

Online Supplementary Material

Gallihier JM, Bonham, AJ, Dickinson ML, Staton EW, Pace WD. Representativeness of PBRN physician practice patterns and related beliefs: the case of the AAFP National Research Network. *Ann Fam Med*. 2009;7(6):547-554.

<http://www.annfammed.org/cgi/content/full/7/6/547/DC1>

Supplemental Table 1. Physician and Practice Variables Describing AAFP Active Members Available in AAFP Master Member Database at Time of 3 Surveys

Physician and Practice Variables	Percentage (No.) of Cases With Missing Data		
	Hepatitis C Survey ^a (N = 34,467)	Hyperlipidemia Survey ^b (N = 33,233)	Pharyngitis Survey ^b (N = 33,200)
Components of practice ^c			
Critical care unit	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)
Emergency room	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)
Intensive care unit	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)
Obstetrics	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)
Pediatrics	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)
Surgery	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)
Census region ^d	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)
Sex	0.07 (24)	0.07 (22)	0.07 (22)
Practice arrangement ^e	3.2 (1,088)	3.2 (1,059)	3.2 (1,062)
Practice base ^f	0.05 (16)	0.04 (14)	0.04 (14)
Practice location ^g	4.0 (1,375)	0.04 (14)	0.03 (9)
Practice major owner ^h	0.38 (132)	0.37 (123)	0.37 (121)
Age	0.67 (232)	0.57 (190)	0.57 (195)
Years since medical school	0.07 (26)	0.08 (25)	0.08 (25)

AAFP = American Academy Family Physicians; MCO = managed care organization; metro = metropolitan.

^a Cases were eligible for random selection if they reported time in direct patient care of at least 40%.

^b Cases were eligible for random selection if they reported time in direct patient care of at least 50%.

^c Categories are yes and no.

^d Categories are Northwest, Midwest, South, and West.

^e Categories are solo, 2-person partnership, family medicine group, multispecialty group, other.

^f Categories are office, hospital, other.

^g Categories are central county population < 1 million, fringe county population > 1 million, metro area 250,000 to 1 million, metro area < 250,000, ≥20,000 adjacent to metro area, ≥20,000 not adjacent to metro area, 2,500 to 20,000 adjacent to metro area, 2,500 to 20,000 not adjacent to metro area, < 2,500 adjacent to metro area, and < 2,500 not adjacent to metro area.

^h Categories are self, medical group practice, hospital/health system, MCO/insurance, government, and other.

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Supplemental Table 2. Demographic Differences Between AAFP Membership and AAFP Survey Respondents Across 3 National Surveys

Demographic Characteristic	Hepatitis C Survey		Hyperlipidemia Survey		Pharyngitis Survey	
	AAFP Members	AAFP Resp	AAFP Members	AAFP Resp	AAFP Members	AAFP Resp
Component of practice						
Critical care unit, % yes	39.9	39.9	39.6	42.4	39.6	41.3
Emergency room, % yes	40.7	39.2	40.4	40.1	40.5	42.7
Intensive care unit, % yes	47.4	47.6	47.3 ^A	52.1	47.2	48.9
Obstetrics, % yes	26.5	30.3	25.7	27.5	25.7 ^A	30.9
Pediatrics, % yes	86.3 ^B	89.9	86.3 ^B	90.2	86.3	88.0
Surgery, % yes	30.2	30.0	30.0	31.7	30.0	29.3
No. of cases	34,467	597	32,233	641	33,200	583
Census region						
Northeast, %	14.1	14.6	14.0	15.8	14.2	16.8
Midwest, %	28.9	26.6	28.7	29.6	28.6	25.7
South, %	34.8	34.2	34.9	30.6	34.8	30.5
West, %	22.2	24.6	22.3	24.0	22.3	26.9
No. of cases	34,467	597	32,233	641	33,200	583
Probability	.710		.391		.094	
Sex						
Male, %	70.7	69.7	70.7	70.4	70.7	71.7
Female, %	29.3	30.3	29.3	29.6	29.3	28.3
No. of cases	34,467	597	32,233	641	33,200	583
Probability	.704		.903		.698	
Practice arrangement						
Solo, %	19.4	15.4	19.7	16.7	19.7	17.2
2-person partnership, %	8.5	9.4	8.8	10.3	8.7	7.5
Family medicine group, %	40.0	44.1	39.8	44.1	39.7	43.2
Multispecialty group, %	21.9	22.4	21.9	22.0	21.9	22.3
Other, %	10.2	8.7	9.8	6.9	9.9	9.8
No. of cases	34,467	597	32,233	641	33,200	583
Probability	.298		.126		.660	
Office base						
Office, %	90.8	93.0	91.0	94.2	91.1	90.6
Hospital, %	6.2	4.2	6.2	3.0	6.2	5.8
Other, %	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	3.6
No. of cases	34,467	597	32,233	641	33,200	583
Probability	.289		.020		.690	

