



Barack OBAMA

<http://www.barackobama.com/issues/healthcare/>



## Overall Health Care Plan

Require that all children have health insurance; pay for it by rolling back President Bush's tax cuts for households earning over \$250,000; aims for universal coverage.

From candidate website:

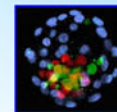
- Establish a new public insurance program available to Americans who do not currently have medical insurance, as well as to small businesses that want to offer insurance to their employees
- Create a National Health Insurance Exchange to help Americans and businesses that want to purchase private health insurance directly
- Require all employers to contribute towards health coverage for their employees or towards the cost of the public plan
- Mandate all children have health care coverage
- Expand eligibility for Medicaid and SCHIP programs (state childrens' health insurance programs)
- Allow flexibility for state health reform plans



## Prescription Medicines

Obama has several proposals including:

- Lifting the ban that currently prevents the federal government from negotiating with drug companies to get lower prices on drugs for the Medicare program
- Allowing seniors and other Americans to buy safe prescription drugs from other developed countries where prices are lower
- Increasing the use of generic drugs in Medicare, Medicaid and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan, and preventing pharmaceutical companies from blocking safe, low-cost generic drugs from entering the market
- Closing the so-called "doughnut hole" in Medicare Part D prescription drug program. The doughnut hole is the gap between the true price of prescription drugs and what Medicare actually pays, which costs many individual seniors thousands of dollars every year



## Stem Cell Research

Supports federal funding for embryonic stem cell research, but opposes the intentional creation of embryos for research purposes. Supports greater emphasis on research into somatic (adult) stem cell research so as to require less use of embryonic stem cells.