





Concept of Health Index
 Outlined in Phelps, C.E. "Health Economics," 3rd edition.

<p>A person is alive as long as her Health Index ("HI") is above the minimum level ("HI_{min}") at which death occurs.</p> <p>The HI_{min} value is not fixed across time. Rather, social and technological advances have consistently lowered the HI_{min} "floor" since 1900.</p>	<p>The HI value changes as a person suffers from an illness or an accident, dropping her HI level until a recovery takes place. Also, the HI decreases naturally as a person ages.</p> <p>Healthcare systems today are designed to help patients recover from a drop in their HI caused by illness or accident.</p>
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Impact of Mother's Health in Baby's HI
 A person's HI is clearly influenced by his mother's own health

<p>The health condition of a woman prior to and during pregnancy has a clear and documented impact on her baby's health at birth and throughout the baby's life.</p> <p>Health prevention and educational programs that target pregnant women have proven to deliver good results.</p>	<p>Technology has also played a significant role since 1900 in helping less-healthy and older women to be able to get pregnant and deliver babies.</p>
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Pending Work
 The following layers will be added to this analysis:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Intervention cost. Develop an icon which size indicates the social cost of a patient's intervention. * Disease type: highlight the epidemiological transition. Diseases in 1900 (and their kill rate) compared with 2000 diseases (and mortality rates). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * End-of-Life ("EOL") back-loading (25% of all Medicare costs come in the last months of life).
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Impact of mother's health on fetus

-10 -05 00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 → Age and Life Expectancy













