

## MONEY AND MEDICINE Film Festivals & Capsule Reviews

### Film Festival Screenings

Cinequest Film Festival, San Jose, CA, 3/12

San Luis Obispo International Film Festival, San Luis Obispo, CA, 3/12

Palm Beach International Film Festival, Palm Beach, FL, 4/12

Arizona Film Festival, Tucson, AZ, 4/12

WorldFest-Houston, Houston, TX 4/12, **Platinum Remi Award Winner**

Los Angeles Film, TV & Webisode Festival, 4/12, **Best Documentary Director**

Film Society of Lincoln Center's *Art of the Real*, New York, NY, 6/12

Breckenridge Festival of Film, Breckenridge, CO, 6/12

Philadelphia International Film Festival, 6/12, **Leigh Whipper Silver Award, Documentary Category**

Real to Reel International Film Festival, Kings Mountain, NC 7/12

Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 11/12, **Chris Award, Physical & Mental Health Category**

### Capsule Reviews

“Using heart-wrenching personal dramas, Weisberg insightfully puts a human face on unnecessary procedures that may do more harm than good. An eye-opening account of an unrestrained system feeding on itself, *Money and Medicine* not only enlightens, but also gives hope that it is not too late for us to afford the quality medical care we deserve.”  
- Sandy Wolf, *Cinequest Film Festival*

“An excellent and thoughtful treatment of this important subject. *Money and Medicine* deserves the widest possible exposure because it explains clearly why our health system is so expensive and inefficient, and shows what needs to be done about it. I hope this engrossing film enjoys the popular success it should have. It could very likely help to create public support for the reforms we need.”

- Dr. Arnold S. Relman, *Former Editor, New England Journal of Medicine, Author, A Second Opinion: Rescuing America's Health Care*

“*Money and Medicine* should be required viewing for every patient, physician, and politician. It thoughtfully describes what ails American healthcare and highlights the tremendous opportunities to make it well, and to do more with less. I will use it in my classes.”

- Amitabh Chandra, *Professor of Public Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University*

“How long should a life be prolonged by medical technology? A powerful and timely documentary, *Money and Medicine* takes on this difficult subject.”

- *San Luis Obispo International Film Festival*

“*Money and Medicine* is a powerfully insightful view of the challenges that result from a medical system that profits from disease care. We can't move forward until we recognize these current economic barriers. This film offers a mirror for a medical system that is in need of self-reflection towards recognizing dysfunctional habits. It offers opportunities for change towards a new path that has health as its primary intent.”

- Dr. David Rakel, *Founder and Director, Integrative Medicine Program, Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Wisconsin*

“...excellent description of some of the big issues in modern medicine. *Money and Medicine* hits the mark.”

- Lewis R. Goldfrank, MD, *Director, Emergency Medicine, Bellevue Hospital Center and NYU Medical Center Medical*

“A fascinating documentary. By contrasting two very different health care systems--UCLA and Intermountain in Utah--Roger Weisberg brilliantly illustrates the dedication of health care practitioners, ethical dilemmas facing patients and doctors, and the fundamental fiscal and clinical challenges facing our U.S. health care system.”

- Dr. Jonathan Skinner, Professor of Economics,  
Professor of Family and Community Medicine, Dartmouth College

“Honest, hard-hitting discussion of a topic critical for all Americans. These are highly qualified experts with on-the-ground experience and a comprehensive view of what needs to be done to save healthcare.”

- John Griffith, Professor Emeritus, Department of Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan,  
Author, The Well-Managed Health Care Organization

“Money & Medicine is smashing. Every American needs to watch this video.”

- Tom Emerick, Chief Strategy Officer, Laurus Strategies

“I think this film is terrific! You've taken a subject that can be so complicated and explained so effectively. It's also great because you don't just illuminate the problem but demonstrate that there is an alternative to the way the U.S. has come to (over)practice medicine. Thank you for letting me see it. You've created a very persuasive aid for people working for health care reform. Bravo!!!!”

- Julie Salamon, Author, Hospital

“A hard hitting, thoughtful documentary...It addresses challenging ethical, financial, professional, and human issues with appropriate nuance and stark frankness...Poignantly illustrated are major differences in medical economics comparing approaches of two major health systems to identical issues. This documentary belongs in every medical school curriculum and should be viewed by health professionals who are concerned about runaway costs across the US.”

Dr. Victor Sierpina, Professor of Integrative Medicine, Professor of Family Medicine, University of Texas

“It may be only “a small step forward” toward rational health care, but beautifully executed. Congratulations.”

