



Media Advisory – Rescheduled Event

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 8, 2003

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NEW SURVEY EXPLORES COST BARRIERS FACED BY AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES, INCLUDING THOSE WITH HEALTH INSURANCE

Survey Examines Role of Medicare, Medicaid and Private Insurance in Access to Care, Prescription Drugs for People with Disabilities

People with disabilities are at risk in the health-care system because of their wide-ranging health-care needs, their relatively heavy use of prescription drugs, health-care and support services, and typically low incomes. However, most people with disabilities are covered by some form of health insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid.

A new national survey of 1,505 people with permanent mental and/or physical disabilities explores their health-care experiences and challenges in accessing and paying for care. The survey findings will be presented and discussed at a breakfast briefing, Friday, December 12, 2003. An article based on the survey findings was published in the November 19, 2003 online issue of *Health Affairs*.

A new report, *Understanding the Health-Care Needs and Experiences of People with Disabilities: Findings from a 2003 Survey*, will be released at the briefing and **Jackie Judd**, Foundation senior visiting fellow and former ABC News correspondent, will introduce a video featuring people with disabilities discussing their experiences with the health-care system.

Study authors **Kristina Hanson** and **Patricia Neuman** of the Kaiser Family Foundation will present the survey findings, followed by a panel discussion featuring **Bob Williams**, co-director of Advancing Independence; **Sheila Burke**, Smithsonian Under Secretary for American Museums and National Programs and Kaiser Family Foundation Trustee; and **Michael Perry**, who directed the Foundation's focus group discussions with people with disabilities. **Diane Rowland**, Foundation executive vice president will moderate.

What: A briefing on the results of a survey of people with disabilities

When: Friday, December 12, 2003, 9:15 to 11 a.m.
(Registration and Breakfast at 8:45 a.m.)

Where: Barbara Jordan Conference Center
Kaiser Family Foundation Public Affairs Center
1330 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC (one block west of Metro Center)
view map at <http://www.kff.org/content/2003/20030322>

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