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Peter Cunningham, Ph.D., is a Senior Fellow with the Center for Studying Health System Change (HSC), Washington, D.C. He has been with HSC since 1995, where he has been extensively involved in the design, planning, management, and analysis of the Community Tracking Study (CTS), a large nationally representative and longitudinal study of the U.S. health care system funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. His main areas of interest include trends in public and private health care coverage, public coverage programs for low income persons, access to medical care for the uninsured, the ability of publicly-supported providers to care for medically underserved populations, physician charity care, and out-of-pocket spending for medical care. He has published extensively in medical and health services research journals, including *JAMA*, *Health Affairs*, *Health Services Research*, *Inquiry*, *Medical Care*, and *Medical Care Research and Review*. He has also authored numerous Issue Briefs and Research reports published by HSC.

Prior to joining HSC in 1995, Dr. Cunningham was a researcher at the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (now the Agency for Health Research and Quality). While there, he was extensively involved in the design and analysis of the National Medical Expenditure Survey (NMES), and his research was focused on health insurance coverage of children, access to care, use of mental health-related services, and the health care of American Indians and Alaska Natives. He began his research career at the Agency in 1987, which was then called the National Center for Health Services and Research.

Dr. Cunningham received his Ph.D. in Medical Sociology from Purdue University in 1988. While at Purdue, he was a Research and Teaching Assistant at the Health Services Research and Training Program, directed by Dr. Robert Eichhorn. There, Dr. Cunningham taught statistical analysis and was involved in a number of health services research projects, especially in surveys of adolescent health care conducted in collaboration with the University of Indiana Medical School in Indianapolis. Dr. Cunningham received his B.A. in Sociology from St. Ambrose University, Davenport IA.