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Articles Affordable care act: Implementing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: The time is now The explains provisions of the act that should be effective in the year 2014. He also identifies provisions of the act such as covering employees’ dependants until their 26th birthdays, eliminating restrictions on benefits and compliance on government regulations regarding restraining of benefits. The act regulates ability, among employers with 50 or more employees, to design insurance benefits by stipulating employers’ contributions to cover different categories of employees. Failure to comply leads to penalties even though the law does not stipulate when such penalties should be paid. The penalties also apply to cases of full time employees only. Amount of cover may also vary across industries and penalties for non-compliance are lower than coverage costs. The policy therefore has strength of establishing minimum requirements for employer coverage but it lacks strong mechanisms for enforcement. It is however likely to promote employer coverage because of the legal environment and employers’ need for a positive image (Wojcik, 2013).   
Managed care: Managed care: A structured approach   
The authors define managed care as a set of initiatives for organizing, managing, implementing, and evaluating care that targets a specific group. The care approach eliminates duplication of care initiatives and reduces cost of care. In addition, managed care focuses needs to ensure delivery of appropriate services at the right time. Changes in the legal and technological environment has however complicated the scope of care and led to development of managed care model. The model identifies possible interactions between factors to care provision and advocates for management so that all factors to care support each other. In addition, the model focuses on the patient and incorporates all stakeholders and environmental factors, and their potential influences on care delivery. The managed care and the model have the strength of focusing on the patients for efficient and effective care but face the challenge of complexity because of the numerous involved factors. It however offers an opportunity for improved care (Linsley and Morton, 2014).   
References   
Linsley, P. and Morton, S. (2014). Managed care: A structured approach. Nursing Standard 28(19), 37-42.   
Wojcik, S. (2013). Implementing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: The time is now. Benefits Quarterly 29(2), 30-33.