



Center for Health Transformation E-Newsletters

[Newt Notes](#) | [Member List](#) | [CHT in the News](#) | [Project Spotlight](#) | [Monthly Member Conference Call](#) | [CHT Events](#) | [Transforming Example Spotlight](#)

Medicare. I still believe President Bush will force the Medicare conference to a successful solution and will have a signing ceremony before Christmas.

As of this writing, almost all the major issues in the Medicare conference have been solved except for the Premium Support issue. The House Republicans believe passionately something has to be done to start lowering the long term costs of Medicare or it will bankrupt the system when the baby boomers retire. Senate Democrats bitterly oppose anything like premium support (in which people choosing the more expensive Medicare plan after 2010 would pay up to \$7 or \$8 a month extra for their plan).

CHT
Founder
Newt
Gingrich

The election results make it more likely the Republicans will insist on at least an initial step toward premium supports and will dare the Democrats to filibuster a drug benefit. Republicans will see this as a low risk strategy because they believe they will be able to blame the democrats for trying to stop the drug benefit, and they do not believe the Democrats can stop it for an entire year. Having been through the experience of watching seniors revolt over catastrophic coverage in the late 1980s, I know that seniors will be able to see through the blame rhetoric if a prescription drug benefit is not passed and that responsible party will be held accountable in the November 2004 elections.

The Medicare Bill has a number of patient safety, better health outcomes, quality and information initiatives which makes it the most important Health reform bill in a generation, and it still has the potential to be an excellent building block toward a 21st Century Medicare system.

State Transformation. We had a tremendous kickoff of our state transformation project in Atlanta with Governor Perdue endorsing the transformation model.

We had a great workshop with the Governors' 3-person transformation teams in Georgia, Florida and South Carolina (see more [later in the newsletter](#)).

We have already been told by one of Governor-elect Ernie Fletcher's key staff that they would be interested in Kentucky becoming the tenth state involved in health transformation with the Center.

California pressures to save money: there will be enormous pressure on Governor-elect Schwarzeneger to save money in California and health providers (including the pharmaceutical companies) can expect significant pricing pressures in Sacramento.

Political Environment favors 21st Century Health Principles. To be successful in transforming health and healthcare, one cannot ignore the trend that has emerged by watching the recent election results-- leaders who are advocating market-based solutions are being swept into office. Whether you are a Republican or a Democrat, it is a political reality that Kentucky, Mississippi and California have Republican Governor-elects, This is a strong indication that there is more of an appetite among voters, (even voters in California where the two leading Republican candidates received 62% of the vote,) for private sector, market oriented solutions that are centered on personal responsibility and individual freedom.

I am particularly excited by what these trends mean for the election of one of the brightest health policy experts in the country, Bobby Jindal, who is leading the race as a Republican running for Louisiana Governor. As of this writing, Bobby Jindal is leading as a Republican in Louisiana, and if he wins the Governorship, he will certainly emerge as a health spokesperson of national prominence in a position to lead a state health transformation plan. Jindal's professional reputation is of an advocate of the very principles of the Center for Health Transformation. (Incidentally, Jindal worked for democratic Senator John Breaux.)

The Message of Transformation. We are developing a "21st Century

Responsible Citizen Medicaid Act" that will lead to a new transformational rethinking of the entire Medicaid program.

We are developing a Contract with Doctors that will lead to a set of principles which would lead to the kind of professional life and income that would lead doctors to tell their children they should go into medicine. (We are looking for a financial sponsor(s) for this project. If interested contact info@healthtransformation.net.)

The Federal Government announced that we enjoyed the most profitable quarter since the early 1980s. However, it has not translated into proportional job growth. Many believe it is because companies are reserving their profits to manage the uncertainties of their health care premiums and costs. This is one of the reasons we are developing a program on Transformational Human Resources to unite large employers who want to turn the tide of high cost and unhappiness that seems to define many health programs in corporations around the country.

Reflections on Center Activities. We had great receptions at Sutter Health's Governor's Symposium in mid-October (Sutter is now a charter member), the National Association of State Legislators Luncheon Presentation, the California Healthcare Institute, and the Dallas Fort Worth Hospital Council, where I presented the principles of transformation of America's health and healthcare system.

Anne Woodbury was interviewed by CNN explaining the Center's views on Medicare.

Anne and Dana Pavey have presented the principles of transformation through a series of speeches and presentations on health transformation in the last month. Opposite Howard Dean's chief health advisory, Larry Lewin, Anne spoke to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Alumni Fellows. She also moderated a panel on Patient Safety at the Georgia Public Policy Foundation. Dana Pavey was the kickoff keynote at the Georgia Medical Group Management Association's Governmental Forum. She also was a guest speaker at a George Mason Graduate Nursing Class.

