

**STATEMENT ON STUDY BY THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF  
MANAGED CARE ON HOSPITAL SERVICES**

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Hospitals across America are pursuing ways to make care more affordable by better coordinating care, reducing red tape and providing the right care at the right time in the right setting. These efforts have led hospitals to hold costs down, keeping health care spending growth at historically low levels for the third straight year and the rate of growth in hospital cost per service is at a decade-low.

Today's report is simply a rehash designed to divert attention from the harmful consumer impacts of health insurers' own rising premiums. As a study by the American Medical Association found, anticompetitive market conditions are common across managed care plans. It's important to note that growth in insurance costs from 2010 to 2011 was more than double that of the underlying health care costs, including hospitals. It is not hospital prices that are driving the rise in insurance premiums. The annual report of national health expenditures released in 2012 by CMS' office of the actuary found that premium rates for private insurers rose faster than underlying health care costs and that for the first time in seven years growth in total premiums exceeded growth in total benefits.

Hospitals remain committed to helping bend the cost curve for their patients, communities and the nation.

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