

Healthcare, Inc.

October 9, 2023

I have provided for this week's pre-reading, 4 articles that I think you will find of interest. The first two address the Medical Industrial Complex from a perspective in 1980 and then in 2017. You will be interested in what did or didn't change.

The third article is an in-depth accounting of the history of how we got the employment-based system we have today. It is quite detailed, so skim if you wish.

The fourth article was extremely timely based upon our discussion in Class 1. It addresses in some detail the issues with life expectancy in the US today. It raises some compelling questions for discussion and thought.

Enjoy!
Steve

Readings for Class 2

- NEJM New England Journal of Medicine Article on Medical Industrial Complex from 1980
- The Medical Industrial Complex Wall St Journal 2017
- NIH National Institutes of Health Article on the Origins and Evolution of Employment Based Benefits
- Washington Post article October 3, 2023, Life Expectancy

Topics

- Evolution of the Medical Industrial Complex
- How healthcare is coded and priced
- Major legislations that have impacted our system.
- Historical changes in coverage

Questions for Class 2

- What were your key takeaways from reading the 2 articles on the Medical Industrial Complex written 37 years apart?
- Is it possible to undo 70 or so years of employer-based insurance to facilitate cost savings and quality improvement?
- What do the components of how we chart and price our healthcare contributes to our situation?
- Which law or regulation have made the most positive impact on our healthcare?
- Is making more regulations to address the problems we have the path forward?
- After going through the items raised in class, how deep do you feel the government is affecting our health care?
- Is it working?
- What would you have our legislators done differently?