Appendix

Cancer

Australia & New Zealand

Barton MB, Gabriel GS, Frommer MS, Holt PE, Thompson JF. Surgical procedures for melanoma in public and private New South Wales hospitals, 2001-2002. ANZ Journal of Surgery 2006 May;76(5):318-24.

Beckmann K, Iosifidis P, Shorne L, Gilchrist S, Roder D. Effects of variations in hysterectomy status on population coverage by cervical screening. Australian & New Zealand Journal of Public Health 2003 Oct;27(5):507-12.

Beilby JJ, Wakefield MA, Maddock AM. General practitioner attitudes to recall systems for cervical screening. Medical Journal of Australia 1995 Sep 4;163(5):245-8.

Bonett A, Roder D, Esterman A. Case-survival rates for infiltrating ductal carcinomas by category of hospital at diagnosis in South Australia. Medical Journal of Australia 1991 May 20;154(10):695-7.

Cher L, Rosenthal MA, Drummond KJ, Dally M, Murphy M, Ashley D, et al. The use of chemotherapy in patients with gliomas: patterns of care in Victoria from 1998-2000. Journal of Clinical Neuroscience 2008 Apr;15(4):398-401.

Connor S, Frizelle FA, Bagshaw PF. Follow-up after attempted curative surgery for colorectal cancer; postal survey of New Zealand surgeons' practice. New Zealand Medical Journal 2001 Apr 13;114(1129):151-3.

Coory MD, Fagan PS, Muller JM, Dunn NA. Participation in cervical cancer screening by women in rural and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Queensland. Medical Journal of Australia 2002; 177(10):544-7.

Hayen A, Smith DP, Patel MI, O'Connell DL. Patterns of surgical care for prostate cancer in NSW, 1993-2002: rural/urban and socio-economic variation. Australian & New Zealand Journal of Public Health 2008 Oct;32(5):417-20.

Morgia M, Lamoury G, Morgan G. Survey of radiotherapy planning and treatment of the supraclavicular fossa in breast cancer. Journal of Medical Imaging & Radiation Oncology 2009 Apr;53(2):207-11.

Sladden MJ, Ward JE. Australian general practitioners' views and use of colorectal cancer screening tests. Medical Journal of Australia 1999; 170(3):110-3.

Straton JA, Holman CD, Edwards BM. Cervical cancer screening in Western Australia in 1992: progress since 1983. Medical Journal of Australia 1993; 159(10):657-61.

Veness MJ, Chong L, Tiver K, Gebski V. Basal cell carcinoma of the nose: an Australian and New Zealand radiation oncology patterns-of-practice study. Journal of Medical

Australia & New Zealand

Imaging & Radiation Oncology 2008 Aug;52(4):382-93.

Wain GV, Ward J, Towler BP. Gynaecological care of women with abnormal Pap smears: how varied is current practice? Medical Journal of Australia 1995; 162(7):348-9, 352-3.

van Dyk S, Byram D, Bernshaw D. Brachytherapy for cancer of the cervix: an Australian and New Zealand survey of current treatment techniques. Journal of Medical Imaging & Radiation Oncology 2008 Dec;52(6):588-97.

Belgium

Arbyn M, Simoens C, Van Oyen H, Foidart JM, Goffin F, Simon P, Fabri V. Analysis of 13 million individual patient records pertaining to Pap smears, colposcopies, biopsies and surgery on the uterine cervix (Belgium, 1996-2000). Preventive Medicine 2009; 48(5):438-43.

Canada

Chaudhry R, Goel V, Sawka C. Breast cancer survival by teaching status of the initial treating hospital. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 2001 Jan 23;164(2):183-8.

Choo R, Sandler H, Warde P, Hruby G, DeBoer G. Survey of radiation oncologists: practice patterns of the management of stage I seminoma of testis in Canada and a selected group in the United States. Canadian Journal of Urology 2002 Apr;9(2):1479-85.

Chua B, Olivotto IA, Donald JC, Hayashi AH, Davis N, Rusnak CH. Practice patterns of lymph-node mapping and sentinel-node biopsy for breast cancer in British Columbia. Canadian Journal of Surgery 2003; 46(4):273-8.

Chuah TK, Lee T, Wirtzfeld D, Pollett W. Management of primary rectal cancer by surgeons in Atlantic Canada: results of a regional survey. Canadian Journal of Surgery 2010 Dec;53(6):396-402.

Coburn N, Przybysz R, Barbera L, Hodgson D, Sharir S, Laupacis A, Law C. CT, MRI and ultrasound scanning rates: evaluation of cancer diagnosis, staging and surveillance in Ontario. Journal of Surgical Oncology 2008; 98(7):490-9.

Dixon P, Mackillop W. Could changes in clinical practice reduce waiting lists for radiotherapy? Journal of Health Services & Research Policy 2001 Apr;6(2):70-7.

French J, McGahan C, Duncan G, Lengoc S, Soo J, Cannon J, et al. How gender, age,

Canada

and geography influence the utilization of radiation therapy in the management of malignant melanoma. International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics 20

Goel V, Iron K, Williams JI. Enthusiasm or uncertainty: small area variations in the use of mammography services in Ontario, Canada. Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health 1997; 51(4):378-82.

Haggerty J, Tudiver F, Brown JB, Herbert C, Ciampi A, Guibert R, et al. Patients' anxiety and expectations: how they influence family physicians' decisions to order cancer screening tests. Canadian Family Physician 2005 Dec;51:1658-9.

Hilsden RJ, Bryant HE, Sutherland LR, Brasher PM, Fields AL. A retrospective study on the use of post-operative colonoscopy following potentially curative surgery for colorectal cancer in a Canadian province. BMC Cancer 2004; 4:14.

Holloway CM, Saskin R, Brackstone M, Paszat L. Variation in the use of percutaneous biopsy for diagnosis of breast abnormalities in Ontario. Annals of Surgical Oncology 2007; 14(10):2932

Holloway CM, Saskin R, Paszat L. Geographic variation and physician specialization in the use of percutaneous biopsy for breast cancer diagnosis. Canadian Journal of Surgery 2008; 51(6):453

Huang J, Boyd C, Tyldesley S, Zhang-Salomons J, Groome PA, Mackillop WJ, et al. Time spent in hospital in the last six months of life in patients who died of cancer in Ontario. Journal of Clinical Oncology 2002 Mar 15;20(6):1584-92.

Lacasse Y, Plante J, Martel S, Raby B. Transthoracic needle biopsy in the diagnosis of solitary pulmonary nodules: a survey of Canadian physicians. Journal of Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery 2003; 126(3):761-8.

McDonald JT, Sherman A. Determinants of mammography use in rural and urban regions of Canada. Canadian Journal of Rural Medicine 2010; 15(2):52-60.

Nelson GS, Duggan MA, Nation JG. Controversy in colposcopic management: a Canadian survey. Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Canada: JOGC 2006; 28(1):36-40.

Ramsey EW, Elhilali M, Goldenberg SL, Nickel CJ, Norman R, Perreault JP, et al. Practice patterns of Canadian urologists in benign prostatic hyperplasia and prostate cancer. Canadian Prostate Health Council. Journal of Urology 2000 Feb;163(2):499-502...

Sawka AM, Rotstein L, Brierley JD, Tsang RW, Thabane L, Gafni A, et al. Regional differences in opinions on adjuvant radioactive iodine treatment of thyroid carcinoma within Canada and the United States. Thyroid 2007 Dec;17(12):1235-42.

Canada

Schultz S, Rabeneck L, Vinden C. Large bowel endoscopy in Ontario: variation by geographic region and hospital type. Healthcare Quarterly 2004; 7(3):17-8.

Shen N, Mayo NE, Scott SC, Hanley JA, Goldberg MS, Abrahamowicz M, et al. Factors associated with pattern of care before surgery for breast cancer in Quebec between 1992 and 1997. Medical Care 2003 Dec;41(12):1353-66.

Tai P, Yu E, Battista J, Van Dyk J. Radiation treatment of lung cancer--patterns of practice in Canada. Radiotherapy & Oncology 2004 May;71(2):167-74.

Wadden N, Doyle GP. Breast cancer screening in Canada: a review. Canadian Association of Radiologists Journal 2005; 56(5):271-5.

France

Phelip JM, Launoy G, Colonna M, Grosclaude P, Velten M, Danzon A, et al. Regional variations in management of rectal cancer in France. Gastroenterologie Clinique et Biologique 2004 Apr;28(4):378-83.

Italy

Apolone G, Corli O, Caraceni A, Negri E, Deandrea S, Montanari M, et al. Pattern and quality of care of cancer pain management. Results from the Cancer Pain Outcome Research Study Group. British Journal of Cancer 2009 May;100(10):1566-74.

Costantini M, Balzi D, Garronec E, Orlandini C, Parodi S, Vercelli M, et al. Geographical variations of place of death among Italian communities suggest an inappropriate hospital use in the terminal phase of cancer disease. Public Health 2000; 114(1):15-20.

Grilli R, Apolone G, Marsoni S, Nicolucci A, Zola P, Liberati A, et al. The impact of patient management guidelines on the care of breast, colorectal, and ovarian cancer patients in Italy. Medical Care 1991 Jan;29(1):50-63.

Grilli R, Repetto F. Variation in use of breast-conserving surgery in Lombardia, Italy. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care 1995;11(4):733-40.

Grilli R, Scorpiglione N, Nicolucci A, Mainini F, Penna A, Mari E, et al. Variation in use of breast surgery and characteristics of hospitals' surgical staff. International Journal for Quality in Health Care 1994 Sep;6(3):233-8.

Tomatis M, Mano MP, Baiocchi D, Barca A, Bordon R, Casella D et al. Audit system on Quality of breast cancer diagnosis and Treatment (QT): results of quality indicators on screen-detected lesions in Italy for 2006 and preliminary results for 2007. Epidemiologia

Italy

e Prevenzione 2009; 33(3 Suppl 2):83-90.

Japan

Imataki O, Kami M, Kim SW, Gotoh M, Komaba S, Kasai M, et al. A nationwide survey of deep fungal infections and fungal prophylaxis after hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in Japan. Bone Marrow Transplantation 2004 Jun;33(12):1173-9.

Noguchi M, Matsuoka K, Koga H, Kanetake H, Nakagawa M, Naito S, et al. A questionnaire survey of patient preparation and techniques for prostate biopsy among urologists in the Kyushu and Okinawa regions of Japan. International Journal of Clinical Oncology 2006 Oct;11(5):390-5.

Shirai T, Imanaka Y, Sekimoto M, Ishizaki T. Primary chemotherapy patterns for ovarian cancer treatment in Japan. J Obstet Gynaecol Res 2009 Oct;35(5):926-34.

Netherlands

Bipat S, van Leeuwen MS, Ijzermans JN, Bossuyt PM, Greve JW, Stoker J, et al. Imaging and treatment of patients with colorectal liver metastases in the Netherlands: a survey. Netherlands Journal of Medicine 2006 May;64(5):147-51.

Elferink MA, Wouters MW, Krijnen P, Lemmens VE, Jansen-Landheer ML, van de Velde CJ, et al. Disparities in quality of care for colon cancer between hospitals in the Netherlands. European Journal of Surgical Oncology 2010 Sep;36 Suppl 1:S64-S73.

Goossens-Laan CA, Visser O, Wouters MW, Jansen-Landheer ML, Coebergh JW, van de Velde CJ et al. Variations in treatment policies and outcome for bladder cancer in the Netherlands. European Journal of Surgical Oncology 2010 Sep;36 Suppl 1:S100-S107.

Li WW, Visser O, Ubbink DT, Klomp HM, Kloek JJ, de Mol BA, et al. The influence of provider characteristics on resection rates and survival in patients with localized non-small cell lung cancer. Lung Cancer 2008 Jun;60(3):441-51.

