

## **Supplemental Material to:**

Phillips RL, Brundgardt S, Lesko SE, et al. The future role of the family physician in the United States: a rigorous exercise in definition. *Ann Fam Med*. 2014;12:250-255.

## Appendix: Two optional Role Definitions for a Family Physician

**Definition option 2:** Family physicians are personal doctors who care for the majority of their patients' healthcare needs. Through sustained partnerships and with compassion, family physicians help patients to optimize health, prevent, understand, and manage illness, navigate the health system, set health goals, and address end of life priorities. Their care spans all ages, conditions (undifferentiated complaints, acute illness, chronic diseases, prevention and wellness), and complexity. Family physicians use information technology and evidence to monitor their patient outcomes and guide care. Family physicians respond flexibly to address unique needs of their patients, panel, and community, filling gaps and advocating for their patients

**Definition option 3:** Family physicians are personal doctors who provide first-contact, comprehensive services that resolve most problems for their patients. Knowing their patients over time, family physicians help optimize physical and mental health, prevent, understand, and manage illness, navigate the health system, set health goals, and address end-of-life priorities. Their care spans all ages, conditions, complexity, and settings. Family physicians use information technology to monitor and manage their patient population. They adapt their practices to address unique needs of patients, families, and communities, often partnering with other professionals, public health, and community resources. Family physicians advocate for their patients throughout the healthcare system.