- Dr. Nortin M. Handler, Author, Worried Sick  
Professor of Medicine and Microbiology/Immunology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,

“I think that you nicely balanced the stories in your documentary. It's a good film that should help to provoke the sort of healthy public discussion that we need. I would like to screen it with the UCLA and Santa Monica ethics committees.”

- Dr. Neil Wenger, Chair, Ethics Committee, UCLA Medical Center

“*Money & Medicine* illuminates the powerful forces driving soaring healthcare costs and offers ways to reign in excessive medical expenses.”

- UPI.com - United Press International

“Big congrats on the movie. You did a superb job. It was obviously fair, as well as sympathetic about the huge challenges that are out there. At the same time, you made your larger points loud and clear; I don't think it's unreasonable to hope that the film will really get lots of people thinking.

- Dr. Jerome Hoffman, Professor Emeritus, Emergency Medicine, UCLA Medical Center

“PBS will delve into America's health care crisis with the documentary *Money and Medicine* on Tuesday — and Intermountain Medical is the star...*Money and Medicine* features medical experts tossing off numbers and comparisons, yet also tackles medical issues through personal stories.” - Scott D. Pierce, *The Salt Lake Tribune*

“Academy Award-nominated documentary filmmaker Roger Weisberg helmed this provocative study of today’s U.S. healthcare system. The film argues that the intentional over-treatment of patients is driving up healthcare costs, and that the system is designed to offer financial incentives based on the quantity of patients being treated rather than the quality of treatment being provided... the renewed focus on the subject following the Supreme Court’s affirmation of President Obama’s healthcare reform legislation will ensure that this film remains timely for the near future.”  
- Phil Hall, *FilmThreat.com*

“FOUR years ago the filmmaker Roger Weisberg made *Critical Condition*, a documentary about being sick and uninsured in the United States. On Tuesday at 8 p.m. (check local listings) PBS will present its follow-up, *MONEY & MEDICINE*, which examines health care spending and waste...The film also examines the forces driving soaring costs — among them, aggressive end-of-life treatments — and looks at several strategies proven to rein in excessive spending, like executing advance directives, rethinking screening tests and learning about the risks and benefits of elective procedures.”  
- Kathy Shattuck, *The New York Times*

“Next week, *Money and Medicine*, a documentary examining the nation’s health-care spending, will premiere on PBS. The film aims to illuminate the waste and over-treatment that burden America’s health-care system as well as explore potential methods for curbing medical costs and improving quality of care for patients.”  
- Lia Steakley, *SCOPE, Stanford School of Medicine*

“The rising costs of health care, health care reform and what to do about systems like Medicare are big issues for this year’s election. PBS is looking to shine light on some of the problems with the health care system and how they are costing the nation billions of dollars a year.”  
- Paige Fieldsted, *Daily Herald*

“If we let this run for just a few more years it will destroy the government. What Roger is trying to show is the issues that drives the health care cost crisis. If you want to be informed, help maybe craft a solution, this is the first stopping point. If people thoughtfully watch it it will make them better, more active participants in the coming debates and it will be a big debate.” - Dr. Brent James, *Chief Quality Officer, Intermountain Healthcare*

“Weisberg is an accomplished, veteran documentarian whose films air regularly on PBS. His work has won numerous awards, including two Academy Award nominations. He knows how to let his subjects tell their own story, without getting in the way...The overarching theme of *Money and Medicine* is that these cases of overtreatment are not isolated or accidental. Overtesting and overtreatment are integral parts of the American medical system. Every decision, every incentive—for patient, doctor, hospital, pharmaceutical and device manufacturer, insurer, and politician—is weighted toward doing more rather than less, even if it causes harm.”  
- John Unger Zussman, *AsItOughToBe.com*

“Unnecessary cancer screenings, risky procedures and an estimated \$800 billion in annual “overtreatment” costs take a thrashing in filmmaker Roger Weisberg’s provoking new PBS documentary *Money & Medicine*... Citing an avalanche of statistics, Weisberg argues that many screenings and treatments for breast cancer, prostate cancer and brain injuries are too costly and of little value... His numbers are compelling.”  
- Greg Evans, *Bloomberg.com*

“PBS-style, the program raises questions and presents information, ideally giving viewers facts upon which they can base future decisions...Whichever way the national elections go, the challenge of improving the way health care is delivered will remain. That makes *Money & Medicine* an equally important source information before and after the November elections.”  
- Tom Brinkmoeller, *TvWorthWatching.com*

“Stories — especially first-hand accounts from patients, family members, and care-givers — bring statistics and data to life, and can communicate the need for improvement in immediate and powerful ways. Stories help us understand... By exploring the wide variations in care (and costs) at the beginning of life, and at the end, *Money & Medicine* tells the story of a health care system that’s not serving the needs of patients and threatens national prosperity.”

