



## The Archimedes Movement Statement of Intent

*It is the intent of the Archimedes Movement to:*

- 1) Ensure that all Americans have timely access to treatment for a defined set of essential health conditions;
- 2) Offer a blueprint for national health care reform;
- 3) Recognize that clinging to the system of employer-sponsored coverage as it is currently structured is not an option and to:
  - a) Recognize that the current structure makes much less sense now than it did when the economic forces and incentives that created it were put in place over 50 years ago;
  - b) Rethink the structure of the current system of employer sponsored coverage in light of the realities of a highly competitive global economy, the increased mobility of the workforce and the changing structure of the workplace; and
  - c) Develop a way to finance the treatment of a defined set of essential health conditions that are not tied to employment, relieving employers and employees of this cost while still leaving employers the option of offering secondary coverage designed to best serve the specific needs of their particular workforce;
- 4) Recognize that clinging to the current structure of Medicaid, including the Title XIX Medicaid health care benefit, is not an option and to:
  - a) Eliminate the need for a special program for the poor by ensuring that all Oregonians, including the most vulnerable members of our society, have access to treatment for at least the same defined set of essential health conditions;
  - b) Ensure that the medical and health needs of the blind and those with other disabilities and special needs are met in a timely and cost effective manner with treatments that are physically and cognitively accessible and that produce quality outcomes; and
  - c) Eliminate the complexity and administrative cost of assigning equally impoverished and vulnerable groups of Americans into dozens of different eligibility categories to determine how their care will be financed; and
- 5) Reconsider the current structure of the Medicare program, but not to dismantle it, and to:
  - a) Recognize that clinging to the current structure of Medicare is not an option;

The Archimedes Movement: Statement of Intent

- b) Rethink the current structure of Medicare in light of the huge demographic trends and advances in medical technology that have taken place since it was created in 1966;
  - c) More rationally and honestly identify the medical and health needs of an aging population and to ensure that those needs are met in a timely and cost-effective manner with treatments that are physically and cognitively accessible and that produce quality outcomes; and
  - d) Balance, in an equitable and sustainable manner, the medical and health needs of the elderly with those of the non elderly and ensure that this balance is reflected in the allocation of public resources for health care.
- 6) Reconsider the workforce capacity in the current system, in order to move to more effective and efficient delivery models that will produce quality outcomes.