Schouten van der Velden AP, Van Dijck JA, Wobbes T. Variations in treatment of ductal carcinoma in situ of the breast: a population-based study in the East Netherlands. Journal of Surgical Oncology 2007 May;33(4):424-9.

Stiggelbout AM, de Haes JC, van de Velde CJ. Adjuvant chemotherapy in node negative breast cancer: patterns of use and oncologists' preferences. Annals of Oncology 2000 May;11(5):631-3.

Wouters MW, Siesling S, Jansen-Landheer ML, Elferink MA, Belderbos J, Coebergh JW, et al. Variation in treatment and outcome in patients with non-small cell lung cancer

Netherlands

by region, hospital type and volume in the Netherlands. European Journal of Surgical Oncology 2010 Sep;36 Suppl 1:S83-S92.

van Steenbergen LN, Rutten HJ, Creemers GJ, Pruijt JF, Coebergh JW, Lemmens VE, et al. Large age and hospital-dependent variation in administration of adjuvant chemotherapy for stage III colon cancer in southern Netherlands. Annals of Oncology 2010 Jun;21(6):1273-8.

van Steenbergen LN, van de Poll-Franse LV, Wouters MW, Jansen-Landheer ML, Coebergh JW, Struikmans H, et al. Variation in management of early breast cancer in the Netherlands, 2003-2006. European Journal of Surgical Oncology 2010 Sep;36 Suppl 1:S36-S43.

Vulto JC, Lybeert ML, Louwman MW, Poortmans PM, Coebergh JW. Population-based study of trends and variations in radiotherapy as part of primary treatment of cancer in the southern Netherlands between 1988 and 2006, with an emphasis on breast and rectal cancer. Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2009 Jun 1;74(2):464-71.

Nordic

Olesen F, Holm M. Factors of importance for the use of PAP-SMEAR in a Danish county without systematic screening. Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 1990; 8(2):69-73.

Sejr T, Andersen TF, Madsen M, Roepstorff C, Bilde T, Bay-Nielsen H, et al. Prostatectomy in Denmark. Regional variation and the diffusion of medical technology 1977-1985. Scandinavian Journal of Urology & Nephrology 1991;25(2):101-6.

Switzerland

Ess S, Savidan A, Frick H, Rageth C, Vlastos G, Lutolf U, et al. Geographic variation in breast cancer care in Switzerland. Cancer Epidemiol 2010 Apr;34(2):116-21.

U.K.

Bate J, Patel SR, Chisholm J, Heath PT; Supportive Care Group of the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group (CCLG). Immunisation practices of paediatric oncology and shared care oncology consultants: a United Kingdom survey. Pediatric Blood & Cancer 2010 Jul 1;54(7):941-6.

Bentham G, Hinton J, Haynes R, Lovett A, Bestwick C. Factors affecting non-response to cervical cytology screening in Norfolk, England. Social Science & Medicine.199; 540(1): 131-5.

Bower CP, Lear JT, de Berker DA. Basal cell carcinoma follow-up practices by dermatologists: a national survey. British Journal of Dermatology 2001 Dec;145(6):949-56

Bowles CJ, Leicester R, Romaya C, Swarbrick E, Williams CB, Epstein O. A prospective study of colonoscopy practice in the UK today: are we adequately prepared for national colorectal cancer screening tomorrow?. Gut 2004; 53(2):277-83.

Caldon LJ, Walters SJ, Reed JA, Murphy A, Worley A, Reed MW, et al. Case-mix fails to explain variation in mastectomy rates: management of screen-detected breast cancer in a UK region 1997-2003. British Journal of Cancer 2005 Jan 17;92(1):55-9.

Downing A, Lansdown M, West RM, Thomas JD, Lawrence G, Forman D, et al. Changes in and predictors of length of stay in hospital after surgery for breast cancer between 1997/98 and 2004/05 in two regions of England: a population-based study. BMC Health Services Research 2009;9:2002.

Edwards DM, Johnson NW. Treatment of upper aerodigestive tract cancers in England and its effect on survival. British Journal of Cancer 1999 Sep;81(2):323-9.

Gatrell AC, Harman JC, Francis BJ, Thomas C, Morris SM, McIllmurray M, et al. Place of death: analysis of cancer deaths in part of North West England. Journal of Public Health Medicine 2003 Mar;25(1):53-8.

Glynn RW, Williams L, Dixon JM. A further survey of surgical management of the axilla in UK breast cancer patients. Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England 2010; 92(6):506-11.

Goy JC, Dobbs HJ. Variation in postoperative radiotherapy delivery for patients with screen-detected breast cancer in the south Thames (east) Region. Clinical Oncology (Royal College of Radiologists) 1998;10(1):30-4.

Goy JC, Dobbs HJ, Henderson S, Humphreys S, Michell MJ. Variations in referral pattern for postoperative radiotherapy of patients with screen-detected breast cancer in the south Thames (east) region. Clinical Oncology (Royal College of Radiologists) 1998;10(1):30-4.

Heriot AG, Murday V, Kumar D. Screening relatives of patients with colorectal cancer: the need for continuing education. Journal of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh 1999 Feb;44(1):13-5.

Howard GC, Clarke K, Elia MH, Hutcheon AW, Kaye SB, Windsor PM, et al. A Scottish national audit of current patterns of management for patients with testicular non-seminomatous germ-cell tumours. The Scottish Radiological Society and the Scottish C

Innes H, Billingham L, Gaunt C, Steven N, Marshall E. Management of febrile

neutropenia in the United Kingdom: time for a national trial? British Journal of Cancer 2005 Dec 12;93(12):1324-8.

Jeevan R, Cromwell DA, Browne JP, Trivella M, Pereira J, Caddy CM, et al. Regional variation in use of immediate breast reconstruction after mastectomy for breast cancer in England. Eur J Surg Oncol 2010 Aug;36(8):750-5.

Jones B, Tan LT, Blake PR, Dale RG. Results of a questionnaire regarding the practice of radiotherapy for carcinoma of the cervix in the UK. British Journal of Radiology 1994 Dec;67(804):1226-30.

Lens MB, Dawes M, Newton-Bishop JA, Goodacre T. Management of regional lymph nodes in patients with malignant melanoma: questionnaire survey of UK current practice. British Journal of Plastic Surgery 2002; 55(5):372-5.

Majeed FA, Cook DG, Anderson HR, Hilton S, Bunn S, Stones C. Using patient and general practice characteristics to explain variations in cervical smear uptake rates. single city, but there are 7 million people in London, looks at variation in pap sme

Nathan M, Selwood K; Clinical Practice Group of the RCN Paediatric Oncology Nurses Forum. The use of blood products in paediatric oncology units in the UK. Paediatric Nursing 2006;18(7):14-7.

Ng D, Trivedi PM, Sharma AK, Banerjee D. Current use of antibiotic prophylaxis in breast surgery: a nationwide survey. Breast 2007 Feb;16(1):68-72.

Patel N, Adatia R, Mellemgaard A, Jack R, Moller H. Variation in the use of chemotherapy in lung cancer. British Journal of Cancer 2007 Mar 26;96(6):886-90.

Pollock AM, Vickers N. Management of colorectal cancer in three South Thames District Health Authorities. Public Health 1997 May;111(3):165-70.

Richards MA, Parrott JC. Tertiary cancer services in Britain: benchmarking study of activity and facilities at 12 specialist centres. BMJ 1996 Aug 10;313(7053):347-9.

Richardson CM, Pointon KR, Manhire AR, Macfarlane JT. Percutaneous lung biopsies: a survey of UK practice based on 5444 biopsies. British Journal of Radiology 2002; 75(897):731-5.

Ring A. The influences of age and co-morbidities on treatment decisions for patients with HER2-positive early breast cancer. Critical Reviews in Oncology-Hematology 2010 Nov;76(2):127-32.

Robinson D, Massey T, Davies E, Jack RH, Sehgal A, Moller H, et al. Waiting times for radiotherapy: variation over time and between cancer networks in southeast England. British Journal of Cancer 2005 Apr 11;92(7):1201-8.

Sambrook RJ, Girling DJ. A national survey of the chemotherapy regimens used to treat small cell lung cancer (SCLC) in the United Kingdom. British Journal of Cancer 2001 Jun 1;84(11):1447-52.

Selwood K, Pizer B, Gibson B, Skinner R, United Kingdom Children's Cancer Study Group (UKCCSG), Selwood K, et al. Vascular access for daunorubicin during childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia induction treatment: a UKCCSG supportive care group and and MRC childhood leukaemia working party survey. European Journal of Oncology Nursing 2008 Dec;12(5):476-8.

Taylor A, Hawkins M, Griffiths A, Davies H, Douglas C, Jenney M, et al. Long-term follow-up of survivors of childhood cancer in the UK. Pediatric Blood & Cancer 2004 Feb;42(2):161-8.

Tseng JH, Merchant E, Tseng MY. Effects of socioeconomic and geographic variations on survival for adult glioma in England and Wales. Surgical Neurology 2006 Sep;66(3):258-63.

Wishart GC, Greenberg DC, Chou P, Brown CH, Duffy S, Purushotham AD, et al. Treatment and survival in breast cancer in the Eastern Region of England. Annals of Oncology 2010 Feb;21(2):291-6.

USA

Bilimoria KY, Raval MV, Bentrem DJ, Wayne JD, Balch CM, Ko CY, et al. National assessment of melanoma care using formally developed quality indicators. Journal of Clinical Oncology 2009 Nov 10;27(32):5445-51.

Birkmeyer JD, Sun Y, Goldfaden A, Birkmeyer NJ, Stukel TA. Volume and process of care in high-risk cancer surgery. Cancer 2006 Jun 1;106(11):2476-81.

Bynum J, Song Y, Fisher E, Bynum J, Song Y, Fisher E. Variation in prostate-specific antigen screening in men aged 80 and older in fee-for-service Medicare. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 2010 Apr;58(4):674-80.

Chang DC, Zhang Y, Mukherjee D, Wolfgang CL, Schulick RD, Cameron JL, et al. Variations in referral patterns to high-volume centers for pancreatic cancer. Journal of the American College of Surgeons 2009 Dec;209(6):720-6.

Charles CA, Yee VS, Dusza SW, Marghoob AA, Oliveria SA, Kopf A, et al. Variation in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of melanoma in situ: a survey of US dermatologists. Archives of Dermatology 2005 Jun;141(6):723-9.

Cooper GS, Koroukian SM. Geographic variation among Medicare beneficiaries in the use of colorectal carcinoma screening procedures. American Journal of Gastroenterology

2004; 99(8):1544-50.

Cooper GS, Kou TD, Reynolds HL Jr. Receipt of guideline-recommended follow-up in older colorectal cancer survivors: a population-based analysis. Cancer 2008; 113(8):2029-37.

Cooper GS, Yuan Z, Chak A, Rimm AA. Geographic and patient variation among Medicare beneficiaries in the use of follow-up testing after surgery for nonmetastatic colorectal carcinoma. Cancer 1999; 85(10):2124-31.

Cooper GS, Yuan Z, Jethva RN, Rimm AA. Use of Medicare claims data to measure county-level variation in breast carcinoma incidence and mammography rates. Cancer Detection & Prevention 2002; 26(3):197-202.

Deleyiannis FW, Weymuller EA Jr, Garcia I, Potosky AL. Geographic variation in the utilization of esophagoscopy and bronchoscopy in head and neck cancer. Archives of Otolaryngology -- Head & Neck Surgery 1997; 123(11):1203-10.

Dubecz A, Sepesi B, Salvador R, Polomsky M, Watson TJ, Raymond DP, et al. Surgical resection for locoregional esophageal cancer is underutilized in the United States. Journal of the American College of Surgeons 2010 Dec;211(6):754-61.

