

LSE Health and The Commonwealth Fund convene International Experts Working Group on High-Need, High-Cost Patients

Across health systems in industrialised countries, as few as 5-10 percent of patients are responsible for more than 50 percent of the total cost of healthcare. These “high-need, high-cost” patients are likely to suffer from chronic diseases and multiple or complex conditions, often combined with behavioural or mental health problems and socioeconomic challenges. LSE Health and The Commonwealth Fund have launched a two-year project to compare international integrated delivery models for the care of high-need, high-cost patients and identify best practices in improving health and social care while controlling costs associated with this population.

An International Experts Working Group met at the London School of Economics & Political Science on 11-12 September 2014, in preparation for The Commonwealth Fund’s Annual International Symposium, where senior international policymakers will convene to discuss high-need, high-cost patients. The Symposium will be held in Washington, DC from 19-21 November 2014. The research shaped by these meetings will culminate in a report by LSE Health and The Commonwealth Fund providing recommendations to Health Ministers and other senior policymakers.

The Working Group, chaired by Robin Osborn, Vice President and Director, International Program in Health Policy and Practice Innovation at The Commonwealth Fund, and Elias Mossialos, Brian Abel-Smith Professor of Health Policy, and Director of LSE Health, consists of the following policy experts from seven countries:

- Melinda Abrams, Vice President, Delivery Systems Reform, The Commonwealth Fund
- Volker Amelung, Professor, Hanover Medical School and President, German Managed Care Association
- Gerard Anderson, Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and Director, Center for Hospital Finance and Management, USA
- Anne-Marie Audet, Vice President, Delivery System Reform & Breakthrough Opportunities, The Commonwealth Fund
- Mats Bojestig, Chief Medical Officer, Jönköping County Council and Chief, Department of Medicine, Högländssjukhuset, Sweden
- Reinhard Busse, Professor and Department Head, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
- Isabelle Durand-Zaleski, Professor, Hôpital Henri Mondor, France
- Noaki Ikegami, Professor and Department Chair, Keio School of Medicine, Japan
- Gregg Meyer, Chief Clinical Officer, Partners HealthCare, USA
- Mark Pearson, Deputy Director, Directorate of Employment, Labour, and Social Affairs, OECD
- Mieke Rijken, Research Programme Manager, Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research
- Martin Roland, Professor of Health Services Research, University of Cambridge, UK
- Samir Sinha, Assistant Professor, University of Toronto and Johns Hopkins University and Director of Geriatrics, Mount Sinai and University Health Network Hospitals, Canada

About The Commonwealth Fund

The Commonwealth Fund is a private foundation that aims to promote a high performing health care system that achieves better access, improved quality, and greater efficiency, particularly for society's most vulnerable, including low-income people, the uninsured, minority Americans, young children, and elderly adults. The Fund carries out this mandate by supporting independent research on health care issues and making grants to improve health care practice and policy. An international program in health policy is designed to stimulate innovative policies and practices in the United States and other industrialized countries.