

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

### Using Medicare as a Model for Reform?

June 6, 2008

**KAREN DAVIS**, president of The Commonwealth Fund, is a nationally recognized economist, with a distinguished career in public policy and research. Before joining the Fund, she served as chairman of the Department of Health Policy and Management at The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, where she also held an appointment as professor of economics. She served as deputy assistant secretary for health policy in the Department of Health and Human Services from 1977–1980, and was the first woman to head a U.S. Public Health Service agency. Prior to her government career, Ms. Davis was a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., a visiting lecturer at Harvard University, and an assistant professor of economics at Rice University. A native of Oklahoma, she received her Ph.D. in economics from Rice University. Ms. Davis has published a number of significant books, monographs, and articles on health and social policy issues, including the landmark books *Health Care Cost Containment*, *Medicare Policy*, *National Health Insurance: Benefits, Costs, and Consequences*, and *Health and the War on Poverty*. She is a past president of the AcademyHealth (formerly AHSRHP) and an AcademyHealth distinguished fellow; a member of the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured and a former member of the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research (AHRQ) National Advisory Committee.

**STEVEN M. LIEBERMAN**, after retiring from the Federal government in 2004, Steve has worked as a health care consultant focusing on quantitative analysis, policy analysis, strategic advising and product development for a diverse array of health care clients. In 2004, Steve led implementation of the new Medicare drug benefit at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). From 1999 to 2004, Steve led the health staff at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), serving as assistant director and executive associate director. Between 1992 and 1999, Steve served as the vice president for Marketing and for government programs at a publicly-traded HMO, directed managed care and other operations for a major academic health center, founded a venture-capital funded company, and consulted with a variety of health care clients. From 1976—1992, Steve worked at the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), serving for 7 years as chief of the Health Financing Branch and for 2 years as assistant director. He is currently on the board of a radiology benefits management company, a member of the 2006—2008 Technical Panel of the Social Security Advisory Board, A visiting scholar at the Brookings Institution (working with Mark McClellan at the Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform) and a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance. Steve has a B.A. and M.Phil. from Yale University, as well as an M.A. from the University of California, Berkeley.

**TOM PRICE**, was elected to Congress from Georgia's Sixth Congressional District in 2004, he was re-elected with broad support in both primary and general elections in 2006. Prior to that, he served in the Georgia Senate where he was elected twice as Minority Whip and in 2002 as the first Republican Majority Leader in the history of Georgia. As a medical doctor, Representative Price is a leader in the healthcare arena. His credits include legislative efforts to increase patient choice in a more flexible healthcare system, to enact Medical Savings Accounts, and to reform the Medicaid System in Georgia. He has been the leading sponsor of civil justice reform legislation to ensure patient access to quality health care and bring down skyrocketing medical malpractice premiums. Representative Price received a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Michigan and completed his Orthopedic Surgery residency at Emory University. He established an orthopedic clinic just north of Atlanta. After nearly twenty years of private practice he returned to Emory

University School of Medicine as an Assistant Professor. He was most recently Medical Director of the Orthopedic Clinic at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, teaching resident doctors in training.

**CATHY SCHOEN** is senior vice president at The Commonwealth Fund. She is a member of the Fund's executive management team and research director of the Fund's Commission on a High Performance Health System. From 1998 through 2005, she directed the Fund's Task Force on the Future of Health Insurance. Prior to joining the Fund in 1995, Ms. Schoen taught health economics at the University of Massachusetts' School of Public Health and directed special projects at the UMASS Labor Relations and Research Center. During the 1980s, she directed the Service Employees International Union's research and policy department. In the late 1970s, she was on the staff of President Carter's national health insurance task force, where she oversaw analysis and policy development. Prior to federal service, she was a research fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. She has authored numerous publications on health policy issues, insurance, and national/international health system performance and co-authored the book, *Health and the War on Poverty*. She holds an undergraduate degree in economics from Smith College and a graduate degree in economics from Boston College.

**GAIL WILENSKY** is an economist, and a Senior Fellow at Project HOPE. Dr. Wilensky is a commissioner on the WHO's Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, is co-chair of the Department of Defense task force on the Future of Military Health Care, is vice chair of the Maryland Health Care Commission and serves as a trustee of the Combined Benefits Fund of the United Mineworkers of America and the National Opinion Research Center. She is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine and has served two terms on its governing council. She is a former chair of the board of directors of Academy Health, and a former trustee of the American Heart Association. From 1990–1992, she was administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, directing the Medicare and Medicaid programs. She also served as deputy assistant to President (GHW) Bush for Policy Development, advising him on health and welfare issues from 1992 to 1993. From 1997-2001, she chaired the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, which advises Congress on payment and other issues relating to Medicare, and from 1995 to 1997, she chaired the Physician Payment Review Commission. From 2001 to 2003, she co-chaired the President's Task Force to Improve Health Care Delivery for Our Nation's Veterans, which covered health care for both veterans and military retirees. In 2007, she served as a commissioner on the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology and a Ph.D. in economics at the University of Michigan.