Elward KS, Penberthy LT, Bear H, Swartz DM, Boudreau RM, Cook SS, et al. Variation in the use of breast-conserving therapy for Medicare beneficiaries in Virginia: clinical, geographic, and hospital characteristics. Clinical Performance & Quality Health Care 1998 Apr;6(2):63-9.

Engelman KK, Ellerbeck EF, Ahluwalia JS, Nazir N, Velasco A. Fecal occult blood test use by Kansas medicare beneficiaries. Preventive Medicine 2001; 33(6):622-6.

Engelman KK, Hawley DB, Gazaway R, Mosier MC, Ahluwalia JS, Ellerbeck EF. Impact of geographic barriers on the utilization of mammograms by older rural women. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 2002; 50(1):62-8.

Etzioni DA, El-Khoueiry AB, Beart RW, Jr. Rates and predictors of chemotherapy use for stage III colon cancer: a systematic review. Cancer 2008 Dec 15;113(12):3279-89.

Fleisher JM, Lou JQ, Farrell M. Relationship between physician supply and breast cancer survival: a geographic approach. Journal of Community Health 2008 Aug;33(4):179-82.

Foster RS Jr, Farewell ME, Costanza MC. Breast-conserving surgery for breast cancer: patterns of care in a geographic region and estimation of potential applicability. Annals of Surgical Oncology 1995; 2(3):275-80.

Gann P, Melville SK, Luckmann R. Characteristics of primary care office systems as predictors of mammography utilization. Annals of Internal Medicine 1993; 118(11):893-

Garreau JR, Nelson J, Cook D, Vetto J, Walts D, Homer L, et al. Geographic variation in sentinel node adaptation by practicing surgeons in Oregon. American Journal of Surgery 2005 May;189(5):616-9.

Gold HT, Dick AW,. Variations in treatment for ductal carcinoma in situ in elderly women. Medical Care 2004 Mar;42(3):267-75.

Goldzweig CL, Parkerton PH, Washington DL, Lanto AB, Yano EM. Primary care practice and facility quality orientation: influence on breast and cervical cancer screening rates. American Journal of Managed Care 2004 Apr;10(4):265-72.

Gregario DI, Kulldorff M, Sheehan TJ, Samociuk H. Geographic distribution of prostate cancer incidence in the era of PSA testing, Connecticut, 1984 to 1998. Urology 2004; 63(1):78-82.

Haggstrom DA, Phillips KA, Liang SY, Haas JS, Tye S, Kerlikowske K, et al. Variation in screening mammography and Papanicolaou smear by primary care physician specialty and gatekeeper plan (United States). Cancer Causes & Control 2004 Nov;15(9):883-92.

Hand R, Sener S, Imperato J, Chmiel JS, Sylvester JA, Fremgen A, et al. Hospital variables associated with quality of care for breast cancer patients. JAMA 1991 Dec 25;266(24):3429-32.

Harrison RV, Janz NK, Wolfe RA, Tedeschi PJ, Huang X, McMahon LF Jr. 5-Year mammography rates and associated factors for older women. Cancer 2003; 97(5):1147-55.

Hawley ST, Foxhall L, Vernon SW, Levin B, Young JE. Colorectal cancer screening by primary care physicians in Texas: a rural-urban comparison. Journal of Cancer Education 2001;16(4):199-204.

Herman CJ, Hoffman RM, Altobelli KK. Variation in recommendations for cancer screening among primary care physicians in New Mexico. Journal of Community Health 1999 Aug;24(4):253-67.

Hicks RJ, Hamm RM, Bemben DA. Prostate cancer screening. What family physicians believe is best. Archives of Family Medicine 1995 Apr;4(4):317-22.

Hofvind S, Vacek PM, Skelly J, Weaver DL, Geller BM. Comparing screening mammography for early breast cancer detection in Vermont and Norway. Journal of the National Cancer Institute 2008; 100(15):1082-91.

Hollenbeck BK, Wei Y, Birkmeyer JD. Volume, process of care, and operative mortality for cystectomy for bladder cancer. Urology 2007 May;69(5):871-5.

Jackson SL, Taplin SH, Sickles EA, Abraham L, Barlow WE, Carney PA, et al. Variability of interpretive accuracy among diagnostic mammography facilities. Journal of the National Cancer Institute 2009 Jun 3;101(11):814-27.

Johnson FE, Longo WE, Ode K, Shariff US, Papettas T, McGarry AE, et al. Patient surveillance after curative-intent surgery for rectal cancer. International Journal of Oncology 2005 Sep;27(3):815-22.

Johnson FE, McKirgan LW, Coplin MA, Vernava AM, Longo WE, Wade TP, et al. Geographic variation in patient surveillance after colon cancer surgery. Journal of Clinical Oncology 1996 Jan;14(1):183-7.

Johnson FE, Naunheim KS, Coplin MA, Virgo KS. Geographic variation in the conduct of patient surveillance after lung cancer surgery. Journal of Clinical Oncology 1996 Nov;14(11):2940-9.

Katz SJ, Hawley ST, Abrahamse P, Morrow M, Friese CR, Alderman AK, et al. Does it matter where you go for breast surgery?: attending surgeon's influence on variation in receipt of mastectomy for breast cancer. Medical Care 2010 Oct;48(10):892-9.

Keating NL, Herrinton LJ, Zaslavsky AM, Liu L, Ayanian JZ. Variations in hospice use among cancer patients. Journal of the National Cancer Institute 2006 Aug 2;98(15):1053-9.

Keating NL, Landrum MB, Guadagnoli E, Winer EP, Ayanian JZ. Care in the months before death and hospice enrollment among older women with advanced breast cancer. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2008 Jan;23(1):11-8.

Landrum MB, Meara ER, Chandra A, Guadagnoli E, Keating NL. Is spending more always wasteful? The appropriateness of care and outcomes among colorectal cancer patients. Health Affairs 2008 Jan;27(1):159-68.

Lanes DS, Burg MA. Breast cancer screening. Changing physician practices and specialty variation. New York State Journal of Medicine 1990; 90(6):288-92.

Lang K, Earle CC, Foster T, Dixon D, Van Gool R, Menzin J. Trends in the treatment of acute myeloid leukaemia in the elderly. Drugs & Aging 2005;22(11):943-55.

Lazovich D, Solomon CC, Thomas DB, Moe RE, White E. Breast conservation therapy in the United States following the 1990 National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Conference on the treatment of patients with early stage invasive breast carcinoma. Cancer 1999 Aug 15;86(4):628-37.

Lu-Yao GL, Greenberg ER. Changes in prostate cancer incidence and treatment in USA. Lancet 1994 Jan 29;343(8892):251-4.

Lucci A, Jr., Kelemen PR, Miller C, III, Chardkoff L, Wilson L. National practice patterns of sentinel lymph node dissection for breast carcinoma. Journal of the American College of Surgeons 2001 Apr;192(4):453-8.

Mandelblatt JS, Berg CD, Meropol NJ, Edge SB, Gold K, Hwang YT, et al. Measuring and predicting surgeons' practice styles for breast cancer treatment in older women. Medical Care 2001 Mar;39(3):228-42.

Margenthaler JA, Meier JD, Virgo KS, Johnson DY, Goshima K, Chan D, et al. Geographic variation in posttreatment surveillance intensity for patients with cutaneous melanoma. American Journal of Surgery 2003 Aug;186(2):194-200.

Miller DC, Saigal CS, Banerjee M, Hanley J, Litwin MS, Urologic Diseases in America Project., et al. Diffusion of surgical innovation among patients with kidney cancer. Cancer 2008 Apr 15;112(8):1708-17.

Nattinger AB, Gottlieb MS, Hoffman RG, Walker AP, Goodwin JS. Minimal increase in use of breast-conserving surgery from 1986 to 1990. Medical Care 1996 May;34(5):479-89.

Orsey AD, Belasco JB, Ellenberg JH, Schmitz KH, Feudtner C. Variation in receipt of opioids by pediatric oncology patients who died in children's hospitals. Pediatric Blood & Cancer 2009 Jul;52(7):761-6.

Penson DF, Chan JM, Urologic Diseases in America Project., Penson DF, Chan JM, Urologic Diseases in America Project. Prostate cancer. Journal of Urology 2007 Jun;177(6):2020-9.

Plawker MW, Fleisher JM, Vapnek EM, Macchia RJ. Current trends in prostate cancer diagnosis and staging among United States urologists. Journal of Urology 1997 Nov;158(5):1853-8.

Polednak AP. Geographic variation in the treatment of prostate cancer in Connecticut. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care 1993;9(2):304-10.

Punglia RS, Weeks JC, Neville BA, Earle CC. Effect of distance to radiation treatment facility on use of radiation therapy after mastectomy in elderly women. International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics 2006 Sep 1;66(1):56-63.

Ramsey SD, Howlader N, Etzioni RD, Donato B. Chemotherapy use, outcomes, and costs for older persons with advanced non-small-cell lung cancer: evidence from surveillance, epidemiology and end results-Medicare. Journal of Clinical Oncology 2004 Dec 15;22(24):4971-8.

Rappaport KM, Forrest CB, Holtzman NA. Adoption of liquid-based cervical cancer screening tests by family physicians and gynecologists. Health Services Research 2004;

39(4 Pt 1):927-47.

Saigal CS, Pashos CL, Henning JM, Litwin MS. Variations in use of imaging in a national sample of men with early-stage prostate cancer. Urology 2002 Mar;59(3):400-4.

Salopek TG, Slade J, Marghoob AA, Rigel DS, Kopf AW, Bart RS, Friedman RJ. Management of cutaneous malignant melanoma by dermatologists of the American Academy of Dermatology. I. Survey of biopsy practices of pigmented lesions suspected as melanoma. J Am Acad Dermatol 1995 Sep;33(3):441-50.

Salz T, Weinberger M, Ayanian JZ, Brewer NT, Earle CC, Elston Lafata J. Variation in use of surveillance colonoscopy among colorectal cancer survivors in the United States. BMC Health Services Research 2010; 10:256.

Samet JM, Hunt WC, Farrow DC. Determinants of receiving breast-conserving surgery. The Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program, 1983-1986. Cancer 1994 May 1;73(9):2344-51.

Santora LM, Mahoney MC, Lawvere S, Englert JJ, Symons AB, Mirand AL, et al. Breast cancer screening beliefs by practice location. BMC Public Health 2003 Feb 4;3:9.

Sariego J. Regional variation in breast cancer treatment throughout the United States. American Journal of Surgery 2008 Oct;196(4):572-4.

Schootman M, Jeffe DB, Lian M, Gillanders WE, Aft R. The role of poverty rate and racial distribution in the geographic clustering of breast cancer survival among older women: a geographic and multilevel analysis. American Journal of Epidemiology 2009 Mar 1;169(5):554-61.

Smith GL, Smith BD, Haffty BG. Rationalization and regionalization of treatment for ductal carcinoma in situ of the breast. International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics 2006 Aug 1;65(5):1397-403.

Svahn TH, Niland JC, Carlson RW, Hughes ME, Ottesen RA, Theriault RL, et al. Predictors and temporal trends of adjuvant aromatase inhibitor use in breast cancer. Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network 2009 Feb;7(2):115-21.

Symons AB, Mahoney MC, Englert J, Mirand AL. Variations in approaches to breast cancer screening among primary care physicians. Journal of Cancer Education 2002;17(4):205-10.

Talavera GA, Ramirez AG, Suarez L, Villarreal R, Marti J, Trapido E, Perez-Stable EJ. Predictors of digital rectal examination in U.S. Latinos. American Journal of Preventive Medicine 2002; 22(1):36-41.

