Policy Advocacy and Healthcare Ethics

Discussion 1

What is the role of the United States government in regards to the delivery, access, and provision of health care services? To that end, is health care a right or a privilege?

The healthcare system strives to provide quality care to meet the health needs of various populations. Poorly designed healthcare systems lead to low patient satisfaction and undermine the overall success of a healthcare organization. These systems can cause harm to the patient and a bad reputation to the hospitals. The government has an essential role in ensuring the healthcare system provides high-quality care. The United States government should establish ways to combat environmental health hazards (Raghupathi & Raghupathi, 2020). Environmental health hazards cause health risks to American citizens. Therefore, measures should be put in place to assess the quality of air and water. The government should provide enough funds for research programs. It will go a long in helping researchers to identify and combat environmental health risks such as waterborne diseases and occupational health hazards (Raghupathi & Raghupathi, 2020). The healthcare system achieves its goals by providing finance and other resources, reducing health care inequalities.

Healthcare is a right. Vakharia (2020) indicates that the World Health Organization (WHO) recognized the right to healthcare in 1946. The healthcare right demands that everyone is entitled to the best healthcare available regardless of race, gender, religion, political views, and socioeconomic status. Moreover, states are required to fulfill the right to healthcare. States should ensure everyone has access to healthcare facilities. The right to healthcare gives people an entitlement to disease prevention programs, treatment, and access to affordable healthcare. Vakharia (2020) also claims that citizens have a right to refuse medical treatment and choose a plan that works best for them. Underprivileged populations, the elderly, orphans, and those that struggle to make a living should have a right to healthcare. Therefore, the government can implement ways to collect enough taxes that will cater to the health of Americans.

Discussion 2

Shaw et al. (2020) claim that falls is a common occurrence in healthcare facilities in Georgia state. The issue is common among elderly patients. It leads to physical injuries and fractures among patients, hence patient overstay in hospitals. Over prolonged hospitalization leads to increased medical bills and inadequate care for the patients. Male patients are at a higher risk of dying from hospital falls than women who experience non-fatal falls. A multi-component fall program needs to be established to prevent hospital falls (Shaw et al., 2020). The multi-component program entails education, physical exercise, training, and creating safer spaces at healthcare organizations. Healthcare workers and patients should be educated about falls and training programs to ensure healthcare workers understand the severity of falls.

