
Has managed care affected physicians' income?

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Abstract: A nationally representative sample of 12,280 physicians was selected to investigate physician practices in 60 randomly selected communities. Multivariate analyses demonstrate that the more the physicians accept Medicare managed care patients, private or commercial insurance plans including managed care plans and the number of contracted managed care plans, the greater the physician's income. The prevailing concern that physician income declines under managed care is not supported. On the contrary, physicians participating in managed care have earned more than their counterparts.

Keywords: income difference; managed care; physician practice.