Teshima T, Owen JB, Hanks GE, Sato S, Tsunemoto H, Inoue T, et al. A comparison of

the structure of radiation oncology in the United States and Japan. International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics 1996 Jan 1;34(1):235-42.

Trifilio S, Verma A, Mehta J. Antimicrobial prophylaxis in hematopoietic stem cell transplant recipients: heterogeneity of current clinical practice. Bone Marrow Transplantation 2004 Apr;33(7):735-9.

Venkatappa S, Oehlert WH, Nguyen L, Austelle A, Bratzler DW. Screening mammography for Oklahoma Medicare beneficiaries: a national priority for quality improvement. Journal - Oklahoma State Medical Association 2002; 95(10):655-60.

Wilt TJ, Cowper DC, Gammack JK, Going DR, Nugent S, Borowsky SJ, et al. An evaluation of radical prostatectomy at Veterans Affairs Medical Centers: time trends and geographic variation in utilization and outcomes. Medical Care 1999 Oct;37(10):1046-56.

Multi-Country

Anttila A, von Karsa L, Aasmaa A, Fender M, Patnick J, Rebolj M et al. Cervical cancer screening policies and coverage in Europe. European Journal of Cancer 2009; 45(15):2649-58.

Bleicher RJ, Hansen NM, Giuliano AE. Skin-sparing mastectomy. specialty bias and worldwide lack of consensus. Cancer 2003 Dec 1;98(11):2316-21.

Brenner H, Hoffmeister M, Haug U. Should colorectal cancer screening start at the same age in European countries? Contributions from descriptive epidemiology. British Journal of Cancer 2008; 99(3):532-5, 2008.

Chantada GL, Doz F, Orjuela M, Qaddoumi I, Sitorus RS, Kepak T, et al. World disparities in risk definition and management of retinoblastoma: a report from the International Retinoblastoma Staging Working Group. Pediatric Blood & Cancer 2008 Mar;50(3):692-4.

Dowling EC, Klabunde C, Patnick J, Ballard-Barbash R; International Cancer Screening Network (ICSN). Breast and cervical cancer screening programme implementation in 16 countries. Journal of Medical Screening 2010; 17(3):139-46.

Elmore JG, Nakano CY, Koepsell TD, Desnick LM, D'Orsi CJ, Ransohoff DF. International variation in screening mammography interpretations in community-based programs. Journal of the National Cancer Institute 2003; 95(18):1384-93.

Harbarth S, Viot M, Beeler I, Klastersky J, Szucs T; CEMIC Study Group. Variation in antimicrobial utilization for febrile neutropenia in cancer patients. The CEMIC Study Group. Club d'Etudes des Maladies Infectieuses en Cancer. Infection 2000

Multi-Country

Nov;28(6):375-8.

Johnson FE, Johnson MH, Clemente MF, Paniello RC, Virgo KS. Geographical variation in surveillance strategies after curative-intent surgery for upper aerodigestive tract cancer. Annals of Surgical Oncology 2006 Aug;13(8):1063-71

Lehrnbecher T, Ethier MC, Zaoutis T, Creutzig U, Gamis A, Reinhardt D, et al. International variations in infection supportive care practices for paediatric patients with acute myeloid leukaemia. British Journal of Haematology 2009 Oct;147(1):125-8.

Phillips KA, Marshall DA, Haas JS, Elkin EB, Liang SY, Hassett MJ, et al. Clinical practice patterns and cost effectiveness of human epidermal growth receptor 2 testing strategies in breast cancer patients. Cancer 2009 Nov 15;115(22):5166-74.

Torfs K, Pocceschi S. A retrospective study of resource utilisation in the treatment of advanced colorectal cancer in Europe. European Journal of Cancer 1996;32A Suppl 5:S28-S31.

West SD, Davies RJ, Lee YC. Pleurodesis for malignant pleural effusions: current controversies and variations in practices. Current Opinion in Pulmonary Medicine 2004 Jul;10(4):305-10.

Cardiovascular

Australia & New Zealand

Ansari MZ, Henderson T, Ackland M, Cicuttini F, Sundararajan V. Congestive cardiac failure: urban and rural perspectives in Victoria. Australian Journal of Rural Health 2003 Dec;11(6):266-70.

Barber PA, Gommans J, Fink J, Hanger HC, Bennett P, Ataman N, et al. Acute stroke services in New Zealand: changes between 2001 and 2007. New Zealand Medical Journal 2008 Nov 14;121(1285):46-51.

Brownlee WJ, Fergus L, Bennett P, Gommans J, Fink J, Barber PA, et al. Transient ischaemic attack services in New Zealand. New Zealand Medical Journal 2009 Jul 24;122(1299):21-7.

Clark RA, Eckert KA, Stewart S, Phillips SM, Yallop JJ, Tonkin AM, et al. Rural and urban differentials in primary care management of chronic heart failure: new data from the CASE study. Medical Journal of Australia 2007 May 7;186(9):441-5.

Heller RF, O'Connell RL, D'Este C, Lim LL, Fletcher PJ. Differences in cardiac procedures among patients in metropolitan and non-metropolitan hospitals in New South Wales after acute myocardial infarction and angina. Australian Journal of Rural Health 2000; 8(6):310-7.

Ilett PA, Brock KA, Graven CJ, Cotton SM. Selecting patients for rehabilitation after acute stroke: are there variations in practice? Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation 2010 May;91(5):788-93.

Lim LL, Heller RF, O'Connell RL, D'Este K. Stated and actual management of acute myocardial infarction among different specialties. Medical Journal of Australia 2000 Mar 6;172(5):208-12.

Scott IA, Duke AB, Darwin IC, Harvey KH, Jones MA. Variations in indicated care of patients with acute coronary syndromes in Queensland hospitals. Medical Journal of Australia 2005; 182(7):325-30.

Wajon PR, Walsh RG, Symons NL. A survey of cardiopulmonary bypass perfusion practices in Australia in 1992. Anaesthesia & Intensive Care 1993; 21(6):814-21.

Walters DL, Aroney CN, Chew DP, Bungey L, Coverdale SG, Allan R, et al. Variations in the application of cardiac care in Australia. Medical Journal of Australia 2008 Feb 18;188(4):218-23.

Austria

Strauss R, Pfeifer C, Ulmer H, Muhlberger V, Pfeiffer KP. Spatial analysis of Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty (PTCA) in Austria. European Journal

Austria

of Epidemiology 1999 May;15(5):451-9.

Canada

Cardiovascular Health and Services in Ontario. Toronto, ON: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 1999.

Alter DA, Austin PC, Tu JV; Canadian Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Team.. Community factors, hospital characteristics and inter-regional outcome variations following acute myocardial infarction in Canada. Canadian Journ

Alter DA, Naylor CD, Austin PC, Chan BT, Tu JV. Geography and service supply do not explain socioeconomic gradients in angiography use after acute myocardial infarction. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 2003 Feb 4;168(3):26

Alter DA, Naylor CD, Austin PC, Tu JV. Long-term MI outcomes at hospitals with or without on-site revascularization. JAMA 2001 Apr 25;285(16):2101-8.

Austin PC, Tu JV, Ko DT, Alter DA. Factors associated with the use of evidence-based therapies after discharge among elderly patients with myocardial infarction. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 2008 Oct 21;179(9):

Burge F, Kephart G, Flowerdew G, Putnam W, Comeau DG, Whelan AM, et al. Physician characteristics in relation to cardiovascular drugs commonly prescribed for hypertension in Nova Scotia. Canadian Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 2001;8(3):139-45.

Chan B, Cox JL, Anderson G. Trends in the utilization of noninvasive cardiac diagnostic tests in Ontario from fiscal year 1989/90 to 1992/93. Canadian Journal of Cardiology 1996; 12(3):237-48.

Chen E, Naylor CD. Variation in hospital length of stay for acute myocardial infarction in Ontario, Canada. Medical Care 1994 May;32(5):420-35.

Faris PD, Grant FC, Galbraith PD, Gong Y, Ghali WA, Canadian Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Team. Diagnostic cardiac catheterization and revascularization rates for coronary heart disease. Canadian Journal of Cardiology 2004; 20(4):391-7.

Feasby TE, Quan H, Ghali WA. Geographic variation in the rate of carotid endarterectomy in Canada. Stroke 2001 Oct;32(10):2417-22.

Hall RE, Tu JV; Canadian Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Team. Hospitalization rates and length of stay for cardiovascular conditions in Canada, 1994 to 1999. Canadian Journal of Car

Canada

Hartford K, Ross LL, Walld R. Regional variation in angiography, coronary artery bypass surgery, and percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty in Manitoba, 1987 to 1992: the funnel effect. Medical Care 1998 Jul;3

Iscoe N, To T, Gort E, Tran M. Cancer Surgery in Ontario. Toronto, ON: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 1997.

Johansen H, Nair C, Taylor G. Variations in angioplasty and bypass surgery. Health Reports 1998;10(3):63-76.

Kapral MK, Hall R, Stemplecoski M, et al. Registry of the Canadian Stroke Network: Report on the 2008/09 Ontario stroke audit. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2011.

Kapral MK, Lindsay MP, Silver FL, et al. Registry of the Canadian Stroke Network: Report on the 2002/03 Ontario stroke audit. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2006.

Kapral MK, Silver FL, Richards JA, et al. Registry of the Canadian Stroke Network. Progress report 2001-2005. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2005.

Kaul P, Saunders LD, Roos LL, Kephart G, Ghali WA, Walld R, et al. Trends in utilization of coronary artery bypass surgery and associated outcomes: Alberta, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia. American Journal of Medical Quality 2002 May;17(3):103-12.

Keenan SP, Dodek P, Martin C, Priestap F, Norena M, Wong H, et al. Variation in length of intensive care unit stay after cardiac arrest: where you are is as important as who you are. Critical Care Medicine 2007 Mar;35(3):836-41.

Kennedy J, Quan H, Ghali WA, Feasby TE. Variations in rates of appropriate and inappropriate carotid endarterectomy for stroke prevention in 4 Canadian provinces. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 2004 Aug 31;171(5):455-9.

Khaykin Y, Austin PC, Tu JV, Alter DA. Utilisation of coronary angiography after acute myocardial infarction in Ontario over time: have referral patterns changed? Heart 2002 Nov;88(5):460-6.

Ko DT, Donovan LR, Huynh T, Rinfret S, So DY, Love MP, et al. A survey of primary percutaneous coronary intervention for patients with ST segment elevation myocardial infarction in Canadian hospitals. Canadian Journal of Cardiology 2008 Nov;24(11):839-43.

Lee DS, Johansen H, Gong Y, Hall RE, Tu JV, Cox JL, et al. Regional outcomes of heart failure in Canada. Canadian Journal of Cardiology 2004 May 1;20(6):599-607.

Likosky DS, FitzGerald DC, Groom RC, Jones DK, Baker RA, Shann KG, et al. The

Canada

effect of the perioperative blood transfusion and blood conservation in cardiac surgery Clinical Practice Guidelines of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons and the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists upon clinical practices. Journal of Extra-Corporeal Technology 2010 Jun;42(2):114-21.

Peters S, Chagani K, Paddon P, Nair C. Coronary artery bypass surgery in Canada. Health Reports 1990;2(1):9-26.

Rodrigues EJ, Simpson E, Richard H, Pilote L. Regional variation in the management of acute myocardial infarction in the province of Quebec. Canadian Journal of Cardiology 2002; 18(10):1067-76.

Rundek T, Nielsen K, Phillips S, Johnston KC, Hux M, Watson D, et al. Health care resource use after acute stroke in the Glycine Antagonist in Neuroprotection (GAIN) Americas trial. Stroke 2004 Jun;35(6):1368-74.

