

Week 8: Government Regulations and Social Insurance Programs

Initial Post Instructions

For the initial post, respond to one of the following options, and label the beginning of your post indicating either Option 1 or Option 2:

- **Option 1:** The main social insurance programs like Social Security, Medicare, and unemployment compensation are funded by a payroll tax on the earnings of individuals who may receive benefits. Do you think the social insurance programs are effective? How are social insurance programs affected by the socioeconomic and political forces? Explain your answers.
- **Option 2:** Research government regulations on a particular area of your choice, such as food, drugs, product safety, fracking, environment, etc. Do you think the government regulations go too far? Do you think the government needs to add more regulations? How are lobbyists involved concerning regulations on food and drug safety, and our environment concerning fracking? Explain your answers.

Answer

Most governments around the world impose regulations on pharmaceutical companies to protect their public from harmful drug effects. Unfortunately, these regulations often prolong the process of bringing new pharmaceuticals to market. In the United States, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ensures that new drugs are rigorously tested for safety and efficacy to minimize side effects. As a result of this testing, most new drugs are researched and investigated for ten years before being brought to market and made readily available to