- *Maureen Bisognano, Institute for Healthcare Improvement*

“A new Institute of Medicine report estimates the healthcare industry wastes \$750 billion a year. Couple that with research showing a third of all healthcare spending is unnecessary, and everyone can agree healthcare costs are out of control. Such astronomical figures were on my mind as I watched a screening this week of *Money and Medicine*, a new PBS documentary airing Sept. 25 that examines soaring healthcare costs through the lens of overdiagnosis and overtreatment. In addition to identifying areas that drive excessive healthcare (e.g., end-of-life care, diagnostic testing and screenings), it offered some strategies to help keep escalating healthcare costs in check.”

- *Alicia Caramenico, FierceHealthcare.com*

“Filmed at UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles and Intermountain Medical Center in Utah, *Money & Medicine* examines the waste that pervades our health care system and puts a human face on the medical, ethical, and financial challenges of containing runaway health care spending... *Money & Medicine* provides a timely contribution to the debate over health care reform and deficit reduction that is heating up as the 2012 presidential election approaches.”

- *Rick Busciglio, Examiner.com*

“I recently went to see *Money & Medicine* by filmmaker Roger Weisberg, and was again thoroughly moved by the conversation of care and costs...This documentary plainly calls out the areas where there is a strong need to rein in care: preventive testing when there is limited evidence that it helps save money and lives; end-of-life intensive services; and provider cultures where over testing is the norm...It’s hard in this highly politicized environment to have rational conversations about care and costs. We yell about how expensive care is, but then we demand services even when they’re not beneficial. We’ve got to stop behaving like rebellious teenagers and get down to business on this issue... each of us has a role to play in figuring this out.”

- *Sarah Wilcox, HealthandLiving.com*

“This film is an investigation into the wasteful healthcare spending and the medical, ethical, and financial challenges of containing the runaway healthcare costs in the U.S. A thoughtful treatment of this important subject, the film clearly explains why our health system is so expensive and inefficient, and shows what needs to be done about it.”

- *LifeAfter50.com*

“The basic premise of *Money And Medicine* is that we as a nation are grossly overspending on intrusive and potentially harmful minor procedures that are entirely unnecessary. To illustrate the difference in care, the doc compares Intermountain Medical Center in Salt Lake City to UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles, where patients spend way more time in the hospital, see their doctors many more times, and incur incredibly expensive bills.

- *Kevin McFarland, AVClub.com*

“Roger Weisberg, producer and director of *Money & Medicine*, has created documentary films on healthcare and medicine since the 1980s, for example. But the situation the country finds itself in today – both on a healthcare front and on an economic one – is more dire than before, making the public more receptive to the messages presented in such films. ‘As we try to lay out in the first minutes of the film, the healthcare cost crisis really threatens to bankrupt this country,’ said Weisberg. ‘This is a crisis we have to address before we go over the proverbial fiscal cliff.’”

- *Stephanie Bouchard, Healthcare Finance News.com*

“Oscar-nominated documentary filmmaker Roger Weisberg helmed this provocative study of today’s U.S. healthcare system, which not only argues that the intentional over-treatment of patients is driving up healthcare costs, but also that the system is designed to offer financial incentives based on the quantity of patients rather than the quality of treatment.”  
- *Video Librarian*

“Winner of the Remi Award in the WorldFest at Houston, *Money and Medicine* is a documentary that scrutinizes one of the reasons American health care costs are skyrocketing out of control – overtreatment. ... Perhaps *Money and Medicine*’s most import lesson lies in its emphasis on the importance of peer review and the group pooling of information among medical professionals when doctors share what they know among themselves and collect aggregate data, they are better empowered to help their patients make difficult life-changing decisions. Highly recommended.”  
- *The Midwest Book Review*

“The program...talks honestly about the incentive of profit in health care while juxtaposing the actual financial costs of various treatments and procedures with the profound human costs of undergoing those treatments.”  
- *Janice Lynch Schuster, Altarum Institute, Health Policy Forum*

“*MONEY AND MEDICINE* raises many questions and brings many not widely known truths about the medical industry to light. It makes for a good rental that will no doubt prompt many discussions in your household.”  
- *Oursayonbluray, KDRV Fox31, Denver*