Shehata N, Wilson K, Mazer CD, Tomlinson G, Streiner D, Hebert P, et al. The proportion of variation in perioperative transfusion decisions in Canada attributable to the hospital. Canadian Journal of Anaesthesia 2007 Nov;54(11):902-7.

Stukel TA, Alter DA, Schull MJ, Ko DT, Li P. Association between hospital cardiac management and outcomes for acute myocardial infarction patients. Medical Care 2010 Feb;48(2):157-65.

Stukel TA, Lucas FL, Wennberg DE. Long-term outcomes of regional variations in intensity of invasive vs medical management of Medicare patients with acute myocardial infarction. JAMA 2005;293:1329-37.

France

Ecochard R, Rabilloud M, Colin C, Delahaye F, Ducreux C, Cao D, et al. Unjustified variations in patient management for acute myocardial infarction in the Rhone-Alpes region of France. PRIMA Group. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care 2000; 16(3):885-95.

Rabilloud M, Cao D, Riche B, Delahaye F, Ecochard R, PRIMA group., et al. Impact of selected geographical and clinical conditions on thrombolysis rate in myocardial infarction in three departments of France. European Journal of Epidemiology 2001;17(7); 685-91.

Germany

Hochadel M, Schneider S, Gottwik M, Zahn R, Zeymer U, Senges J, et al. Evaluation of hospitals regarding outcomes and baseline risk -- an application to percutaneous coronary

Germany

intervention. Clinical Research in Cardiology 2007 Jul;96(7):502-7.

Muller-Nordhorn J, Kulig M, Binting S, Voller H, Krobot KJ, Willich SN, et al. Regional variation in medication following coronary events in Germany. International Journal of Cardiology 2005 Jun 22;102(1):47-53.

Italy

Maraschini A, Seccareccia F, D'Errigo P, Rosato S, Badoni G, Casali G, et al. Role of gender and age on early mortality after coronary artery bypass graft in different hospitals: data from a national administrative database. Interactive Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery 2010 Nov;11(5):537-42.

Japan

Evans E, Imanaka Y, Sekimoto M, Ishizaki T, Hayashida K, Fukuda H, et al. Risk adjusted resource utilization for AMI patients treated in Japanese hospitals. Health Economics 2007 Apr;16(4):347-59.

Kusuoka H, Koretsune Y, Chino M, Nishiyama K, Shiraki T, Nakamura K, et al. Disparity in the process and outcome of the treatment for acute myocardial infarction in Japan: CAMPAIGN Study in the National Hospital Network. Circulation Journal 2005; 69(12):1447-53.

Netherlands

Lingsma HF, Dippel DW, Hoeks SE, Steyerberg EW, Franke CL, van Oostenbrugge RJ, et al. Variation between hospitals in patient outcome after stroke is only partly explained by differences in quality of care: results from the Netherlands Stroke Survey. Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry 2008 Aug;79(8):888-94.

Spronk S, Dolman W, Boelhouwer RU, Veen HF, den Hoed PT. The vascular laboratory in practice: a national survey in the Netherlands. European Journal of Vascular & Endovascular Surgery 2002 Oct;24(4):300-3.

Nordic

Hansen ML, Gadsboll N, Rasmussen S, Gislason GH, Folke F, Andersen SS, et al. Clinical consequences of hospital variation in use of oral anticoagulant therapy after first-time admission for atrial fibrillation. Journal of Internal Medicine 2009 Mar;265(3):335-44.

Nordic

Makela KT, Peltola M, Hakkinen U, Remes V. Geographical variation in incidence of primary total hip arthroplasty: a population-based analysis of 34,642 replacements. Arch Orthop Trauma Surg 2010 May;130(5):633-9.

Merlo J, Ostergren PO, Broms K, Bjorck-Linne A, Liedholm H. Survival after initial hospitalisation for heart failure: a multilevel analysis of patients in Swedish acute care hospitals. Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health 2001

Niemann T, Lous J, Thorsgaard N, Nielsen TT. Regional variations in the use of diagnostic coronary angiography. A one-year population-based study of all diagnostic coronary angiographies performed in a rural and an urban Danish county. Scandinavian Cardiovascular Journal 2000; 34(3):286-92.

Rasmussen S, Abildstrom SZ, Rasmussen JN, Gislason GH, Schramm TK, Folke F, et al. Hospital variation in use of secondary preventive medicine after discharge for first acute myocardial infarction during 1995-2004. Medical Care 2008 Jan;46(1):70-7.

Rasmussen S. Hierarchical modelling of small area and hospital variation in short-term prognosis after acute myocardial infarction. A longitudinal study of 35- to 74-year-old men in Denmark between 1978 and 1997. Statistics in Medicine

U.K.

Allen M, Sundararajan S, Pathan N, Burmester M, Macrae D. Anti-inflammatory modalities: their current use in pediatric cardiac surgery in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Pediatric Critical Care Medicine 2009 May;10(3):341-5.

Anyanwu AC, Bridgewater B, Adams DH. The lottery of mitral valve repair surgery. Heart 2010 Dec;96(24):1964-7.

Banerjee S, Francis CM. Survey of provision of echocardiography in Scottish district general hospitals. Scottish Medical Journal 2001 Feb;46(1):5-6.

Bennett KE, Williams D, Feely J. Inequalities in prescribing of secondary preventative therapies for ischaemic heart disease in Ireland. Irish Medical Journal 2002 Jun;95(6):169-72.

Birkhead JS. Thrombolytic treatment for myocardial infarction: an examination of practice in 39 United Kingdom hospitals. Myocardial Infarction Audit Group. Heart 1997 Jul;78(1):28-33.

Birkhead JS, Weston C, Lowe D. Impact of specialty of admitting physician and type of hospital on care and outcome for myocardial infarction in England and Wales during 2004-5: observational study. BMJ 2006 Jun 3;332(7553):1306-11.

Burton H, Alberg C, Stewart A. Mainstreaming genetics: a comparative review of clinical services for inherited cardiovascular conditions in the UK.Public Health Genomics 2010; 13(4):235-45.

Gale CP, Roberts AP, Batin PD, Hall AS. Funnel plots, performance variation and the Myocardial Infarction National Audit Project 2003-2004. BMC Cardiovascular Disorders 2006;6:34.

Gray D, Hampton JR. Variations in the use of coronary angiography in three cities in the Trent Region. British Heart Journal 1994; 71(5):474-8.

Greenfield S, Bryan S, Gill P, Gutridge K, Marshall T. Factors influencing clinicians' decisions to prescribe medication to prevent coronary heart disease. Journal of Clinical Pharmacy & Therapeutics 2005 Feb;30(1):77-84.

Henderson RA, Raskino CL, Hampton JR. Variations in the use of coronary arteriography in the UK: the RITA trial coronary arteriogram register. Qjm 1995 Mar;88(3):167-73.

Hood S, Birnie D, Curzio JL, Hillis WS. Wide variation in the use of thrombolytic therapy among junior doctors in south and central Scotland. Health Bulletin 1996 Mar;54(2):131-9.

Kee F. Referrals for coronary angiography in a high risk population. Quality in Health Care 1993 Jun;2(2):87-90.

Langham S, Basnett I, McCartney P, Normand C, Pickering J, Sheers D, et al. Addressing the inverse care law in cardiac services. Journal of Public Health Medicine 2003 Sep;25(3):202-7.

Mahy IR, Hillis GS, Jennings KP. Risk stratification after myocardial infarction in Scotland. Scottish Medical Journal 1998 Jun;43(3):72-3.

Majeed A, Eliahoo J, Bardsley M, Morgan D, Bindman AB. Variation in coronary artery bypass grafting, angioplasty, cataract surgery, and hip replacement rates among primary care groups in London: association with population and practice characteristics. J Public Health Med 2002 Mar;24(1):21-6.

McComb JM, Plummer CJ, Cunningham MW, Cunningham D. Inequity of access to implantable cardioverter defibrillator therapy in England: possible causes of geographical variation in implantation rates. Europace 2009 Oct;11(10):1308-12.

Muir KW, Rodger JC, DeBono JS, McDonald H, Irving JB. A survey of exercise testing practice in Scottish hospitals. Scottish Medical Journal 1993 Apr;38(2):45-7.

Murphy NF, MacIntyre K, Stewart S, Capewell S, McMurray JJ. Reduced between-

hospital variation in short term survival after acute myocardial infarction: the result of improved cardiac care? Heart 2005 Jun;91(6):726-30.

Oliver SE, Thomson RG. Are variations in the use of carotid endarterectomy explained by population Need? A study of health service utilisation in two English health regions. European Journal of Vascular & Endovascular Surgery

Warren OJ, Wallace S, de Wit KL, Vincent C, Darzi AW, Athanasiou T, et al. Variations in the application of various perfusion technologies in Great Britain and Ireland--a national survey. Artificial Organs 2010 Mar;34(3):200-5.

Weir N, Dennis MS; Scottish Stroke Outcomes Study Group. Towards a national system for monitoring the quality of hospital-based stroke services. Stroke 2001 Jun;32(6):1415-21.

USA

Al-Khatib SM, Hellkamp A, Curtis J, Mark D, Peterson E, Sanders GD, et al. Non-evidence-based ICD implantations in the United States. JAMA 2011 Jan 5;305(1):43-9.

Anyanwu AC, Rogers CA, Murday AJ. Variations in cardiac transplantation: comparisons between the United Kingdom and the United States. Journal of Heart & Lung Transplantation 1999 Apr;18(4):297-303.

Ayanian JZ, Landrum MB, Normand SL, Guadagnoli E, McNeil BJ. Rating the appropriateness of coronary angiography--do practicing physicians agree with an expert panel and with each other? New England Journal of Medicine 1998; 338(26):1896-904.

Bennett-Guerrero E, Zhao Y, O'Brien SM, Ferguson TB, Jr., Peterson ED, Gammie JS, Song HK. Variation in use of blood transfusion in coronary artery bypass graft surgery. JAMA 2010 Oct 13;304(14):1568-75.

Bertoni AG, Bonds DE, Steffes S, Jackson E, Crago L, Balasubramanyam A, et al. Quality of cholesterol screening and management with respect to the National Cholesterol Education's Third Adult Treatment Panel (ATPIII) guideline in primary care practices in North Carolina. American Heart Journal 2006 Oct;152(4):785-92.

Bhargavan M, Sunshine JH, Lewis RS, Jha S, Owen JB, Vializ J, et al. Frequency of use of imaging tests in the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism: effects of physician specialty, patient characteristics, and region. AJR 2010 Apr; American Journal of Roentgenology. 179(5):1123-8.

Bradley EH, Herrin J, Curry L, Cherlin EJ, Wang Y, Webster TR, et al. Variation in hospital mortality rates for patients with acute myocardial infarction. American Journal of Cardiology 2010 Oct 15;106(8):1108-12.

Bradley EH, Herrin J, Elbel B, McNamara RL, Magid DJ, Nallamothu BK, et al. Hospital quality for acute myocardial infarction: correlation among process measures and relationship with short-term mortality. JAMA 2006 Jul 5;296(1):72-8.

Bradley EH, Herrin J, Mattera JA, Holmboe ES, Wang Y, Frederick P, et al. Quality improvement efforts and hospital performance: rates of beta-blocker prescription after acute myocardial infarction. Medical Care 2005 Mar;43(3):282-92.

Burwen DR, Galusha DH, Lewis JM, Bedinger MR, Radford MJ, Krumholz HM, et al. National and state trends in quality of care for acute myocardial infarction between 1994-1995 and 1998-1999: the medicare health care quality improvement program. Archives of Internal Medicine 2003 Jun 23;163(12):1430-9.

Chan PS, Nichol G, Krumholz HM, Spertus JA, Nallamothu BK; American Heart Association National Registry of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (NRCPR) Investigatorsl. Hospital variation in time to defibrillation after in-hospital cardiac arrest. Archives of Internal Medicine 2009 Jul 27;169(14):1265-73.

