

Why we need a Primary Care Clinician & Practice Compendium

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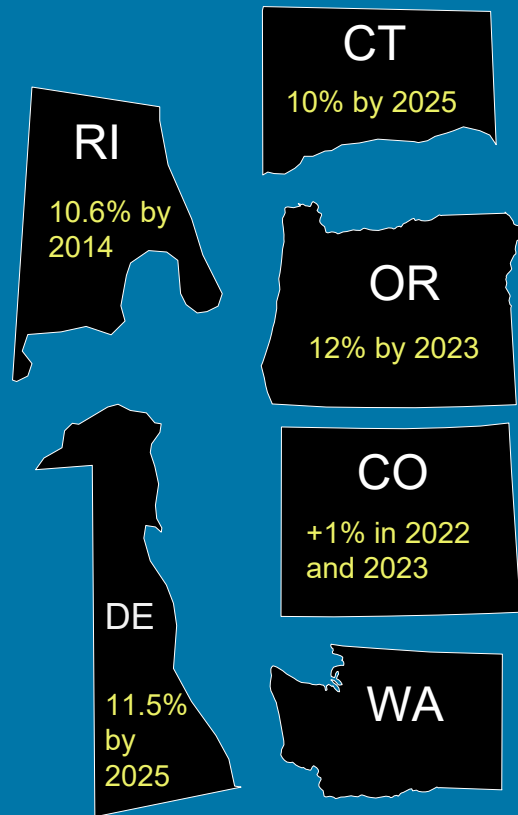
September 17, 2024

A Public Utility for...

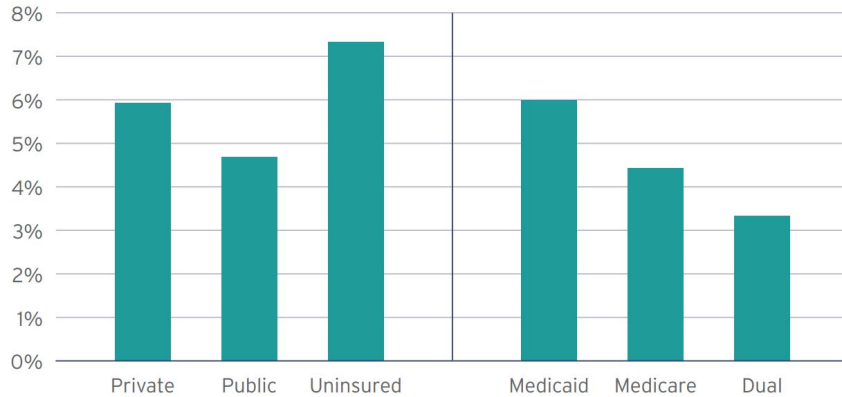
- Policy
- Research
- Training
- Planning
- Preparedness

@ States: Reorienting toward Primary Care

- 21 states committed to reporting PC spend (CO, CT, DE, MA, MD ME, NE, NH, NM MN, OR, RI, UT, VA, VT, WA, CA; Medicaid only: NJ, WV, OK, HI)
- 6 states set targets in legislation for increased primary care spending (CO, CT, DE, OR, RI, WA).

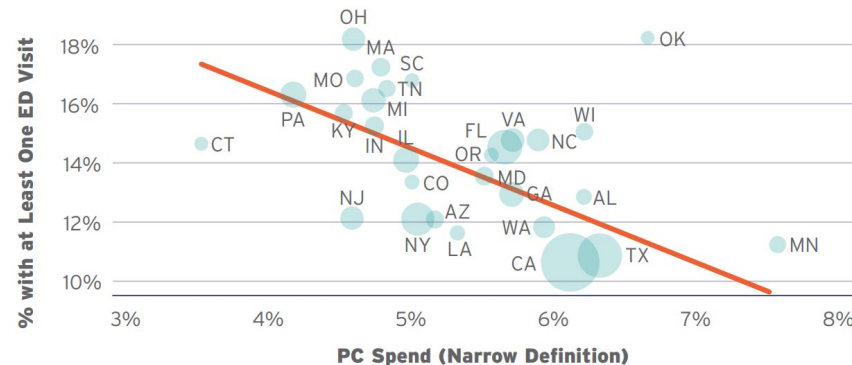


National Percent PC Spend-Narrow by Payer Type



Source: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (2011-2016) (N=216,814)

