

Section on Health Policy Statistics Speaker Luncheon  
2009 Joint Statistical Meetings, Washington DC, August 2-6

***Aligning Provider Incentives: Pay for Performance  
and Beyond***



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Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>  
12:30-1:50 pm

Event # WLog, \$40 per person

**Abstract:** At the beginning of the decade, the Institute of Medicine shone an unfavorable spotlight on the health care reimbursement system in the U.S., highlighting its perverse reinforcement of patterns of care that result in high costs and patient harm. Since that time, there has been a surge in the adoption of performance-based incentives by a variety of payers. Experimentation with and debate about pay for performance has had an important side effect: renewed interest in broader payment reforms. In this presentation, I describe the experience with pay for performance and survey the landscape of subsequent provider payment innovations in the U.S. (or renovations, perhaps). I conclude with a discussion of the strengths, weaknesses, and prospects for genuine reform along the lines of current proposals and pilot efforts.

**Speaker Bio:** Meredith B. Rosenthal, Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Health Economics and Policy in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard School of Public Health and a 2006 Sloan Industry Fellow. Dr. Rosenthal received her Ph.D. in health policy at Harvard University in 1998. Her research examines the design and impact of market-based health policy mechanisms, with a particular focus on the use of financial incentives to alter consumer and provider behavior. She is currently working on a body of research that examines alternative models for reforming physician and hospital payment. Specific empirical projects include evaluations of several Patient-Centered Medical Home pilots, pay-for-performance initiatives, and an episode-based payment system.