The Center is really beginning to build momentum.

The Center for Health Transformation member list has now been added to our web site and most of our members are listed there. Please visit the [list of members page](#) often to keep abreast of who is joining the Center.

October, 2003—“Look Who's Talking: A sampling of high-profile voices influencing the national healthcare debate,” by Michelle Rogers, *Healthleaders Magazine*

Newt Gingrich is one of the three out of 17 total individuals who is not an elected or appointed official or Presidential Candidate running for office. “..Gingrich has become a noticeable figure on healthcare since leaving Congress. He has published a book on transforming the U.S. healthcare system and has formed the Center for Health Transformation to address making changes to the country's health infrastructure to bring it into the 21st century.” [Read More.](#)

October 29, 2003 – “Politics, Technology, And Transformation: A Conversation With Newt Gingrich,” by Jeff Goldsmith, *Health Affairs Web Exclusive*

Mr. Goldsmith talks to Newt Gingrich about how “Medicare can be reformed without political consensus about what needs to be reformed.” [Read more.](#)

October 28, 2003 – “Healthcare Facelift a Goal for Gingrich,” by Jim Wooten, *Atlanta Journal & Constitution*

Mr. Wooten describes the Center for Health Transformation's vision for health and healthcare transformation in the states. “Gov. Sonny Perdue embraced the idea at (the October 23rd) Georgia Public Policy Foundation conference on health care co-sponsored by Gingrich's Center for Health Transformation.” [Read more.](#)

Fall/Winter 2003- “The Cure for What Ails Us,” by Newt Gingrich, *CIO Magazine*.

Newt Gingrich offers commentary on the role technology could play in transforming health and healthcare. [Read More.](#)

Visit the [CHT in the News](#) section on the Center for Health Transformation's web site to read more!

Of the nine states that have so far agreed to participate in the Center's state transformation project, six Governors have named three person transformation teams, as per the project model, to work with us in thinking through the problems and goals in health and healthcare at the state level and how we can collaborate to identify and develop transforming solutions.

- Three of these six teams (Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida) met in Atlanta on October 2nd to begin this effort. [Read a short summary.](#)
- The State Transformation project was publicly kicked off at an all-day event October 23rd in Atlanta with Georgia Governor Perdue endorsing the transformation model.
- An introductory call with West Virginia's Governor Wise's Transformation Team will take place next week.
- Newt will lead a legislators-only workshop in Boise Idaho on November 13th where we expect 50 legislators from 12 of the western states to participate.

Medicaid is the state's biggest challenge. The three state teams from GA, SC, and FL identified escalating Medicaid budgets as their most significant near-term health challenge. To address this challenge the Center is currently developing a ***21st Century Responsible Citizen Medicaid Act***.

The first step is to make sure that each state is made aware of the most effective waivers that have been approved and adopted by other states. Do you know of a waiver program that is producing better outcomes at lower cost? Email us at info@healthtransformation.net. We will be collecting the best of the waivers to construct a model "super waiver," for which individual states can then assess whether to apply.

Identifying new solutions and waivers will be a key part of the development of a ***21st Century Responsible Citizen Medicaid Act***. Newt and the Center staff have had a series of meetings and discussions in order to determine what waivers exist, which are most successful, and what the future direction for waivers is.

State teams are receiving briefings and detailed feedback on various issues and are able to provide input. If you would like to participate in the State Team project, please contact us at 202-414-1800 or info@healthtransformation.net.

Exclusive Monthly Member Teleconference - November 17th

Newt Gingrich will update Charter and Premier members of the Center for Health Transformation on Medicare on Monday, November 17th from 2:00 p.m. Eastern. Newt will take questions and share his personal insights.

Access to this call is restricted to Charter and Premier Members. If you would like more information about how to become a Charter or Premier Member of the Center, please contact us at **(202) 414-1800** or info@healthtransformation.net.

November 11th – Nashville, Tennessee. Newt Gingrich Keynotes Healthcare Delivery Solutions Congress and the Consumer Directed Healthcare Congress.

November 13th – Boise, Idaho. Newt Gingrich to lead healthcare workshop at the Western States Health Care Summit.

November 17th - Charter & Premier member monthly teleconference.

December 4th – Trenton, New Jersey. Newt Gingrich to lead healthcare workshop at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce.

December 9 - Washington, DC. Presentation to the Institute for International Research's Medicare Financing Congress.