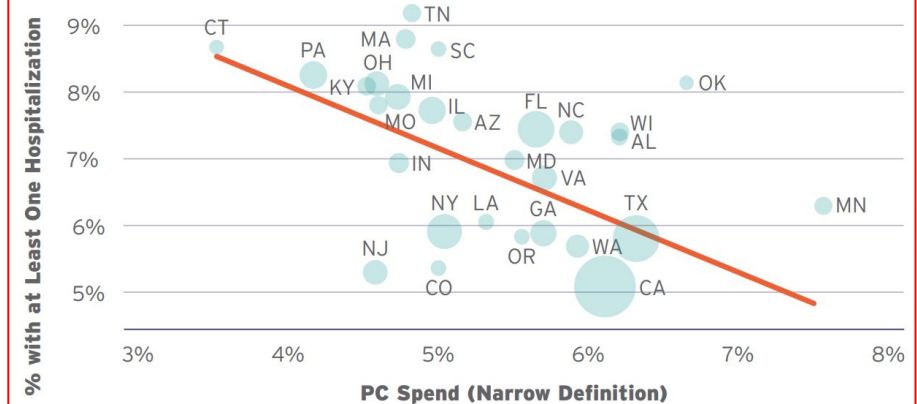
PC Spend-Narrow vs. Percent with at Least One ED Visit in Last 12 Months



R = -0.58. Note: Size of circles represents the population size of the state.

