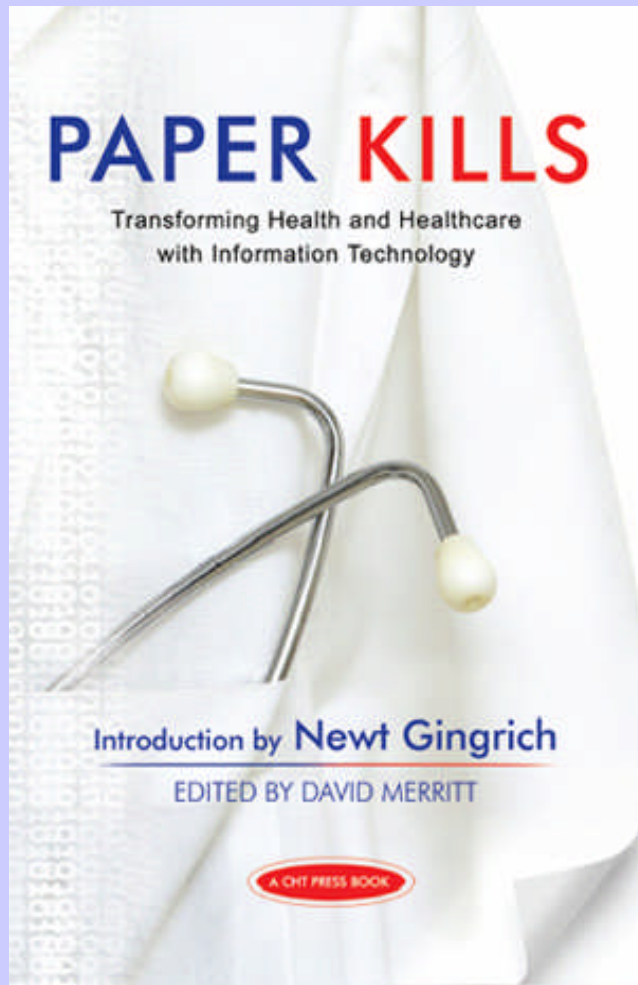




**Center for Health  
Transformation**

[www.healthtransformation.net](http://www.healthtransformation.net)



**David Merritt**  
Center for Health Transformation  
[www.healthtransformation.net](http://www.healthtransformation.net)



# **Presidential Politics and Healthcare Reform**

- The Public
- Candidates
- Current Debates in Washington
- Health Information Technology
- 2009 and Beyond



# The Public

- **81-17: dissatisfied with costs** (Gallup 11/07)
- **90-10: a total disaster**  
(CBS News/New York Times, 1/06)
  - Fundamental Changes: 56%
  - Completely Rebuild: 34%
- **64-35: will pay higher taxes to cover the uninsured** (CNN/Opinion Research, 5/07)



# Presidential Politics

- Senator Obama
- Senator Clinton
- Senator McCain



4.

Transform the Financing  
of Health Insurance

3.

Modernize and Improve  
the Delivery of Care

2.

Create a Culture  
of Health

1.

Improve Individual Health



# **Current Debates in Washington**

- Medicare Physician Reimbursement
- Health Information Technology
  - Electronic Prescribing (E-MEDS)
  - Wired for Health Care Quality Act



## **2009 and Beyond**

- President Obama
- President McCain
- Stronger Democratic Congress



# Presidential Politics and Healthcare Reform

- Healthcare remains the most important domestic issue in the campaign and with the public
- Current debates in Washington offer zero solutions
- Health information technology remains ripe for bipartisan action – yet it is unlikely to move
- Healthcare will be front and center beginning March 2009
- Four-box model is a good starting point