

## Questions related to The Troubled Economics of American Healthcare

1. Identify two ways in which the dilemma posed by Michael D. Reagan can be resolved.
2. Based on the excerpt from Mayes and Berenson, give two reasons why the buying and selling of healthcare cannot and should not be treated like an ordinary marketplace.
3. According to Mayes and Berenson, why will the effort to turn patients into cost-conscious consumers fail to do much to drive down healthcare costs?
4. Paul Starr asserts that, "The obstacles to effective cost containment have been political." Explain what he means by this with respect to both Republicans and Democrats.
5. Uwe E. Reinhardt compares what U.S. healthcare takes from personal income with what total U.S. taxes at all levels of government take from personal income. How do the two "tax" systems compare in round numbers?
6. Marty Makary refers to the fact that healthcare is "the leading industry of the U.S. economy." Do you think it makes sense economically that this is the case? Explain.