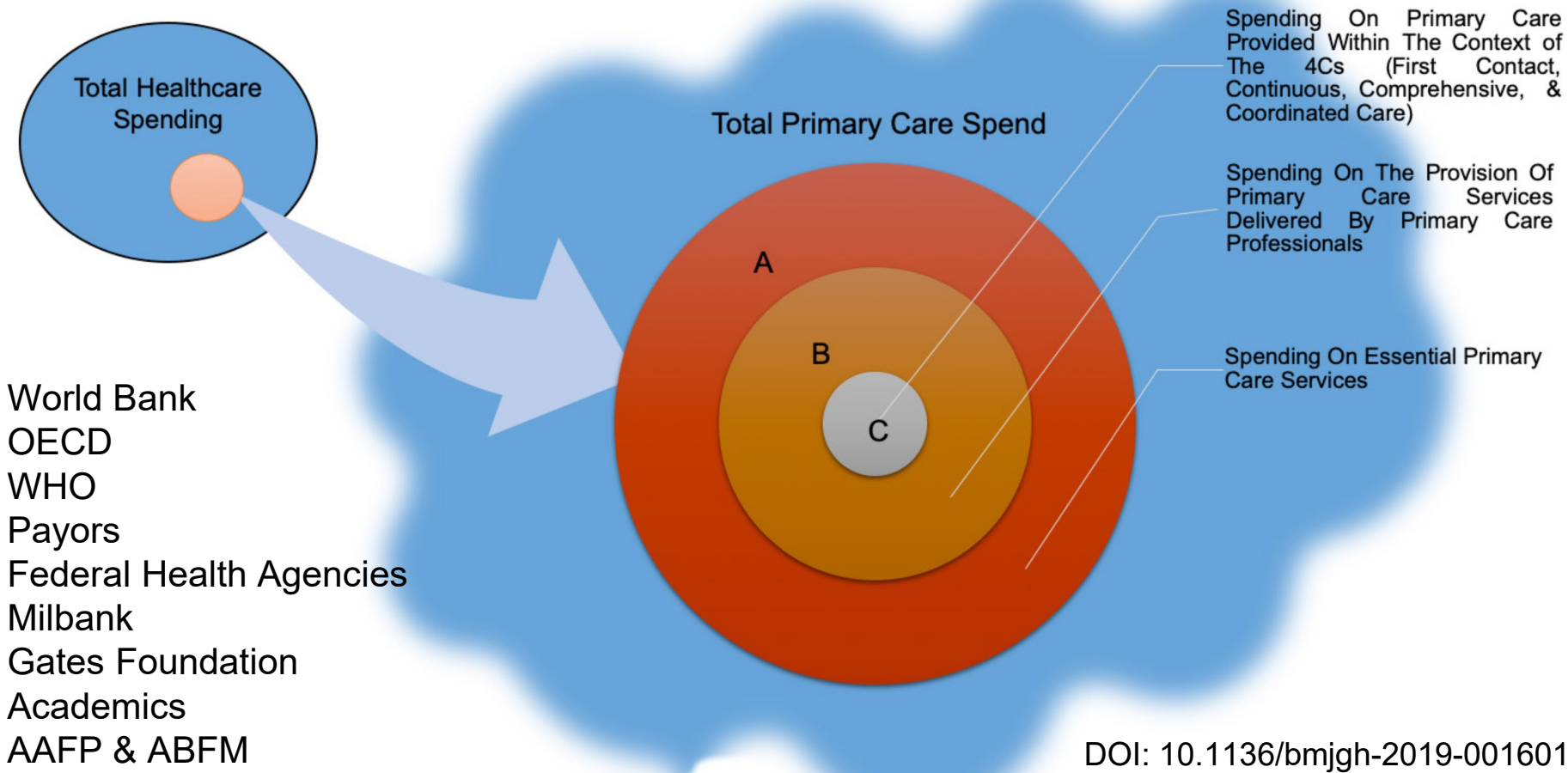
PC Spend vs. Outcomes

PC Spend-Narrow Vs. Percent with at Least One Hospitalization in Last 12 months



R = -0.58. Note: Size of circles represents the population size of the state.

[Investigating in Primary Care: A State-level Analysis \(graham-center.org\)](https://www.graham-center.org)

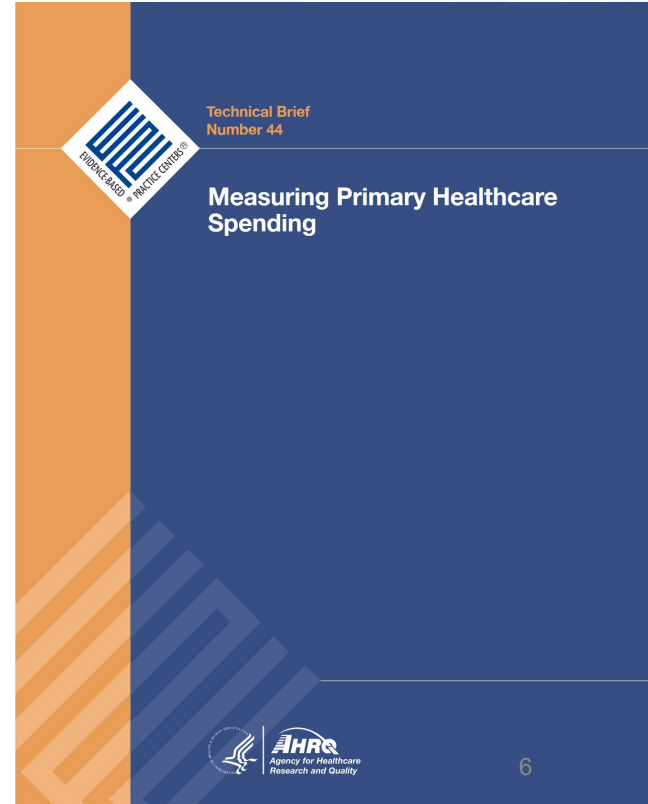


Without a PC Compendium, States use Proxies

- 67 PC spending estimates
 - 42 by 11 States
 - 2 by Veterans Health Administration
 - 23 by researchers

“These differences seem to emerge from different views and definitions of primary care and from a fundamental inability to efficiently identify and enumerate the primary care clinician workforce.”

