advised the federal housing commissioner on housing finance, mortgage markets, and consumer protection. After government service, Wartell was the founding chief operating officer and then executive vice president of the Center for American Progress. Her work focused on the economy and housing markets, and she directed the Mortgage Finance Working Group and “Doing What Works” government performance program. Before her tenure in government, she practiced law with the Washington, DC, firm Arnold & Porter. Wartell has an AB degree with honors in urban affairs from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. She has a JD degree from Yale Law School.

Cori Uccello is an actuary and the senior health fellow at the American Academy of Actuaries. She is the actuarial profession’s chief public policy liaison on health issues. She promotes the formulation of sound health policy by providing nonpartisan technical assistance to federal and state policymakers and regulators. Uccello helped lead the academy’s efforts to guide federal and state regulators regarding the implementation of various provisions in the Affordable Care Act, including those related to coverage and market reforms, actuarial value, and risk-sharing mechanisms. Her current efforts include examining the implications of alternative coverage approaches. She is also involved in the academy’s efforts to encourage policymakers to improve Medicare’s financial condition and recently completed two terms as a commissioner on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission. She was also a member of the 2010–11 technical review panel on the Medicare Trustees Report. Before joining the academy, Uccello was a senior research associate at the Urban Institute, where she focused on health insurance and retirement policy issues. She is a graduate of Boston College and received a master’s degree in public policy from Georgetown University.