Chang R-KR, Gurvitz M, Rodriguez S, Hong E, Klitzner TS. Current practice of exercise stress testing among pediatric cardiology and pulmonology centers in the United States. Pediatric Cardiology 2006 Jan;27(1):110-6.

Coben JH, Owens PL, Steiner CA, Crocco TJ. Hospital and demographic influences on the disposition of transient ischemic attack. Academic Emergency Medicine 2008 Feb;15(2):171-6.

Cowper PA, DeLong ER, Hannan EL, Muhlbaier LH, Lytle BL, Jones RH, et al. Trends in postoperative length of stay after bypass surgery. American Heart Journal 2006 Dec;152(6):1194-200.

Cowper PA, DeLong ER, Peterson ED, Hannan EL, Ray KT, Racz M, et al. Variability in cost of coronary bypass surgery in New York State: potential for cost savings. American Heart Journal 2002 Jan;143(1):130-9.

Cowper PA, DeLong ER, Peterson ED, Lipscomb J, Muhlbaier LH, Jollis JG, et al. Geographic variation in resource use for coronary artery bypass surgery. IHD Port Investigators. Medical Care 1997 Apr;35(4):320-33.

Garg PP, Landrum MB, Normand SL, Ayanian JZ, Hauptman PJ, Ryan TJ, et al. Understanding individual and small area variation in the underuse of coronary angiography following acute myocardial infarction. Medical Care 2002 Jul;40(7):614-26.

Gatsonis CA, Epstein AM, Newhouse JP, Normand SL, McNeil BJ. Variations in the utilization of coronary angiography for elderly patients with an acute myocardial infarction. An analysis using hierarchical logistic regression. Medical Care 1995 Jun;33(6):625-42.

Ghali WA, Ash AS, Hall RE, Moskowitz MA. Variation in hospital rates of intraaortic balloon pump use in coronary artery bypass operations. Annals of Thoracic Surgery 1999 Feb;67(2):441-5.

Goeschel DP, Gilbert CS, Crabtree BF. Geographic variation in exercise testing by family physicians. Journal of Family Practice 1994; 38(2):132-7.

Goodnough LT, Johnston MF, Toy PT. The variability of transfusion practice in coronary artery bypass surgery. Transfusion Medicine Academic Award Group. JAMA 1991 Jan 2;265(1):86-90.

Guadagnoli E, Hauptman PJ, Ayanian JZ, Pashos CL, McNeil BJ, Cleary PD, et al. Variation in the use of cardiac procedures after acute myocardial infarction. New England Journal of Medicine 1995 Aug 31;333(9):573-8.

Guadagnoli E, Landrum MB, Normand SL, Ayanian JZ, Garg P, Hauptman PJ, et al. Impact of underuse, overuse, and discretionary use on geographic variation in the use of coronary angiography after acute myocardial infarction. Medical Care 2001 May;39:446-58.

Hanbrook JT, Kimball TR, Lhoury P, Cnota J. Disparities exist in the emergency department evaluation of pediatric chest pain. Congenital Heart Disease 2010; 5(3):285-91.

Hannan EL, Kumar D. Geographic variation in the utilization and choice of procedures for treating coronary artery disease in New York State. Ischaemic Heart Disease Patient Outcomes Research Team (PORT). Journal of Health Services & Research Policy 1997 Jul;2(3):137-43.

Hannan EL, Popp AJ, Feustel P, Halm E, Bernardini G, Waldman J, et al. Association of surgical specialty and processes of care with patient outcomes for carotid endarterectomy. Stroke 2001 Dec 1;32(12):2890-7.

Hannan EL, Wu C, Chassin MR. Differences in per capita rates of revascularization and in choice of revascularization procedure for eleven states. BMC Health Services Research 2006;6:35.

Haque IU, Latour MC, Zaritsky AL. Pediatric critical care community survey of knowledge and attitudes toward therapeutic hypothermia in comatose children after cardiac arrest. Pediatric Critical Care Medicine 2006 Jan;7(1):7-14.

Harris DE, Aboueissa AM, Hartley D. Myocardial infarction and heart failure hospitalization rates in Maine, USA - variability along the urban-rural continuum. Rural & Remote Health 2008;8(2):980.

Havranek EP, Wolfe P, Masoudi FA, Rathore SS, Krumholz HM, Ordin DL, et al.

Provider and hospital characteristics associated with geographic variation in the evaluation and management of elderly patients with heart failure. Archives of Internal Medicine 2004 Jun 14;164(11):1186-91.

Johnson JN, Jaggers J, Li S, O'Brien SM, Li JS, Jacobs JP, et al. Center variation and outcomes associated with delayed sternal closure after stage 1 palliation for hypoplastic left heart syndrome. Journal of Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery 2010 May;139(5): 1205-10.

Ketcham JD, Baker LC, MacIsaac D. Physician practice size and variations in treatments and outcomes: evidence from Medicare patients with AMI. Health Affairs 2007 Jan;26(1):195-205.

Kimm SY, Payne GH, Stylianou MP, Waclawiw MA, Lichtenstein C. National trends in the management of cardiovascular disease risk factors in children: second NHLBI survey of primary care physicians. Pediatrics 1998 Nov;102(5):E50.

Kleindorfer D, Xu Y, Moomaw CJ, Khatri P, Adeoye O, Hornung R, et al. US geographic distribution of rt-PA utilization by hospital for acute ischemic stroke. Stroke 2009 Nov;40(11):3580-4.

Ko DT, Wang Y, Alter DA, Curtis JP, Rathore SS, Stukel TA, et al. Regional variation in cardiac catheterization appropriateness and baseline risk after acute myocardial infarction. Journal of the American College of Cardiology 2008 Feb;51(7):716-23.

Kravitz RL, Laouri M. Measuring and averting underuse of necessary cardiac procedures: a summary of results and future directions. Joint Commission Journal on Quality Improvement 1997 May;23(5):268-76.

Kresowik TF, Bratzler DW, Kresowik RA, Hendel ME, Grund SL, Brown KR, et al. Multistate improvement in process and outcomes of carotid endarterectomy. Journal of Vascular Surgery 2004 Feb;39(2):372-80.

Krone RJ, Shaw RE, Klein LW, Blankenship JC, Weintraub WS, American College of Cardiology - National Cardiovascular Data Registry. Ad hoc percutaneous coronary interventions in patients with stable coronary artery disease--a study of prevalence, safety, and variation in use from the American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Data Registry (ACC-NCDR). Catheter Cardiovasc Interv 2006 Nov;68(5):696-703.

Krumholz HM, Chen J, Rathore SS, Wang Y, Radford MJ. Regional variation in the treatment and outcomes of myocardial infarction: investigating New England's advantage. American Heart Journal 2003 Aug;146(2):242-9.

Krumholz HM, Chen YT, Bradford WD, Cerese J. Variations in and correlates of length of stay in academic hospitals among patients with heart failure resulting from systolic

dysfunction. American Journal of Managed Care 1999 Jun;5(6):715-23.

Krumholz HM, Radford MJ, Wang Y, Chen J, Heiat A, Marciniak TA, et al. National use and effectiveness of beta-blockers for the treatment of elderly patients after acute myocardial infarction: National Cooperative Cardiovascular Project. JAMA 1998 Aug;280(7):623-9.

Kudesia R, Chaturvedi S, Kudesia R, Chaturvedi S. Practice variation among Michigan neurologists in the use of intravenous heparin. Journal of the Neurological Sciences 2002 Oct 15;202(1-2):25-7.

Kuhn EM, Hartz AJ, Baras M, Kuhn EM, Hartz AJ, Baras M. Correlation of rates of coronary artery bypass surgery, angioplasty, and cardiac catheterization in 305 large communities for persons age 65 and older. Health Services Research 1995;30(3):425-36.

Lamas GA, Pashos CL, Normand SL, McNeil B, Lamas GA, Pashos CL, et al. Permanent pacemaker selection and subsequent survival in elderly Medicare pacemaker recipients. Circulation 1995 Feb 15;91(4):1063-9.

Langland-Orban B, Orban DJ. The choice of thrombolytic agents in the emergency department. Annals of Emergency Medicine 1993 May;22(5):845-51.

Lanska DJ, Kryscio R. Geographic distribution of hospitalization rates, case fatality, and mortality from stroke in the United States. Neurology 1994 Aug;44(8):1541-50.

Lanska DJ. Length of hospital stay for cerebrovascular disease in the United States: Professional Activity Study, 1963-1991. Journal of the Neurological Sciences 1994 Dec 20;127(2):214-20.

Laskey W, Spence N, Zhao X, Mayo R, Taylor R, Cannon CP, et al. Regional differences in quality of care and outcomes for the treatment of acute coronary syndromes: an analysis from the get with the guidelines coronary artery disease program. Critic Critical Pathways in Cardiology: A Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine 2010 Mar;9(1):1-7.

Lee AJ, Huber J, Stason WB. Poststroke rehabilitation in older Americans. The Medicare experience. Medical Care 1996 Aug;34(8):811-25.

Lee AJ, Huber JH, Stason WB. Factors contributing to practice variation in post-stroke rehabilitation. Health Services Research 1997 Jun;32(2):197-221.

Lin GA, Dudley RA, Lucas RL, Malenka DJ, Vittinghoff E, Redberg RF. Frequency of stress testing to document ischemia prior to elective percutaneous coronary intervention. JAMA 2008; 300(15):1765-73.

Lopez J, Meier J, Cunningham F, Siegel D. Antihypertensive medication use in the Department of Veterans Affairs: a national analysis of prescribing patterns from 2000 to

2002. American Journal of Hypertension 2004 Dec;17(12 Pt 1):1095-9.

Lucas FL, Siewers AE, Malenka DJ, Wennberg DE. Diagnostic-therapeutic cascade revisited: coronary angiography, coronary artery bypass graft surgery, and percutaneous coronary intervention in the modern era. Circulation 2008; 118(25):2797-802.

Lucas FL, Wennberg DE, Malenka DJ. Variation in the use of echocardiography. Effective Clinical Practice 1999 Mar;2(2):71-5.

Ma J, Stafford RS. Screening, treatment, and control of hypertension in US private physician offices, 2003-2004. Hypertension 2008 May;51(5):1275-81.

Magner D, Mirocha J, Gewertz BL. Regional variation in the utilization of carotid endarterectomy. Journal of Vascular Surgery 2009 Apr;49(4):893-901.

McClellan M, McNeil BJ, Newhouse JP. Does more intensive treatment of acute myocardial infarction in the elderly reduce mortality? Analysis using instrumental variables. JAMA 1994 Sep 21;272(11):859-66.

McCullough PA, O'Neill WW. Influence of regional cardiovascular mortality on the use of angiography after acute myocardial infarction. American Journal of Cardiology 1997 Mar 1;79(5):575-80.

Mehra MR, Yancy CW, Albert NM, Curtis AB, Stough WG, Gheorghiade M, et al. Evidence of clinical practice heterogeneity in the use of implantable cardioverter-defibrillators in heart failure and post-myocardial infarction left ventricular dysfunction: Findings from IMPROVE HF. Heart Rhythm 2009 Dec;6(12):1727-34.

Menon V, Rumsfeld JS, Roe MT, Cohen MG, Peterson ED, Brindis RG, et al. Regional outcomes after admission for high-risk non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndromes. American Journal of Medicine 2006 Jul;119(7):584-90.

Mirvis DM, Graney MJ. Variations in the use of cardiac procedures in the Veterans Health Administration. American Heart Journal 1999 Apr;137(4 Pt 1):706-13.

