

A teacher might use a verbal prod when students aren't participating in class. A prod is an encouragement, like the threat of a quiz. Just hope the teacher doesn't use the kind of prod a rancher uses to keep cattle moving! Prod can also be a verb that refers to a soft poke or a nudge, like when you prod someone in the ribs with your finger.

They know what they will get: prodding doctors, endless tests, baffling jargon, rising costs and, above all, long waits.



Baffle

To baffle is to confuse. If you are completely puzzled as to what baffle means, you might say that this word baffles you.



T Stoicism

If you rarely show emotion or feeling, that's stoicism. Your stoicism helps you endure physical or emotional discomfort without complaint, a helpful trait for long car trips with annoying people.

Some *stoicism* will always be needed, because health care is complex and diligence matters.



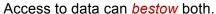
Venture

A venture is a risky undertaking. If your latest venture is a dog food store, you hope there are some hungry dogs around. Also, to *venture* is to go somewhere possibly dangerous, like if you *venture* out into a snowstorm. *Venture* is a shortened form of adventure. While the two words are similar in meaning, when you subtract the "ad," you lose a teaspoon or two of fun, and add a heaping tablespoon of risk. ...announced a new *venture* to provide better, cheaper health care for their employees.



Bestow

When you present an honor or gift to someone, you bestow it, which is the same as giving it, but often classier and more respectful.





👅 Vying (vie)

To vie for something means to compete for it. Two teams may vie for the gold medal, but one will have to go home with silver.

Apps are vying to see if they can diagnose everything from skin cancer and concussion to Parkinson's disease.



🛒 Pore

But when used as a verb, to pore means to concentrate your attention on or devote hours of focus to something: like poring over the overwhelming choices in the antiperspirant aisle.

Data can be pored over by those who are interested, while those who are not can opt to share data automatically with trusted providers.

有兴趣的人可以钻研数据,那些没有兴趣的人可以选择把数据自动分享给信任的医疗 人员。



a long fishing line with many shorter lines and hooks attached to it (usually suspended between buoys)

Cityblock Health will *trawl* data to spot where care is needed.



If you're *hale*, you' re strong and in good health. Think "*hale* and hearty," the wellknown phrase to describe someone who can lift a piano or work ten hours in a field without blinking an eve.

Greater transparency may encourage the hale and hearty not to take out health insurance.



🔭 Breach

A breach is a violation of a law, duty, or promise. If you'd contracted to mow your neighbor's lawn and don't do it, he can sue you for breach of contract. Or he can mow the lawn himself.

Almost a quarter of all data breaches America happen in health care.



Slapdash

If you just slapped something together and then dashed when you were done, it was slapdash. The paint job was slapdash: it looked like they did it in an hour, without brushes.

Health firms should face stringent penalties if they are *slapdash* about security, but it is naïve to expect that breaches will never happen.