The Future of Health Services Research Advancing Health Systems Research and Practice in the United States

In the US, health care costs are 18% of our GDP - among the highest in the world. Yet, unacceptable health outcomes and disparities exist in many populations.

People of color in the US unilaterally face more challenges accessing health care than their white peers. American life expectancy at birth is a full 3 years less than other comparable countries.

Health services research provides the evidence needed to increase access to care, decrease health care costs, and improve health outcomes.

Yet only **0.3%** of US health care spending is directed to funding health services research.

To transform itself to meet the needs of a 21st-century health care system, health services research must develop data infrastructure, create a network of stakeholders, and characterize results that would lead to system-wide improvement.

The physical and financial health of the nation is at stake.

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