Public-Private Partnership Models for Hong Kong

Singapore Actuarial Society

2nd Health Insurance Conference

7 June 2010

Chye Pang-Hsiang
Pang.chye@milliman.com
Hong Kong
(852) 2147-9678



About Milliman

- Over USD500m in consulting revenues, over USD100m from healthcare consulting
- Milliman healthcare consultants are multidisciplinary, comprising actuaries, doctors, nurses, health economists, health IT specialists, former hospital administrators
- Milliman tools include:
 - Health Cost Guidelines for forecasting utilisation and cost
 - Care Guidelines, clinical pathways used by clinicians to manage efficient delivery of care
- In Asia Milliman has been consulting to governments, the leading writers of health insurance in the region, reinsurance companies, and health care providers.



The Perfect Health System

- Comprehensive
- Accessible
- Affordable
- Not dependent on taxation

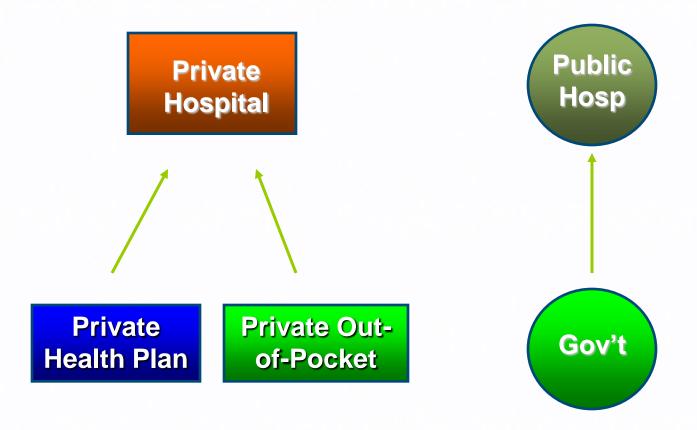


Hong Kong Delivery System

- Outpatient
 - Majority private sector
 - Mostly solo practitioners and small group practices
 - But two to three fairly large doctor panel groups
- Inpatient
 - Majority public sector in terms of number of beds
 - HKD100 per day
 - 13 private hospitals with around 3,800 beds
 - HKD20,000 per admission



Hong Kong Financing System





Hong Kong Report Card: Yays!

- Some of the lowest infant mortality and highest life expectancies in the world
- Comprehensive safety net
- Strong level of solidarity
 - Subsidies from rich to poorer
 - Subsidies from healthy to unhealthy
- Total healthcare expenditure is 5.5%
- Low tax rate



Hong Kong Report Card: Nays!

- Rationing at public hospitals
 - Long waiting times
 - Slow adoption of technology
 - Too much emphasis on societal value?
- Primary and tertiary care operate in silos
- Efficiency of delivery system in question
- Majority of elderly rely on public hospitals
- System is financially unsustainable



Moving Forward

- Some efforts to outsource "commodity"-type procedures to private sector
- Electronic health records
- DRGs introduced at public hospitals
- More money being put into public hospital system
- Approval to build more private hospitals
- Plans to introduce government-incentivised voluntary PHI scheme



Supply vs. Demand



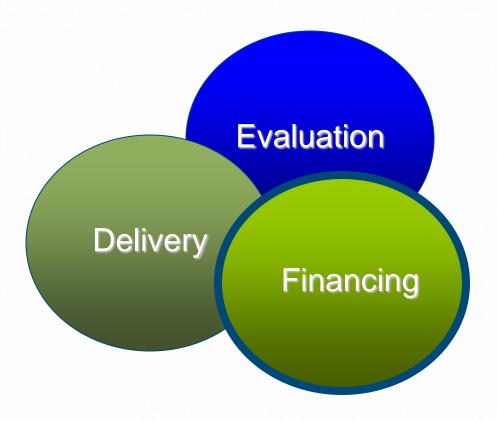


It's PHI, but not as we know it.....

- Why PHI?
 - Makes access to private care more affordable
 - Those that purchase PHI tend to use private hospitals
- But want to address weaknesses in PHI
 - Cherry-picking
 - Guaranteed renewal and portability
 - Moral hazard
 - Competition through standardization and transparency
 - Customer dissatisfaction



Let's not forget evaluation





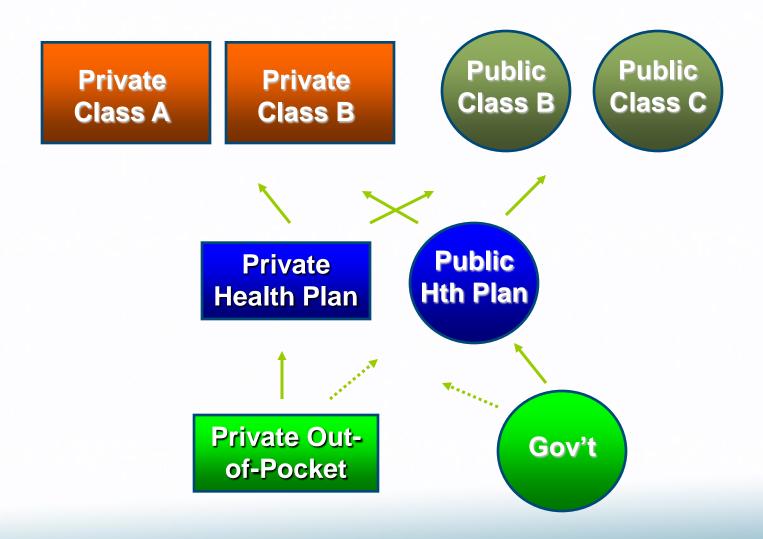
Inefficiencies Can be Significant



Figures are illustrative and adapted from a proprietary Milliman study



Consumer - Choice System





Built to Evolve

- Basic services covered by public health plan
 - Evolve with technology, education, awareness, and affluence
- Consumers vote with their feet and money
- Public-private organizations evolve
 - Competition and consumer demand
 - Political inertia diffused
- Dynamic equilibrium
 - In terms of scope of services, efficiency, and costs across different options



Public vs. Private



