



■ PUBLIC POLICY PLATFORM OVERVIEW ■

The Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease proposes the following public policy recommendations to focus our nation's leaders – including the 2008 presidential candidates – on the crisis of chronic disease and highlight common-sense reforms that will help the nation to address this challenge:

Advance sustainable “Next Generation” chronic disease prevention, early intervention, and management models throughout the health care system and public health infrastructure

IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Offer access to comprehensive prevention, early detection and intervention, and disease management resources in public and private health plans
- Facilitate and reward the provision of quality preventive care and care management
- Promote proven approaches to greater coordination of care and integrate the primary care provider more completely into the care management process to increase quality and efficiency
- Encourage Americans to be pro-active about preventing, detecting, and managing chronic disease through education and targeted incentives, such as no or low cost-sharing on clinically-recommended preventive care
- Improve support for those with family caregiving responsibilities

Promote healthy lifestyles and disease prevention and management in every community

IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Gather evidence about which wellness and prevention programs have demonstrated effectiveness and provide incentives for their accelerated diffusion in the workplace, schools, and communities
- Promote wellness in the workplace
- Incorporate health promotion and disease prevention and management into the everyday routines of American children and families
- Promote community-based programs for prevention, early intervention, and disease management



Encourage and reward continuous advances in clinical practice and research that improve the quality of care for those with prevalent and costly chronic diseases

IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Reward evidence-based practice with payments to providers tailored to promote the delivery of high-quality care that improves patient outcomes
- Bring clinical best practices to the bed side and promote greater knowledge-sharing between researchers and clinical practitioners
- Support greater opportunities for education on providing quality care to chronically ill patients
- Provide greater funding and support for research and innovation in the fight against the nation's most prevalent and costly chronic diseases
- Expand the research base on best practices in chronic disease prevention, early intervention, and management and use data to define and measure performance

Accelerate improvements in the quality and availability of health information technology (HIT) throughout the health care system

IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Provide incentives for providers to implement HIT improvements to improve the quality of care and help overcome cost barriers
- Ensure that HIT is seamless across health care providers and settings
- Encourage providers to use HIT in providing preventive and chronic health care and tracking quality of care
- Facilitate Americans' ability to track their own health and to obtain information on conditions, treatment options, and quality through technology
- Maximize use of HIT to expand consumer participation in clinical trials and health surveillance systems

Reduce health disparities by focusing on barriers to good health

IDEAS FOR CHANGE:

- Embrace models of care coordination and management shown to improve health among Americans of all backgrounds and situations
- Improve "cultural competency" in care
- Employ "community-based" approaches to addressing health disparities
- Fund research into the measurement of, causes of, and solutions to, health disparities