January 27, 2004 (Tentative) - Washington, DC. Inaugural Center for Health Transformation Member Meeting.

January 27, 2004 (Tentative) - Washington, DC. State Team Transformation Workshop.

For more information on these events or to view other CHT events, please visit <http://www.healthtransformation.net/events>.

The Center for Health Transformation is constantly seeking solutions that improve quality and lower cost. You may find numerous transforming examples on our website by visiting <http://www.healthtransformation.net/cases/>. We encourage you to submit your own transforming example via the website.

This month's Transforming Example Spotlight:

Florida Healthy State Program

The State of Florida, operating the fourth largest Medicaid program in the U.S., faced a \$650 Million Medicaid budget shortfall in 2001. The state proposed reimbursement reductions for medical services and supplemental rebates from pharmaceutical manufacturers but was willing to consider proposals addressing the underlying health risks of the population to address the root cause of rising expenditures.

A unique public-private partnership was created between Pfizer, Inc. and Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration involving the implementation of a large-scale, statewide disease management (or health management as depicted in this book) program that employs a patient-centered health approach for Medicaid beneficiaries suffering from heart failure, diabetes, hypertension, asthma, and any related co-morbidities and maps the intensity of the care treatment to the disease and risk severity of the individual.

The Healthy State program guarantees to save the state \$33 million over 2 years. The combined results to date include a 15% decrease in patient hospital days per 1000, and a 7% decrease in emergency department visits per 1000.

For more details about this program, please visit the [full case study](#).

The Center for Health Transformation, founded by Speaker Newt Gingrich is dedicated to saving lives and saving money through driving transformational solutions and policies throughout the system. These e-mails from Newt are updates about the Center for Health Transformation, providing an insider's view of key events and opportunities for transformation. Some of you have already signed up for membership in the Center. Others are being sent this email as an invitation to membership.

If you would like to become a corporate/association member of the Center for Health Transformation or are interested in financially sponsoring a specific project, please contact us: (202) 414-1800 or info@healthtransformation.net. Please also visit our website at <http://www.healthtransformation.net>.

If you would like to be removed from this distribution list, please reply and write "unsubscribe" in the subject line. Ask us questions or send us feedback. info@healthtransformation.net or (202) 414-1800.

Copyright © 2003 Center for Health Transformation. All rights reserved.

[Newt Notes](#) | [Member List](#) | [CHT in the News](#) | [Project Spotlight](#) | [Monthly Member Conference Call](#) | [CHT Events](#) | [Transforming Example Spotlight](#)

Medicare. I still believe President Bush will force the Medicare conference to a successful solution and will have a signing ceremony before Christmas.

As of this writing, almost all the major issues in the Medicare conference have been solved except for the Premium Support issue. The House Republicans believe passionately something has to be done to start lowering the long term costs of Medicare or it will bankrupt the system when the baby boomers retire. Senate Democrats bitterly oppose anything like premium support (in which people choosing the more expensive Medicare plan after 2010 would pay up to \$7 or \$8 a month extra for their plan).

CHT Founder
Newt Gingrich

The election results make it more likely the Republicans will insist on at least an initial step toward premium supports and will dare the Democrats to filibuster a drug benefit. Republicans will see this as a low risk strategy because they believe they will be able to blame the democrats for trying to stop the drug benefit, and they do not believe the Democrats can stop it for an entire year. Having been through the experience of watching seniors revolt over catastrophic coverage in the late 1980s, I know that seniors will be able to see through the blame rhetoric if a prescription drug benefit is not passed and that responsible party will be held accountable in the November 2004 elections.

The Medicare Bill has a number of patient safety, better health outcomes, quality and information initiatives which makes it the most important Health reform bill in a generation, and it still has the potential to be an excellent building block toward a 21st Century Medicare system.

State Transformation. We had a tremendous kickoff of our state transformation project in Atlanta

with Governor Perdue endorsing the transformation model.

We had a great workshop with the Governors' 3-person transformation teams in Georgia, Florida and South Carolina (see more [later in the newsletter](#)).

We have already been told by one of Governor-elect Ernie Fletcher's key staff that they would be interested in Kentucky becoming the tenth state involved in health transformation with the Center.

California pressures to save money: there will be enormous pressure on Governor-elect Schwarzeneger to save money in California and health providers (including the pharmaceutical companies) can expect significant pricing pressures in Sacramento.