Myers J, Voodi L, Umann T, Froelicher VF. A survey of exercise testing: methods, utilization, interpretation, and safety in the VAHCS. Journal of Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation 2000; 20(4):251-8, 2000.

O'Connor GT, Quinton HB, Traven ND, Ramunno LD, Dodds TA, Marciniak TA, et al. Geographic variation in the treatment of acute myocardial infarction: the Cooperative Cardiovascular Project. JAMA 1999 Feb 17;281(7):627-33.

Park RE, Brook RH, Kosecoff J, Keesey J, Rubenstein L, Keeler E, et al. Explaining variations in hospital death rates. Randomness, severity of illness, quality of care. JAMA 1990 Jul 25;264(4):484-90.

Pearlman AS, Ryan T, Picard MH, Douglas PS. Evolving trends in the use of echocardiography: a study of Medicare beneficiaries. Journal of the American College of Cardiology 2007; 49(23):2283-91.

Pearson SD, Goldman L, Orav EJ, et al. Triage decisions for emergency department patients with chest pain: do physicians' risk attitudes make the difference? J Gen Intern Med 1995;10:557-64.

Pearte CA, Myerson M, Coresh J, McNamara RL, Rosamond W, Taylor H, Manolio TA, Atherosclerosis Risk In Communities Study. Variation and temporal trends in the use of diagnostic testing during hospitalization for acute myocardial infarction by age, gender, race, and geography (the Atherosclerosis Risk In Communities Study). Am J Cardiol 2008 May 1;101(9):1219-25.

Philbin EF, Rogers VA, Sheesley KA, Lynch LJ, Andreou C, Rocco TA, Jr., et al. The relationship between hospital length of stay and rate of death in heart failure. Heart & Lung 1997 May;26(3):177-86.

Pilote L, Califf RM, Sapp S, Miller DP, Mark DB, Weaver WD, et al. Regional variation across the United States in the management of acute myocardial infarction. GUSTO-1 Investigators. Global Utilization of Streptokinase and Tissue Plasminogen Activator for Occluded Coronary Arteries. New England Journal of Medicine 1995 Aug 31;333(9):565-72.

Reker DM, O'Donnell JC, Hamilton BB. Stroke rehabilitation outcome variation in Veterans Affairs rehabilitation units: accounting for case-mix. Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation 1998 Jul;79(7):751-7.

Restuccia JD, Shwartz M, Kreger BE, Payne SM, Ash AS, Iezzoni LI, et al. Does more "appropriateness" explain higher rates of cardiac procedures among patients hospitalized with coronary heart disease? Medical Care 2002 Jun;40(6):500-9.

Rizzo JA, Simons WR. Explaining price variations for the inpatient treatment of congestive heart failure. American Journal of Managed Care 1998 Nov;4(11):1543-58.

Rosen AB, Humphries JO, Muhlbaier LH, Kiefe CI, Kresowik T, Peterson ED, et al. Effect of clinical factors on length of stay after coronary artery bypass surgery: results of the cooperative cardiovascular project. American Heart Journal 1999 Jul;138(1 Pt 1):69-77.

Saleh SS, Hannan EL, Ting L. A multistate comparison of patient characteristics, outcomes, and treatment practices in acute myocardial infarction. American Journal of Cardiology 2005 Nov 1;96(9):1190-6.

Seddon ME, Ayanian JZ, Landrum MB, Cleary PD, Peterson EA, Gahart MT, et al. Quality of ambulatory care after myocardial infarction among Medicare patients by type

of insurance and region. American Journal of Medicine 2001 Jul;111(1):24-32.

Selby JV, Fireman BH, Lundstrom RJ, Swain BE, Truman AF, Wong CC, Froelicher ES et al. Variation among hospitals in coronary-angiography practices and outcomes after myocardial infarction in a large health maintenance organization. N Engl J Med 1996 Dec 19;335(25):1888-96.

Shah B, Hernandez AF, Liang L, Al-Khatib SM, Yancy CW, Fonarow GC, et al. Hospital variation and characteristics of implantable cardioverter-defibrillator use in patients with heart failure: data from the GWTG-HF (Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure) registry. Journal of the American College of Cardiology 2009 Feb 3;53(5):416-22.

Shepardson LB, Youngner SJ, Speroff T, O'Brien RG, Smyth KA, Rosenthal GE, et al. Variation in the use of do-not-resuscitate orders in patients with stroke. Archives of Internal Medicine 1997 Sep 8;157(16):1841-7.

Stearns SC. Hospital discharge decisions, health outcomes, and the use of unobserved information on case-mix severity. Health Services Research 1991 Apr;26(1):27-51.

Subramanian U, Weinberger M, Eckert GJ, L'Italien GJ, Lapuerta P, Tierney W, et al. Geographic variation in health care utilization and outcomes in veterans with acute myocardial infarction. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2002 Aug;17(8):604-11.

Tabereaux PB, Brass LM, Concato J, Bravata DM. Hospital admissions for stroke among the very old in the USA. Neuroepidemiology 2008;31(2):93-9.

Venkatappa S, Murray CK, Bratzler DW. Coronary artery bypass grafting surgery in Oklahoma: processes and outcomes of care. Journal - Oklahoma State Medical Association 2003 Feb;96(2):63-9.

Wennberg D, Dickens J, Jr., Soule D, et al. The relationship between the supply of cardiac catheterization laboratories, cardiologists and the use of invasive cardiac procedures in northern New England. J Health Serv Res Policy 1997;2:75-80.

Wennberg DE, Kellett MA, Dickens JD, Malenka DJ, Keilson LM, Keller RB. The association between local diagnostic testing intensity and invasive cardiac procedures. JAMA 1996;275:1161-4.

Woods M, LeBlanc K, Gersema L. Antibiotic prophylaxis in cardiothoracic surgery: results of a second survey. Hospital Pharmacy 1990 Jul;25(7):641-3.

Wright SM, Petersen LA, Daley J. Availability of cardiac technology: trends in procedure use and outcomes for patients with acute myocardial infarction. Medical Care Research & Review 1998 Jun;55(2):239-54.

Zhang W, Watanabe-Galloway S. Ten-year secular trends for congestive heart failure

hospitalizations: an analysis of regional differences in the United States. Congestive Heart Failure 2008 Sep;14(5):266-71.

Multi-Country

Alexander KP, Newby LK, Bhapkar MV, White HD, Hochman JS, Pfisterer ME et al. Symphony and 2nd Symphony Investigators. International variation in invasive care of the elderly with acute coronary syndromes. European Heart Journal 2006; 27(13):1558-64.

Beech R, Ratcliffe M, Tilling K, Wolfe C. Hospital services for stroke care. A European Perspective. European Study of Stroke Care. Stroke 1996 Nov;27(11):1958-64.

Bertrand OF, Rao SV, Pancholy S, Jolly SS, Rodes-Cabau J, Larose E, et al. Transradial approach for coronary angiography and interventions: results of the first international transradial practice survey. Jacc: Cardiovascular Interventions 2010 Oct; 3(10):1022-31.

Chang WC, Midodzi WK, Westerhout CM, Boersma E, Cooper J, Barnathan ES, et al. Are international differences in the outcomes of acute coronary syndromes apparent or real? A multilevel analysis. Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health 2005 May;59(5):427-33.

Daly CA, Clemens F, Sendon JL, Tavazzi L, Boersma E, Danchin N et al. The clinical characteristics and investigations planned in patients with stable angina presenting to cardiologists in Europe: from the Euro Heart Survey of Stable Angina. European Heart Journal 2005; 26(10):996-1010.

Eisenberg MJ, Califf RM, Cohen EA, Adelman AG, Mark DB, Topol EJ, et al. Use of evidence-based medical therapy in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary revascularization in the United States, Europe, and Canada. Coronary Angioplasty Versus Excisional Atherectomy Trial (CAVEAT-I) and Canadian Coronary Atherectomy Trial (CCAT) investigators. American Journal of Cardiology 1997 Apr 1;79(7):867-72.

Fox KA, Cokkinos DV, Deckers J, Keil U, Maggioni A, Steg G, et al. The ENACT study: a pan-European survey of acute coronary syndromes. European Network for Acute Coronary Treatment. European Heart Journal 2000 Sep;21(17):1440-9.

Fretheim A, Oxman AD. International variation in prescribing antihypertensive drugs: its extent and possible explanations. BMC Health Services Research 2005 Mar 11;5(1):21.

Hamish M, Gohel MS, Shepherd A, Howes NJ, Davies AH. Variations in the pharmacological management of patients treated with carotid endarterectomy: a survey of European vascular surgeons. European Journal of Vascular & Endovascular Surgery 2009 Oct;38(4):402-7.

Multi-Country

Harris KM, Pastorius CA, Duval S, Harwood E, Henry TD, Carabello BA, et al. Practice variation among cardiovascular physicians in management of patients with mitral regurgitation. American Journal of Cardiology 2009 Jan 15;103(2):255-61.

Heidrich J, Heuschmann PU, Kolominsky-Rabas P, Rudd AG, Wolfe CD; European BIOMED II Study of Stroke Care Group. Variations in the use of diagnostic procedures after acute stroke in Europe: results from the BIOMED II study of stroke care. European JJournal of Neurology 2007; 14(3):255-61

Heller R, O'Connell R, Lim L, Aggrawal A, Nogueira A, Alvares Salis LH, et al. Variation in in-patient stroke management in ten centres in different countries: the INCLEN multicentre stroke collaboration. Journal of the Neurological Sciences 1999 Aug;167(1):11-5.

Kaul P, Newby LK, Fu Y, Mark DB, Califf RM, Topol EJ, et al. International differences in evolution of early discharge after acute myocardial infarction. Lancet 2004 Feb 14;363(9408):511-7.

Kaul P, Newby LK, Fu Y, Mark DB, Goodman SG, Wagner GS, et al. Relation between baseline risk and treatment decisions in non-ST elevation acute coronary syndromes: an examination of international practice patterns. Heart 2005 Jul;91(7):876-81.

Kotseva K, Stagmo M, De Bacquer D, De B Backer G, Wood D; EUROASPIRE II Study Group. Treatment potential for cholesterol management in patients with coronary heart disease in 15 European countries: findings from the EUROASPIRE II survey. Atherosclerosis 2008 Apr;197(2):710-7.

Sturm HB, van Gilst WH, Veeger N, Haaijer-Ruskamp FM. Prescribing for chronic heart failure in Europe: does the country make the difference? A European survey. Pharmacoepidemiology & Drug Safety 2007 Jan;16(1):96-103.

Weir NU, Sandercock PA, Lewis SC, Signorini DF, Warlow CP. Variations between countries in outcome after stroke in the International Stroke Trial (IST). Stroke 2001 Jun;32(6):1370-7.

Welsh RC, Chang W, Goldstein P, Adgey J, Granger CB, Verheugt FW, et al. Time to treatment and the impact of a physician on prehospital management of acute ST elevation myocardial infarction: insights from the ASSENT-3 PLUS trial. Heart 2005 Nov;91(11):1400-6.

Woods KL, Ketley D, Agusti A, Hagn C, Kala R, Karatzas NB, et al. Use of coronary angiography and revascularization procedures following acute myocardial infarction. A European perspective. European Heart Journal 1998; 19(9):1348-54.

Gynaecological and Obstetric

Australia & New Zealand

Byles JE, Mishra G, Schofield M. Factors associated with hysterectomy among women in Australia. Health & Place 2000 Dec;6(4):301-8.

Connellan M, Wallace EM. Prevention of perinatal group B streptococcal disease: screening practice in public hospitals in Victoria. Medical Journal of Australia 2000 Apr 3;172(7):317-20.

Davis GK, Homer CS, Brown MA. Hypertension in pregnancy: do consensus statements make a difference? Australian & New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 2002 Oct;42(4):369-73.