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov



A Public Utility for Policy

- Federal health agencies should: collaborate to create a primary care clinician database that can function as a public utility for States to allow for more precise identification of primary care clinics and clinicians, and reduce reliance on Current Procedural Terminology/Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System codes to identify them;

Public Utility for Research

Primary Care and Mortality

- Every 10 additional primary care physicians per 100 000 population was associated with:
 - 51.5-day increase in life expectancy (county)
 - 117.3-day increase in life expectancy (Primary Care Service Area)
- **The data used for these studies are growing less reliable and geographies of assessment too big**

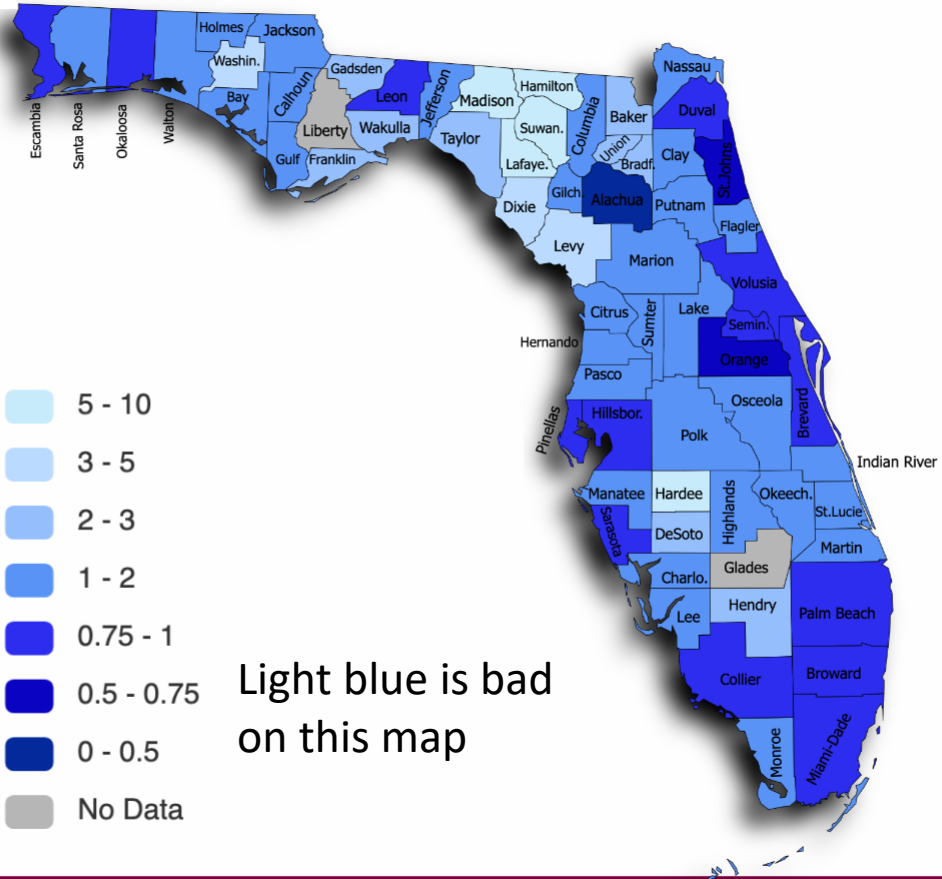
Basu S, Berkowitz SA, Phillips RL, Bitton A, Landon BE, Phillips RS. Association of primary care physician supply with population mortality in the United States, 2005-2015 [published online February 18, 2019]. *JAMA Intern Med*.

