

Appendixes

Appendix A.— Method of the Study

This report, *Medical Technology Under Proposals To Increase Competition in Health Care*, grew out of the OTA study *Strategies for Medical Technology Assessment*. In the course of that study, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources requested that OTA expand its analysis of information needed under different payment methods to provide a separate document on the implications for medical technology of proposals to increase competition.

At the September 1981 meeting of the Health Program Advisory Committee, members commented on a proposed outline for the study and suggested that it focus on proposals to increase cost sharing and to increase competition among comprehensive care organizations, but that antitrust proposals be excluded. A review of legislation during the 96th and 97th Congresses that incorporated these two kinds of proposals, and of relevant literature from economic theory, health services research, and policy analysis was begun in October.

During October and November, an advisory panel was selected, with Lester Breslow of the School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles, as the chair. The 16 panel members had different backgrounds and perspectives related to the issues of the study: the two different approaches to increase competition, economics, medicine, prepaid group practice, individual practice associations, consumers, publishing, technology assessment, government, third-party payment, and policy analysis. One member of the

Health Program Advisory Committee, Rashi Fein, also served on the advisory panel.

During December 1981 and January 1982, the members individually suggested modifications in the revised outline of the study and recommended experts and publications to consult for further information. Four contractors were selected and began work in December and January to provide background information that could be incorporated by OTA staff into the report.

The first panel meeting was held February 26, 1982, at OTA. The panel discussed draft documents that had been prepared by OTA staff outlining the proposals to increase competition and the concept of competition, as well as several case studies that related to the proposals. These case studies are included as appendixes to this report. In addition, several of the contractors described how they were addressing their subject areas. The panel suggested changes in the draft documents, additional case studies, and ideas for the contractors to explore further.

Following the panel meeting, the OTA staff prepared a draft report. The draft was distributed to the advisory panel, the Health Program Advisory Committee, and other reviewers in Government, industry, economics, and policy analysis. Discussion of the draft report was the topic of the second panel meeting, which was held at OTA on April 20, 1982. Incorporating comments from outside reviewers and other OTA staff, the study staff prepared a final draft report during May.