

The Beneficial Impact of Patient-Centered Primary Care On Costs and Quality

- **States with a higher ratio of primary care physicians to population have better health outcomes, including lower mortality rates from cancer, heart disease or stroke.**

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- **Areas with more specialists have higher per capita Medicare spending, and an increase in primary care physicians is associated with a significant increase in quality of health services, as well as a reduction in costs.**

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- **Studies of ambulatory care-sensitive conditions have shown that hospitalization rates and expenditures are higher in areas with fewer primary care physicians and limited access to primary care.**

Bodenheimer T, Fernandez A. High and rising health care costs. Part:4 Can costs be controlled while preserving quality? *Ann Intern Med* 2005;143:26-31.

- **Cross-national comparisons indicate that countries with stronger primary care infrastructures have lower rates of premature births, deaths from treatable conditions, and postneonatal mortality.**

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Macinko J, Starfield B, Shi L. The contribution of primary care systems to health outcomes within Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries, 1970-1998. *Health Serv Res*. 2003;38:831-65.

- **Studies have repeatedly demonstrated that the vast majority of Americans prefer a sustained relationship with a primary care provider.**

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- **Increases in primary care physicians in the U.S. are associated with fewer premature deaths from all causes, increased longevity, and decreased health care spending per capita – especially for the African American community.**

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