What’s Right With U.S. Healthcare

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First, the bill of indictment against American medical care...
It's too costly.

- Health expenditures projected to reach $1.6 trillion
- Almost $6,000 per capita
- Over 10 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product
- Hospital spending is forecast to rise by 50 percent in this decade
Costs put American industry at a disadvantage.

Industry pays more compared to other countries and more of the bill in the U.S.
• Health insurance costs a special burden for small business.
• 16 percent of the population cannot afford health insurance.
• Georgia hospitals provided more than $900 million in uncompensated care last year.
• 60 percent of Georgia hospitals ran in the red for patient care in 2003.
Medical liability premiums will continue to increase by 200 to 900 percent annually.

On the flip side, Medicare and Medicaid to Georgia hospitals have been reduced by $50 million/year.
Patients expect more.

76 million baby boomers approaching age when medical care is needed most
Other Issues:

- Patient safety
- Ethical issues
What’s right with U.S. healthcare?

Lots.
It’s leading edge.

- U.S. hospitals perform more complex procedures
- Many now common treatments were developed in this country
- U.S. pharmaceutical industry conducts lion’s share of research
Treatment is patient-friendly.

- Reduced hospital stays
- Pain management
- Boutique medicine
Patient safety is a strength.

- Access to consumer information
- Advanced technology
- Hospitals leading the way…
Presented By Tim Stack, CEO, Piedmont Healthcare

What's Right With U.S. Healthcare

Quality
Uniformity
Efficiency
Safety
Technology
QUEST Components

- Data repository
- Lifetime clinical record
- CPOE system
- Nursing documentation system
Patient safety in the future

- Standardized electronic data records
- Uniform reporting of errors
Medical care in the U.S. is widely available.

- Access
- Choices
Healthcare in Georgia

- 7,000 doctors
- 170 hospitals with 25,000 beds
- Hospitals contribute more than $10 billion directly to the state economy
- Employ 322,000
Metro Atlanta Growth

- Demand for hospital beds will grow at one of the fastest rates in the country
- Every day in Georgia, 350 people move to the state
Piedmont Healthcare at a Glance

• Piedmont Hospital – 500 beds
• Piedmont Fayette Hospital – 100 beds
• Mountainside Medical Center – 35-bed acute care hospital
• 53-member primary care physicians group
• 436-member physician network
Piedmont Hospital:
A Century of Better Care

- Among top 5 employers in Buckhead
- Generates annual revenue of nearly a half-billion dollars
- Admissions approach 30,000
- Serves 250,000 outpatients
- 50,000 patients visit ER annually
$100 million investment in Buckhead campus

- Addition of new services
- More patient-friendly facilities
- Improved traffic flow
These are exciting times to be in the medical field in America…

• Revolution in technology, market forces, attitudes and expectations
• Consensus that medical care is a right, not a service
The catch:

how to pay for it.
“The most relevant fact about US health politics is not that some 15% of the population are uninsured but that about 85% of the population are insured.”

–Canadian Medical Association Journal

“At the heart of it all...American consumers want the best healthcare available, without restrictions, just as long as someone else – insurer or employer or government – pays for it.”

–UPI Reporter Ellen Beck