Healthcare cost containment under single-payer systems: lesson from Taiwan and Korea

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As countries worldwide look to achieving universal health coverage, rising health care costs often pose a barrier. Single-payer health insurance systems, such as those in Taiwan and South Korea, are thought to be more efficient and likely more effective for containing costs. However, in the last decades, South Korea has also had nearly the highest growth rate in health expenditure among industrialized countries. This talk examines factors for containing health care costs by comparing South Korea with Taiwan, with potential lessons for other countries considering single-payer systems.

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