

# Exploring Stakeholder Perspectives on What Is Affordable Health Care<sup>a</sup>

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## Abstract

Over the past couple of decades, both the percentage of the US Gross Domestic Product allocated to health care and the growth rate of health care spending have continued to increase. Such measures of assessing the affordability of the level of health care expenditures may be appropriate in the aggregate, but may not properly assess whether individual or groups of stakeholders can afford their specific level of health care spending. This presentation explores various “stakeholder-level” definitions of what is affordable health care for three stakeholders: consumers/employees, employers, and the US government. We conclude that a single definition (or measure) of health care affordability is not appropriate for all stakeholders as affordability has several dimensions.

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