Research

JAMA Internal Medicine | [Original Investigation](#)

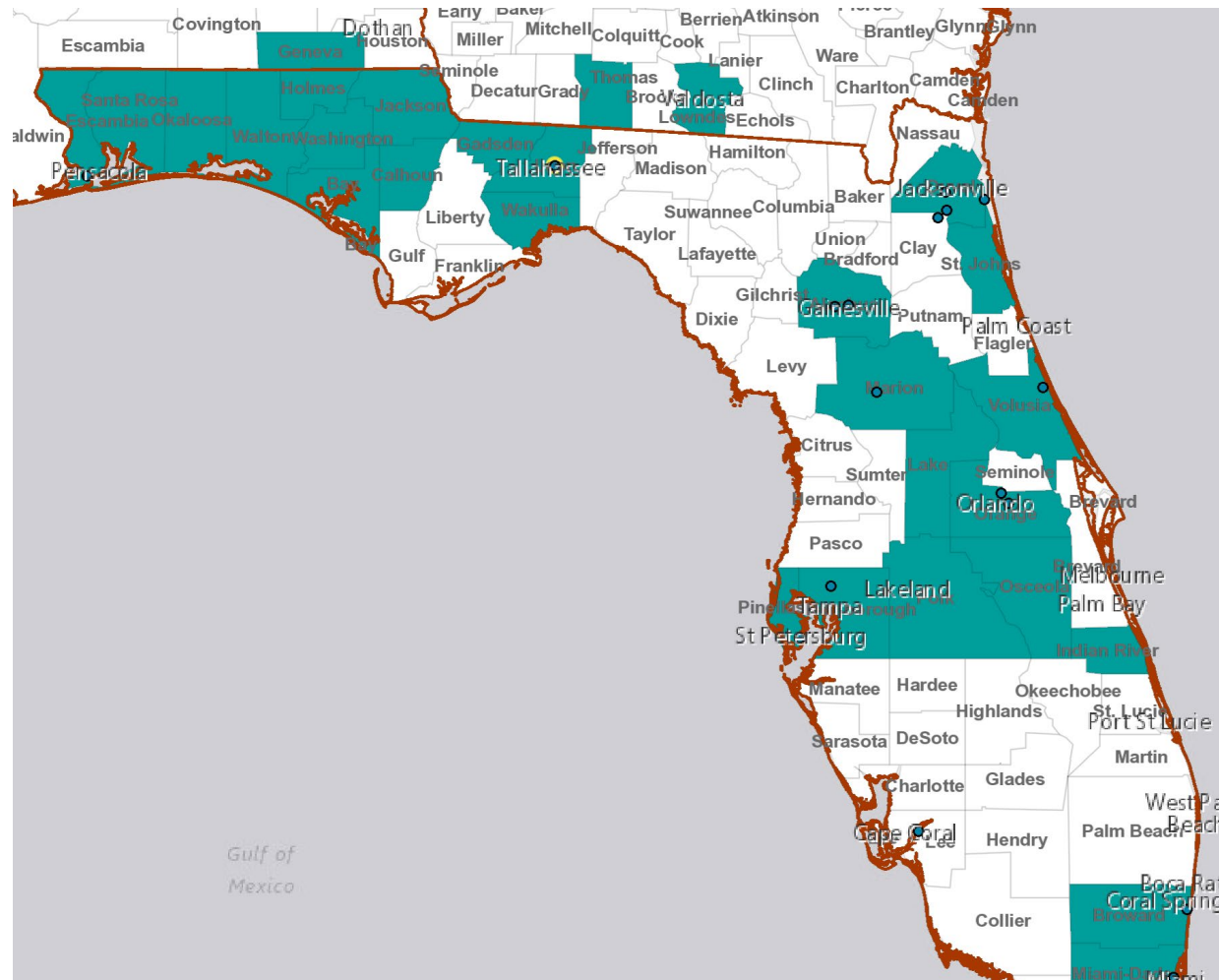
Association of Primary Care Physician Supply With Population Mortality in the United States, 2005-2015