Political Environment favors 21st Century Health Principles. To be successful in transforming health and healthcare, one cannot ignore the trend that has emerged by watching the recent election results-- leaders who are advocating market-based solutions are being swept into office. Whether you are a Republican or a Democrat, it is a political reality that Kentucky, Mississippi and California have Republican Governor-elects. This is a strong indication that there is more of an appetite among voters, (even voters in California where the two leading Republican candidates received 62% of the vote,) for private sector, market oriented solutions that are centered on personal responsibility and individual freedom.

I am particularly excited by what these trends mean for the election of one of the brightest health policy experts in the country, Bobby Jindal, who is leading the race as a Republican running for Louisiana Governor. As of this writing, Bobby Jindal is leading as a Republican in Louisiana, and if he wins the Governorship, he will certainly emerge as a health spokesperson of national prominence in a position to lead a state health transformation plan. Jindal's professional reputation is of an advocate of the very principles of the Center for Health Transformation. (Incidentally, Jindal worked for democratic Senator John Breaux.)

The Message of Transformation. We are developing a "21st Century Responsible Citizen Medicaid Act" that will lead to a new transformational rethinking of the entire Medicaid program.

We are developing a Contract with Doctors that will lead to a set of principles which would lead to the kind of professional life and income that would lead doctors to tell their children they should go into medicine. (We are looking for a financial sponsor(s) for this project. If interested contact info@healthtransformation.net.)

The Federal Government announced that we enjoyed the most profitable quarter since the early 1980s. However, it has not translated into proportional job growth. Many believe it is because companies are reserving their profits to manage the uncertainties of their health care premiums and costs. This is one of the reasons we are developing a program on Transformational Human Resources to unite large employers who want to turn the tide of high cost and unhappiness that seems to define many health programs in corporations around the country.

Reflections on Center Activities. We had great receptions at Sutter Health's Governor's Symposium in mid-October (Sutter is now a charter member), the National Association of State Legislators Luncheon Presentation, the California Healthcare Institute, and the Dallas Fort Worth Hospital Council, where I presented the principles of transformation of America's health and healthcare system.

Anne Woodbury was interviewed by CNN explaining the Center's views on Medicare.

Anne and Dana Pavey have presented the principles of transformation through a series of speeches and presentations on health transformation in the last month. Opposite Howard Dean's chief health advisory, Larry Lewin, Anne spoke to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Alumni Fellows. She also moderated a panel on Patient Safety at the Georgia Public Policy Foundation. Dana Pavey was the

kickoff keynote at the Georgia Medical Group Management Association's Governmental Forum. She also was a guest speaker at a George Mason Graduate Nursing Class.

The Center is really beginning to build momentum.

The Center for Health Transformation member list has now been added to our web site and most of our members are listed there. Please visit the [list of members page](#) often to keep abreast of who is joining the Center.

October, 2003—"Look Who's Talking: A sampling of high-profile voices influencing the national healthcare debate," by Michelle Rogers, *Healthleaders Magazine*

Newt Gingrich is one of the three out of 17 total individuals who is not an elected or appointed official or Presidential Candidate running for office. "...Gingrich has become a noticeable figure on healthcare since leaving Congress. He has published a book on transforming the U.S. healthcare system and has formed the Center for Health Transformation to address making changes to the country's health infrastructure to bring it into the 21st century." [Read More.](#)

October 29, 2003 – "Politics, Technology, And Transformation: A Conversation With Newt Gingrich," by Jeff Goldsmith, *Health Affairs Web Exclusive*

Mr. Goldsmith talks to Newt Gingrich about how "Medicare can be reformed without political consensus about what needs to be reformed." [Read more.](#)

October 28, 2003 – "Healthcare Facelift a Goal for Gingrich," by Jim Wooten, *Atlanta Journal & Constitution*

Mr. Wooten describes the Center for Health Transformation's vision for health and healthcare transformation in the states. "Gov. Sonny Perdue embraced the idea at (the October 23rd) Georgia Public Policy Foundation conference on health care co-sponsored by Gingrich's Center for Health Transformation." [Read more.](#)

Fall/Winter 2003- "The Cure for What Ails Us," by Newt Gingrich, *CIO Magazine*.

Newt Gingrich offers commentary on the role technology could play in transforming health and healthcare. [Read More.](#)

Visit the [CHT in the News](#) section on the Center for Health Transformation's web site to read

more!

Of the nine states that have so far agreed to participate in the Center's state transformation project, six Governors have named three person transformation teams, as per the project model, to work with us in thinking through the problems and goals in health and healthcare at the state level and how we can collaborate to identify and develop transforming solutions.