Supplemental Table 2, continued

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Supplemental Table 2. Demographic Differences Between AAFP Membership and AAFP Survey Respondents Across 3 National Surveys (continued)

Demographic Characteristic	Hepatitis C Survey		Hyperlipidemia Survey		Pharyngitis Survey	
	AAFP Members	AAFP Resp	AAFP Members	AAFP Resp	AAFP Members	AAFP Resp
Practice location						
Central county pop < 1 million, %	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.3
Fringe county pop > 1 million, %	38.3	38.0	39.2	39.3	39.4	39.1
Metro area 250,000-1 million, %	23.7	22.8	23.2	23.9	23.3	25.0
Metro area < 250,000, %	11.3	10.0	12.8	12.5	12.8	11.1
20,000+ adjacent to metro area, %	5.7	6.1	6.2	5.5	6.2	6.9
20,000+ not adjacent to metro area, %	4.7	4.3	3.1	2.7	3.1	3.8
2,500-20,000 adjacent metro area, %	8.1	7.7	7.6	8.4	7.5	7.4
2,500-20,000 not adjacent metro, %	5.0	7.0	4.8	5.0	5.0	3.9
< 2,500 adjacent to metro area, %	1.0	1.4	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9
< 2,500 not adjacent metro area, %	1.7	2.4	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.5
No. of cases	34,467	597	32,233	641	33,200	583
Probability	.914		.999		.980	
Major owner of practice, %						
Self	24.4	22.9	25.0	24.3	25.0	25.2
Medical group	26.9	28.1	27.3	26.1	27.3	28.0
Hospital/health system	29.1	28.8	28.9	31.2	28.8	27.1
MCO/Insurance company	3.2	3.0	3.1	2.2	3.1	3.6
Government entity	9.2	9.2	8.7	8.0	8.7	9.4
Other	7.2	7.9	7.0	8.3	7.0	6.7
No. of cases	3,4467	597	32,233	641	33,200	583
Probability	.986		.736		.978	
Age						
Mean years	46.4	45.7	47.3	47.1	47.3	46.8
No. of cases	3,4467	597	32233	641	33,200	583
Probability	.057		.726		.208	
Years since medical school						
Means years	18.5	18.2	19.2	19.1	18.3	18.1
No. of cases	34,467	597	32,233	641	33200	583
Probability	.478		.719		.638	
Time in patient care						
Mean %	88.6	90.5	82.8	82.0	89.6	89.0
No. of cases	34,467	597	32,233	641	33,200	583
Probability	< .001		.496		.230	

MCO = managed care organization; metro = metropolitan; pop = population; resp = respondents.

Note: Statistical comparisons based on χ^2 goodness-of-fit tests for 12 categorical items and z score, 1-sample tests for 3 continuous items.

^a $P < .10$

^b $P < .05$

Supplemental Table 3. Clinical Topic Areas of Items Covered Within 3 National Surveys

Clinical areas for hepatitis C survey (87 items)

1. Hepatitis C in practice
2. Beliefs and perceptions regarding hepatitis C
3. Testing for hepatitis C
4. Therapy for hepatitis C
5. Referral of patients with hepatitis C

Clinical areas for hyperlipidemia C survey (21 items)

1. Assessing/screening patients for hyperlipidemia
2. Treatment and therapy for patients with hyperlipidemia
3. Beliefs and perceptions regarding hyperlipidemia

Clinical areas for pharyngitis survey (31 items)

1. Testing using throat culture
2. Testing using rapid strep test
3. Use of antibiotics without diagnosis validation
4. Use of antibiotics with diagnosis validation

Note: Excludes demographic items. Survey instruments available upon request from first author.