Primary Care Providers per 1500 People



Public Utility for Training & Planning

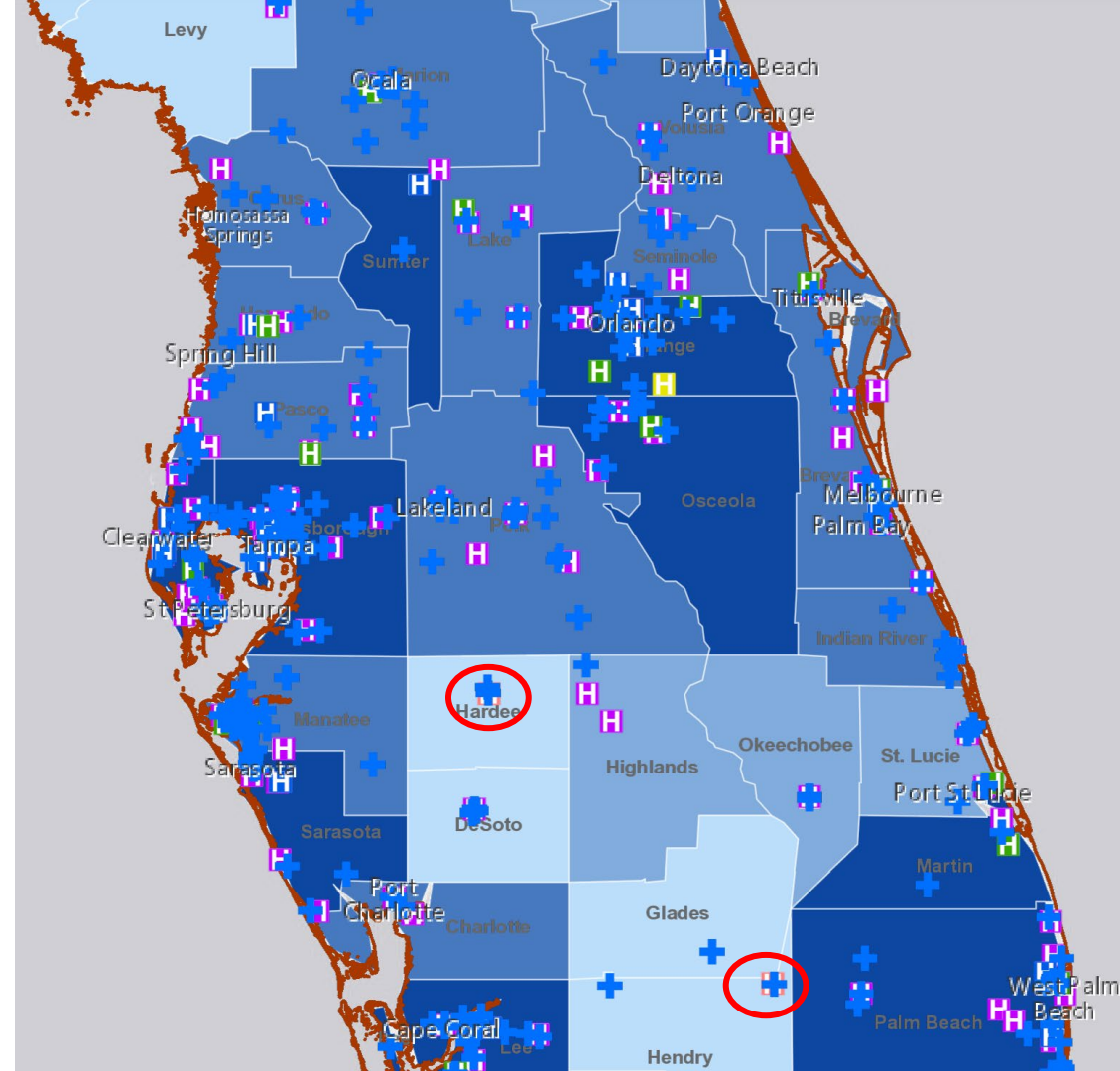
Florida Medicaid
aims to fill its
Medicaid Deserts.
\$60M designed to
locate training, pick
partners, measure
impact



Tallahassee Memorial Family Medicine Program

which training
programs have a track
record?