- Three of these six teams (Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida) met in Atlanta on October 2nd to begin this effort. [Read a short summary.](#)
- The State Transformation project was publicly kicked off at an all-day event October 23rd in Atlanta with Georgia Governor Perdue endorsing the transformation model.
- An introductory call with West Virginia's Governor Wise's Transformation Team will take place next week.
- Newt will lead a legislators-only workshop in Boise Idaho on November 13th where we expect 50 legislators from 12 of the western states to participate.

Medicaid is the state's biggest challenge. The three state teams from GA, SC, and FL identified escalating Medicaid budgets as their most significant near-term health challenge. To address this challenge the Center is currently developing a ***21st Century Responsible Citizen Medicaid Act***.

The first step is to make sure that each state is made aware of the most effective waivers that have been approved and adopted by other states. Do you know of a waiver program that is producing better outcomes at lower cost? Email us at info@healthtransformation.net. We will be collecting the best of the waivers to construct a model "super waiver," for which individual states can then assess whether to apply.

Identifying new solutions and waivers will be a key part of the development of a ***21st Century Responsible Citizen Medicaid Act***. Newt and the Center staff have had a series of meetings and discussions in order to determine what waivers exist, which are most successful, and what the future direction for waivers is.

State teams are receiving briefings and detailed feedback on various issues and are able to provide input. If you would like to participate in the State Team project, please contact us at 202-414-1800 or info@healthtransformation.net.

Exclusive Monthly Member Teleconference - November 17th

Newt Gingrich will update Charter and Premier members of the Center for Health Transformation on Medicare on Monday, November 17th from 2:00 p.m. Eastern. Newt will take questions and share his personal insights.

Access to this call is restricted to Charter and Premier Members. If you would like more information about how to become a Charter or Premier Member of the Center, please contact us at **(202) 414-1800** or info@healthtransformation.net.

November 11th – Nashville, Tennessee. Newt Gingrich Keynotes Healthcare Delivery Solutions Congress and the Consumer Directed Healthcare Congress.

November 13th – Boise, Idaho. Newt Gingrich to lead healthcare workshop at the Western States Health Care Summit.

November 17th - Charter & Premier member monthly teleconference.

December 4th – Trenton, New Jersey. Newt Gingrich to lead healthcare workshop at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce.

December 9 - Washington, DC. Presentation to the Institute for International Research's Medicare Financing Congress.

January 27, 2004 (Tentative) - Washington, DC. Inaugural Center for Health Transformation Member Meeting.

January 27, 2004 (Tentative) - Washington, DC. State Team Transformation Workshop.

For more information on these events or to view other CHT events, please visit <http://www.healthtransformation.net/events>.

The Center for Health Transformation is constantly seeking solutions that improve quality and lower cost. You may find numerous transforming examples on our website by visiting <http://www.healthtransformation.net/cases/>. We encourage you to submit your own transforming example via the website.

This month's Transforming Example Spotlight:

Florida Healthy State Program

The State of Florida, operating the fourth largest Medicaid program in the U.S., faced a \$650 Million Medicaid budget shortfall in 2001. The state proposed reimbursement reductions for medical services and supplemental rebates from pharmaceutical manufacturers but was willing to consider proposals addressing the underlying health risks of the population to address the root cause of rising expenditures.

A unique public-private partnership was created between Pfizer, Inc. and Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration involving the implementation of a large-scale, statewide disease management (or health management as depicted in this book) program that employs a patient-centered health approach for Medicaid beneficiaries suffering from heart failure, diabetes, hypertension, asthma, and any related co-morbidities and maps the intensity of the care treatment to the disease and risk severity of the individual.

The Healthy State program guarantees to save the state \$33 million over 2 years. The combined results to date include a 15% decrease in patient hospital days per 1000, and a 7% decrease in emergency department visits per 1000.

For more details about this program, please visit the [full case study](#).

The Center for Health Transformation, founded by Speaker Newt Gingrich is dedicated to saving lives and saving money through driving transformational solutions and policies throughout the system. These e-mails from Newt are updates about the Center for Health Transformation, providing an insider's view of key events and opportunities for transformation. Some of you have already signed up for membership in the Center. Others are being sent this email as an invitation to membership.

If you would like to become a corporate/association member of the Center for Health Transformation or are interested in financially sponsoring a specific project, please contact us: (202) 414-1800 or info@healthtransformation.net. Please also visit our website at <http://www.healthtransformation.net>.

If you would like to be removed from this distribution list, please reply and write "unsubscribe" in the subject line. Ask us questions or send us feedback. info@healthtransformation.net or (202) 414-1800.

Copyright © 2003 Center for Health Transformation. All rights reserved.