

MODULE 8: ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES: MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES

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# Access to Health Services: Multiple Perspectives

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**Public Health**  
Learning Modules

Using **Healthy People 2020**  
to Improve Population Health



ASSOCIATION FOR PREVENTION TEACHING AND RESEARCH



College of Health Professions  
and Social Work  
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY\*

Module 8: Access to Health Services



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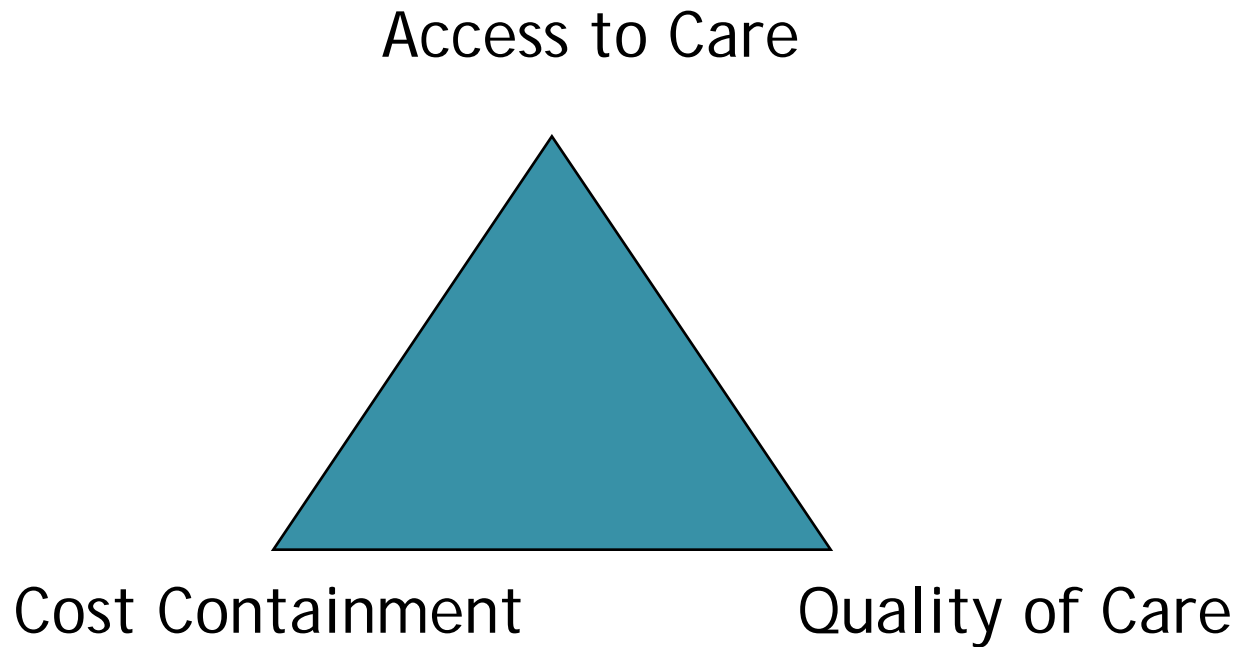
# Part 1: Background on Health Care Access



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# “Iron Triangle of Health Policy”



# Access to Care definition

“timely use of personal health services to achieve the best health outcome”

- Timeliness of services
- Quality of Care

Access to Health Care in America, IOM, 1993

# Why Is Access so Important?

For Individuals: Right care, Right Place, Right ??

For our Society: Essential for a strong society

- Quality of Care
- Everyone
- Health Equity

# How Does One Access Care?

- Find a health care provider you trust
- Gain entry into the health system
- Access a health care location where needed services are provided

# When you get access . . . .

- Assess your physical, social and mental health status
- Prevent disease, disability and even mortality
- Assess your quality of life and lifestyle
- Improve life expectancy

# When you don't get access . . .

- Unmet health needs
- Delays in receiving appropriate care
- Creates health disparities
- Reduces quality of health care
- Potentially preventable hospitalizations



# What are some barriers to care?

- Health insurance coverage
  - Exclusions in insurance
  - Preexisting conditions
  - Affordable Care Act
- Acceptability of health insurance
  - Low reimbursement
  - Out of network due to cost or quality

# What are some barriers to care?

- Availability of health facilities
  - Location and design of facilities
  - Transportation
- Availability of health providers
- Patient factors
  - Patient's mobility
  - Language and culture
  - Cultural and linguistically appropriate standards (CLAS)
  - Health literacy

# Four Components of Access to Care in HP 2020

- Health insurance coverage
- Health services
- Timeliness
- Workforce