

Medicare for All: Economic Necessity and Feasibility

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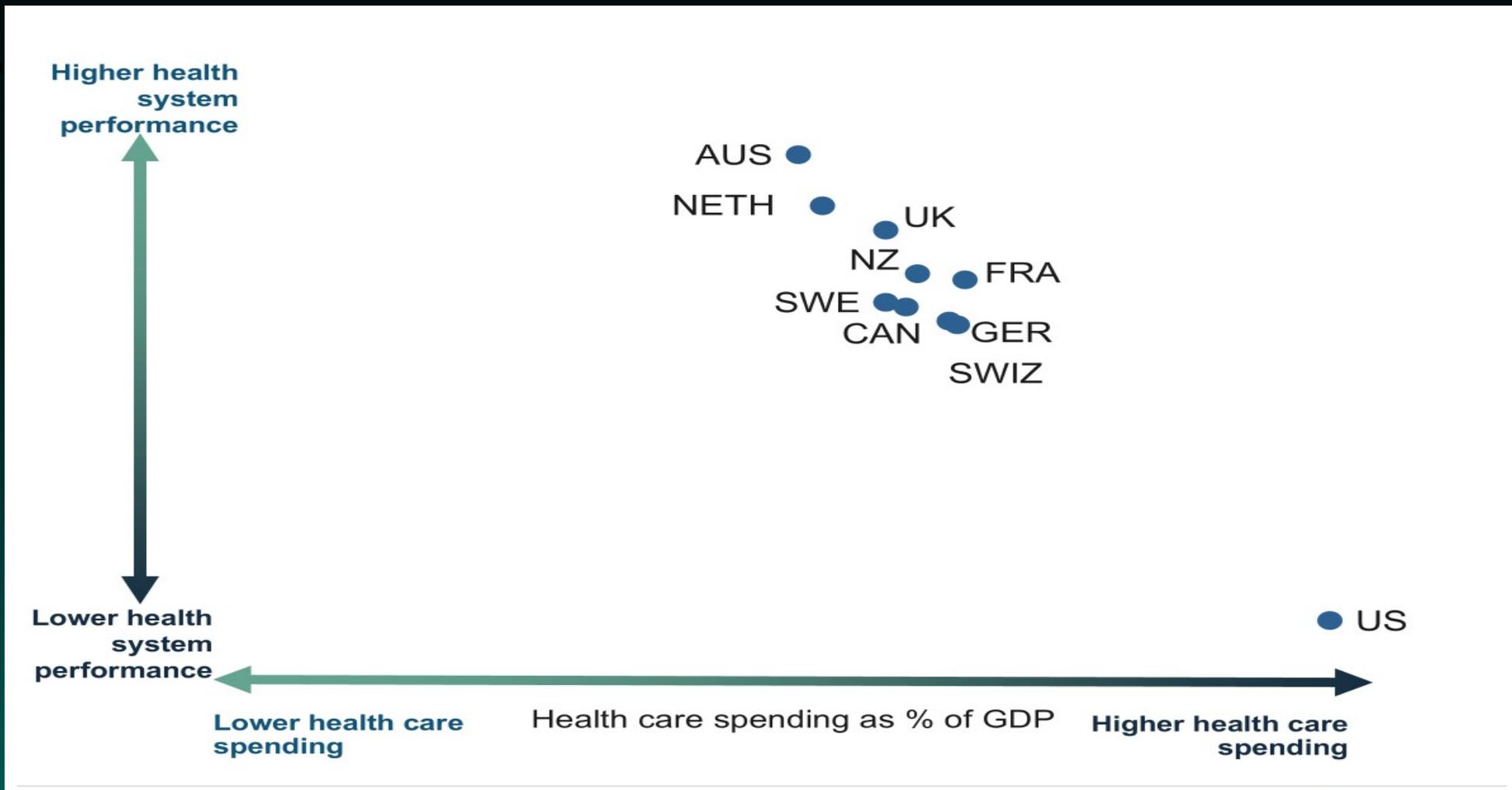


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Medicare for All is an Economic Necessity



Health Care System Performance Compared to Spending



Source: David Blumenthal et al., *Mirror, Mirror 2024: A Portrait of the Failing U.S. Health System — Comparing Performance in 10 Nations* (Commonwealth Fund, Sept. 2024). <https://doi.org/10.26099/ta0g-zp66>



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Medicare for All Would be Less Costly