[HealthLandscape - Turning statistics into information](#)



Options for training
platforms and consortia
(with academic health
center support):

Health Centers and Critical Access Hospitals

Blue cross is an FQHC site, Orange H is a Critical
Access Hospital. Light blue means worse primary
care access. Circles are ideal THC sites


A Public Utility for Preparedness

- In June 2020, the White House called PC Societies as they prepared their vaccination strategy
- *“How many primary care practices are there in the US?”*
- Inability to answer that basic question contributed to PC Not being part of the strategy

AHRQ for Demonstrated it can be done

- Primary Care Physicians: 179,369 – 215,341 (49-59%)
- Primary Care NPs, PAs: 88,574 (31%), 29,781 (22%)
- Primary Care Practices: 94,489
- **But the data source won't support a public utility**

A Pragmatic Approach to Identifying and Profiling Primary Care Clinicians and Primary Care Practices in the USA

Chunliu Zhan, Ph.D.^{1,2} , Robert J. McNellis, M.P.H., P.A.³, Patrick G. O'Malley, M.D., M.P.H.⁴, Portia C. Buchongo, Ph.D.⁵, Elisabeth U. Kato, M.D., M.R.P.¹, Sebastian T. Tong, M.D., M.P.H.⁶, Lingrui Liu, Ph.D.¹, Jesse Crosson, Ph.D.¹, Arlene S. Bierman, M.D., M.S.¹, Aimee R. Eden, Ph.D., M.P.H.¹, and Therese Miller, Dr.P.H.¹



“A regularly updated registry of primary care practices would enable us to identify challenges that could endanger the health of their community, while creating opportunities to intervene.”

JGIM

EDITORIAL AND COMMENT

Saving Primary Care: Developing a Practice Registry to Monitor the Health of a Threatened Profession



Russell S. Phillips, MD^{1,2}, Maelys Amat, MD, MBA², and Jatin Dave, MBBS, MPH, FACP^{3,4,5}

Precedent

- The AHRQ Centers of Excellence and Coordinating Center developed data resources for identifying, understanding, and comparing health systems.
 - Dartmouth's National Survey of Healthcare Organizations & Systems
 - NBER's Health Systems and Providers Database
 - RAND's case studies
 - AHRQ's Compendium of U.S. Health Systems support research on health system characteristics and performance

Table 1 Primary Care Physicians in the USA, 2021, by Specialty (IQVIA, 2021)

Primary specialty	Primary specialty Total <i>N</i> ^a	Sub-specialization <i>N</i> (%) ^b	Hospitalist <i>N</i> (%) ^c	Working in primary care practice <i>N</i> (%)	True primary care clinician <i>N</i> (%) ^d
Internal medicine	149,868	45,766 (30.5)	15,451 (10.3)	70,098 (46.8)	54,780 (36.6)
Family medicine	128,694	23,038 (17.9)	1980 (1.5)	91,528 (71.2)	79,261 (61.6)
General practice	7804	2847 (36.4)	37 (0.5)	3887 (49.8)	2706 (34.7)
Pediatrics	74,020	16,161 (21.8)	1185 (1.6)	46,836 (63.3)	40,092 (54.2)
Geriatrics	5365	947 (17.7)	203 (3.8)	2938 (54.8)	2530 (47.2)
Total	365,751	88,752 (24.3)	18,856 (5.2)	215,341 (58.88)	179,369 (49.0)

Table 2 Primary Care Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants in the USA, 2021 (IQVIA, 2021)

Professional designation	Primary specialty Total <i>N</i> ^a	Working in hospi- tals <i>N</i> (%)	Working in special- ist clinics <i>N</i> (%)	Working in primary care practices <i>N</i> (%) ^b	True primary care NPs/PAs <i>N</i> (%) ^c
Nurse practitioner	287,506	81,656 (28.4)	78,418 (27.3)	104,955 (36.5)	88,574 (30.8)
Physician assistant	134,083	42,333 (31.6)	44,913 (33.5)	37,054 (27.6)	29,781 (22.2)

Table 3 Primary Care Practices in the USA, 2021 (IQVIA, 2021)

Primary care practice characteristics	All primary care practices ^a <i>N</i> (%)	Single-specialty primary care practices ^b <i>N</i> (%)	Multi-specialty primary care practices ^c <i>N</i> (%)
Total	94,489 (100)	77,228 (100)	17,261 (100)
Practice size			