Why U.S. Healthcare Fails Despite $4 Trillion Spent Transcript

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Apology and U.S. healthcare crisis

This year, once again, we must confront a harsh truth. I apologize for a role I played in creating one of the worst healthcare systems in the world. The stats are sobering.

Life expectancy in U. S. is just 79 years, ranking 40th globally and lagging far behind other wealthy nations. despite spending 18% of our GDP on healthcare more than any other wealthy nation, we still rank last in key outcomes like life expectancy and preventable deaths.

Poor outcomes despite high spending

Why? Administrative red tape, fragmented expensive care, inequities, and presentable factors like obesity, poor diets and substance abuse are taking a devastating toll.

is even more alarming for Black Americans.

Racial health inequities and systemic racism

Like expectancy for black Americans is nearly five times shorter than for white Americans and for mortality is more than double. And pregnancy deaths are nearly three times as high.

These inequities are rooted in centuries of systemic racism and pseudoscience, perpetuating false ideas about biological and racial differences. Next year could bring even challenges with leadership changes at Health and Human Services, Medicare and Medicaid, and the FDA.

The CDC has already been asked to scale down its public communications about measles and most recently, fluoride.

Policy concerns and public health communication

But here's some good news. The African-American Wellness Project will not stand down. And with other resources like the blackdoctor.

Commitment to wellness and health equity

org, we will keep you up to date on wellness, disease prevention, and the latest information on disease states and management. But please accept my apology.

I have always worked on your behalf with many others to make certain that health is the right of all Americans. and health equity for people of color is still my number one objective.