Physician Self Referral: Regulation by Exceptions
Kocher analyzes the 2014 GAO report on Physician Self-Referral

Calling the current state of physician self-referral a "costly and vexing challenge," Bob Kocher analyzed the 2014 GAO report on physician self-referral and explored potential solutions in the January 2015 JAMA Viewpoint article. Kocher looked to legislative action as the key for substantive change.

Doctors more likely to prescribe antibiotics in the afternoon
Study shows the impact of "decision fatigue" on the prescription of antibiotics

Jason Doctor and Daniella Meeker were co-authors on a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine that observed the prescribing behavior of doctors throughout the workday. The study found that doctors were more likely to prescribe antibiotics, necessary or otherwise, later in the day. The researchers believe that doctors experience decision fatigue as the day wears on.

Government health insurance for the poor in India
Indian health insurance program shows evidence of promising results

A study led by Neeraj Sood and funded by the World
Bank Group shows promising results of a government-backed health insurance program aimed at mitigating health disparities for low-income households in India. The study found that mortality rates from medical conditions covered by the VAS health insurance dropped by 64% and the reduction of out-of-pocket expenses dropped by 60%. The study was published in the BMJ. Click here or on the image for a video summary.

The Schaeffer Center at the USC Global Conversation
Zissimopolous discussed the value of medical innovations in New York

Julie Zissimopoulos discussed the value of medical innovations at the USC Global Conversation in New York on October 15. She presented Schaeffer Center’s Future Elderly Model and talked about the need to prioritize value in healthcare and the implications for policy that the research shows. "At the Schaeffer Center, we do a lot of research, and the purpose of it is to have policy impact," Zissimopoulos said.

5 Myths about Cancer Care in America
Separating the fact from the fiction in U.S. cancer care

Schaeffer Center director, Dana Goldman, published an article in the October 2014 edition of Health Affairs, discussing and debunking common misconceptions about cancer treatment in the United States. Among the claims is one that says the "war on cancer" in America has been a failure. Read more here.

Upcoming Schaeffer Center Events

Dana Goldman, Julie Zissimopoulous, and Jason Doctor will present at the all-day Brookings-USC Behavioral Health and Policy Conference Health and Wellbeing on February 12, 2015 at the Ronald Tutor Campus Center, USC

Seth Seabury will present at a conference in collaboration with The Hill: Fixing America’s Mental Healthcare System on February 26, 2015 at the Newseum, Washington, D.C.

New Schaeffer Publications
John Romley, Dana Goldman, Darius Lakdawalla, and Sarah Axeen in Health Services Research: "The Relationship between Commercial Health Care Prices and Medicare Spending and Utilization."


Bob Kocher and Neeraj Sood in JAMA: "Association Between Availability of Health Service Prices and Payments for These Services."


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**Schaeffer Experts in the News**

Dana Goldman in The Washington Post: "One Company's Battle to Stop the Wave of High Priced Drugs."

Glen Melnick in KQED's The California Report-State of Health: "Blue Shield, Sutter Impasse about More than Money."

Alice Chen in The Washington Post: "Our infant mortality rate is a national embarrassment."

Bob Kocher and Neeraj Sood in Bloomberg: "Shopping Around for a CT Scan Can Save $100, Study Finds."

Michael Menchine in the Los Angeles Daily News: "Southern Californians endure longer waits at emergency rooms than most Americans."

Dana Goldman in Forbes: "The VA Should Get Veterans Healthcare From Private Providers."

Geoffrey Joyce in the Los Angeles Times: "What's behind the huge price jump for some generic drugs?"

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**About the Schaeffer Center**

The mission of the Leonard D. Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics at the University of Southern California is to measurably improve value in health through evidence based policy solutions, research excellence, transformative education, and private and public sector engagement. The Center is a unique collaboration between the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy and the USC School of Pharmacy.

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