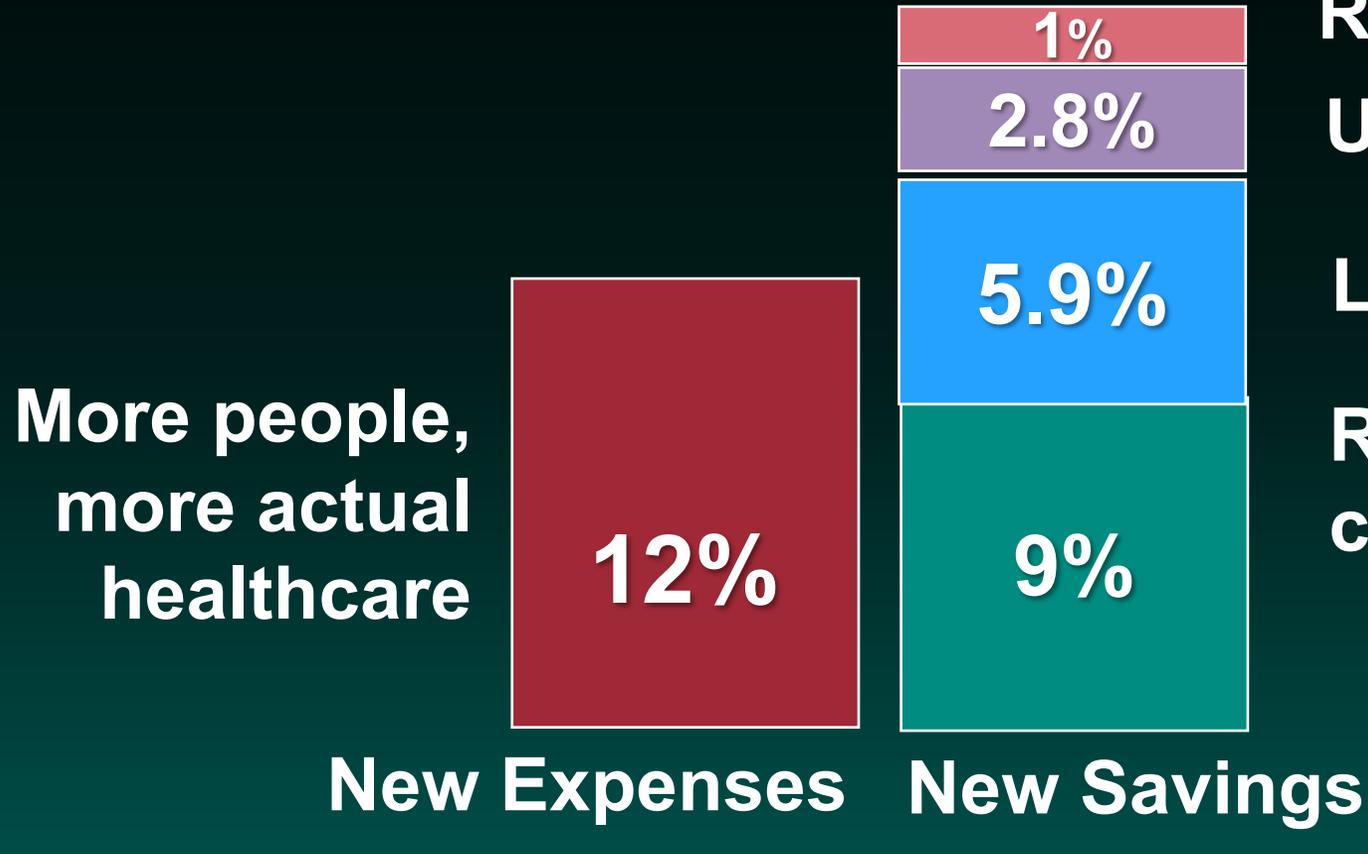
- Lower insurance overhead
 - U.S. private insurance 12%, U.S. Medicare 2.2%, Canada single payer 1.6%
- No insurance profit ~ 4.5% of premiums
- Lower physician administrative costs
- Lower hospital administrative costs
- Hospitals can be paid on global basis (set amount/year)
- Prices can be negotiated with product providers
- Can focus on less costly, more effective services—
prevention, primary care, social determinants of health



Medicare for All is Economically Feasible



M4A New Expenses & New Savings



More people,
more actual
healthcare

Reduction of fraud and waste
Uniform provider rates

Lower pharmaceutical pricing

Reduction of administrative
costs

--Health insurance

--Hospitals

--Physicians/others



Medicare for All Makes Economic Sense

Pays for itself:

19 of 22 studies:

Savings fund coverage in 1st year.

All of 22 studies:

Savings fund coverage in 10 years.

Supported by 253

economists:

“The time is now for
Medicare for All.”

Affordable:

Decrease in healthcare expenses
for most families.

Cai, C. et al. (2020). Projected costs of single-payer healthcare financing in the United States: A systematic review of economic analyses. *PLoS medicine*, 17(1), e1003013.
<https://dignityandrights.org/2019/05/253-economists-sign-letter-backing-medicare-for-all/>



Financing Medicare for All

Bring in existing state and federal spending on healthcare

Replace existing household spending on premiums with progressive taxes

Replace existing employer spending with employer-side payroll tax.



“The impediment to fundamental reform in health care financing is not economic, but political..”-- EPI, 1998