Johnson N, Ansell D. Variation in caesarean and instrumental delivery rates in New Zealand hospitals. Australian & New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 1995 Feb;35(1):6-11.

Shorten A, Shorten B. Episiotomy in NSW hospitals 1993-1996: towards understanding variations between public and private hospitals. Australian Health Review 1999;22(1):18-32.

Canada

Dunn S, Anderson GM, Bierman AS. Temporal and regional trends in IUD insertion: a population-based study in Ontario, Canada. Contraception 2009 Nov;80(5):469-73.

Ferris LE, Main-Klein M, Iron K. Factors influencing the delivery of abortion services in Ontario: a descriptive study. Family Planning Perspectives 1998 May;30(3):134-8.

Hanley GE, Janssen PA, Greyson D. Regional variation in the cesarean delivery and assisted vaginal delivery rates. Obstetrics & Gynecology 2010 Jun;115(6):1201-8.

Jarrell J. Annual repeat rates of laparoscopic surgery: a marker of practice variation. American Journal of Medical Quality 2010; 25(5):378-83.

Kaczorowski J, Levitt C, Hanvey L, Avard D, Chance G. A national survey of use of obstetric procedures and technologies in Canadian hospitals: routine or based on existing evidence? Birth 1998 Mar;25(1):11-8.

Lichtenberg ES, Paul M, Jones H. First trimester surgical abortion practices: a survey of National Abortion Federation members. Contraception 2001 Dec;64(6):345-52.

Liu S, Heaman M, Sauve R, Liston R, Reyes F, Bartholomew S, et al. An analysis of antenatal hospitalization in Canada, 1991-2003. Maternal & Child Health Journal 2007 Mar;11(2):181-7.

Canada

Wen SW, Liu S, Marcoux S, Fowler D. Trends and variations in length of hospital stay for childbirth in Canada. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 1998 Apr 7;158(7):875-80.

Winquist B, Ogle K, Muhajarine N. Exploring physicians' views and values in relation to maternal serum screening. Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Canada: JOGC 2008 Jul;30(7):564-72.

France

Bonet M, Blondel B, Khoshnood B. Evaluating regional differences in breast-feeding in French maternity units: a multi-level approach. Public Health Nutrition 2010 Dec;13(12):1946-54.

Guillem P, Fabre B, Cans C, Robert-Gnansia E, Jouk PS. Trends in elective terminations of pregnancy between 1989 and 2000 in a French county (the Isere). Prenatal Diagnosis 2003; 23(11):877-83.

Parant O, Maillard F, Tsatsaris V, Delattre M, Subtil D, Goffinet F, et al. Management of threatened preterm delivery in France: a national practice survey (the EVAPRIMA study). BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 2008 Nov;115(12); 1538-46.

Germany

Heier M, Moebus S, Meisinger C, Jockel KH, Volzke H, Doring A, et al. Menopausal hormone therapy in Germany. Results of three national surveys from 1997 to 2003. Maturitas 2009 Jan 20;62(1):9-15.

Nordic

Hemminki E, Gissler M. Variation in obstetric care within and between hospital levels in Finland. British Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 1994 Oct;101(10):851-7.

Hemminki E, Gissler M, Saarikoski H. Variation in referring newborns to special care in Finland. Scandinavian Journal of Public Health 1999 Jun;27(2):124-7.

Hemminki E, Topo P. Prescribing of hormone therapy in menopause and postmenopause. Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics & Gynecology 1997 Jun;18(2):145-57.

Holt J, Vold IN, Odland JO, Forde OH. Perinatal deaths in a Norwegian county 1986-96 classified by the Nordic-Baltic perinatal classification: geographical contrasts as a basis for quality assessment. Acta Obstetricia et Gynecologica Scandinavica 2000

Nordic

Feb;79(2):107-12.

Jorgensen FS. An epidemiological study of obstetric ultrasound examinations in Denmark 1989-1990. Acta Obstetricia et Gynecologica Scandinavica 1992 Oct;71(7):513-9.

Sandvik H, Hunskaar S. Doctors' characteristics and practice patterns in general practice: an analysis based on management of urinary incontinence. Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 1990 Sep;8(3):179-82.

Spain

Librero J, Peiro S, Calderon SM. Inter-hospital variations in caesarean sections. A risk adjusted comparison in the Valencia public hospitals. Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health 2000 Aug;54(8):631-6.

U.K.

Adekanmi OA, Freeman RM, Bombieri L. How colposuspensions are performed in the UK: a survey of gynecologists' practice. International Urogynecology Journal 2003 Aug;14(3):151-9.

Alfhaily F, Ewies AA. Postcoital bleeding: a study of the current practice amongst consultants in the United Kingdom. European Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Biology 2009 May;144(1):72-5.

Alfirevic Z, Edwards G, Platt MJ. The impact of delivery suite guidelines on intrapartum care in 'standard primigravida'. European Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Biology 2004; 115(1):28-31.

Bottle A, Aylin P. Variations in vaginal and abdominal hysterectomy by region and trust in England. BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 2005 Mar;112(3):326-8.

Bragg F, Cromwell DA, Edozien LC, Gurol-Urganci I, Mahmood TA, Templeton A, et al. Variation in rates of caesarean section among English NHS trusts after accounting for maternal and clinical risk: cross sectional study. BMJ 2010;341:c5065.

Cromwell DA, Mahmood TA, Templeton A, van der Meulen JH. Surgery for menorrhagia within English regions: variation in rates of endometrial ablation and hysterectomy. BJOG 2009 Sep;116(10):1373-9.

Deb S, Flora K, Atiomo W. A survey of preferences and practices of endometrial ablation/resection for menorrhagia in the United Kingdom. Fertility & Sterility 2008

Nov;90(5):1812-7.

Devane D, Lalor J, Bonnar J. The use of intrapartum electronic fetal heart rate monitoring: a national survey. Irish Medical Journal 2007; 100(2):360-2.

Fenton AC, Ainsworth SB, Sturgiss SN. Population-based outcomes after acute antenatal transfer. Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology 2002 Jul;16(3):278-85.

Giraudon I, Forde J, Maguire H, Arnold J, Permalloo N. Antenatal screening and prevalence of infection: surveillance in London, 2000-2007. Euro Surveillance: Bulletin Europeen sur les Maladies Transmissibles 2009; 14(9):8-12.

Harrison K, Read MD, Woodman NM. Current practice for induction of labour in the United Kingdom: time for a review? Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 2003 Mar;23(2):138-42.

Lalor J, Devane D. McParland P. Ultrasound screening for fetal abnormality in Ireland: a national survey. Irish Journal of Medical Science 2007; 176(3):175-9.

Modell B, Petrou M, Layton M, Varnavides L, Slater C, Ward RH, Rodeck C, Nicolaides K, Gibbons S, Fitches A, Old J. Audit of prenatal diagnosis for haemoglobin disorders in the United Kingdom: the first 20 years. BMJ 1997; 315(7111):779-84.

Mulholland C, Harding N, Bradley S, Stevenson M. Regional variations in the utilization rate of vaginal and abdominal hysterectomies in the United Kingdom. Journal of Public Health Medicine 1996 Dec;18(4):400-5.

Smith LF, Smith CP. UK childbirth delivery options in 2001-2002: alternatives to consultant unit booking and delivery. British Journal of General Practice 2005 Apr;55(513):292-7.

Stokes-Lampard HJ, Macleod J, Wilson S. Variation in NHS utilisation of vault smear tests in women post-hysterectomy: A study, using routinely collected datasets. BMC Women's Health 2008; 8:6.

Udayasankar V, Padmagirison R, Majoko F. National survey of obstetricians in Wales regarding induction of labour in women with a previous caesarean section. Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 2008 Jan;28(1):48-50.

Varma R, Gupta JK. Laparoscopic entry techniques: clinical guideline, national survey, and medicolegal ramifications. Surgical Endoscopy 2008 Dec;22(12):2686-97.

Wedisinghe L, Macleod M, Murphy DJ. Use of oxytocin to prevent haemorrhage at caesarean section—a survey of practice in the United Kingdom. European Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Biology 2008;137(1):27-30.

U.K.

Yahya SZ, Williams J, Mathers A, Bjornsson S, Cameron AD, Pell JP, et al. Variations in the management of singleton breech presentation throughout Scotland. Scottish Medical Journal 1998 Oct;43(5):144-5.

USA

Albers LL, Krulewitch CJ. Electronic fetal monitoring in the United States in the 1980s. Obstetrics & Gynecology 1993; 82(1):8

Andy C Antibiotic use and preterm labor: attitudes and practice patterns of North Carolina obstetric providers. Journal of Women's Health 2003 Nov;12(9):903-9.

Anger JT, Litwin MS, Wang Q, Pashos CL, Rodriguez LV. Variations in stress incontinence and prolapse management by surgeon specialty. Journal of Urology 2007 Oct;178(4 Pt 1):1411-7.

Arndt M, Bradbury RC, Golec J. Indications for hysterectomy: variation within and across hospitals. Medical Care Research & Review 1995 Sep;52(3):342-63.

Baicker K, Buckles KS, Chandra A. Geographic variation in the appropriate use of cesarean delivery. Health Affairs 2006 Sep;25(5):w355-w367.

Bailit JL, Dooley SL, Peaceman AN. Risk adjustment for interhospital comparison of primary cesarean rates. Obstetrics & Gynecology 1999 Jun;93(6):1025-30.

Becker ER. National trends and determinants of hospitalization costs and lengths-of-stay for uterine fibroids procedures. Journal of Health Care Finance 2007;33(3):1-16.

Burns LR, Chilingerian JA, Wholey DR. The effect of physician practice organization on efficient utilization of hospital resources. Health Services Research 1994 Dec;29(5):583-603.

Burns LR, Geller SE, Wholey DR. The effect of physician factors on the cesarean section decision. Medical Care 1995 Apr;33(4):365-82.

Coonrod DV, Drachman D, Hobson P, Manriquez M. Nulliparous term singleton vertex cesarean delivery rates: institutional and individual level predictors. American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology 2008 Jun;198(6):694-11.

Coulter A, Klassen A, MacKenzie IZ, McPherson K. Diagnostic dilatation and curettage: is it used appropriately? BMJ 1993 Jan 23;306(6872):236-9.

Evans W, Laifer SA, McNanley TJ, Ruzycky A. Management of thromboembolic disease associated with pregnancy. Journal of Maternal-Fetal Medicine 1997 Jan;6(1):21-7.

Geller SE, Burns LR, Brailer DJ. The impact of nonclinical factors on practice variations: the case of hysterectomies. Health Services Research 1996 Feb;30(6):729-50.

Glantz JC, Guzick DS. Can differences in labor induction rates be explained by case mix? Journal of Reproductive Medicine 2004 Mar;49(3):175-81.

Helfand M, Zimmer-Gembeck MJ. Practice variation and the risk of low birth weight in a public prenatal care program. Medical Care 1997 Jan;35(1):16-31.

Hueston WJ, Lewis-Stevenson S. Provider distribution and variations in statewide cesarean section rates. Journal of Community Health 2001 Feb;26(1):1-10.

Jacoby VL, Vittinghoff E, Nakagawa S, Jackson R, Richter HE, Chan J, Kuppermann M. Factors associated with undergoing bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy at the time of hysterectomy for benign conditions. Obstetrics & Gynecology 2009; 113(6):1259-67.

Linton A, Peterson MR, Williams TV. Clinical case mix adjustment of cesarean delivery rates in U.S. military hospitals, 2002. Obstetrics & Gynecology 2005 Mar;105(3):598-606.

McFall S, Yerkes AM, Bernard M, LeRud T. Evaluation and treatment of urinary incontinence. Report of a physician survey. Archives of Family Medicine 1997 Mar;6(2):114-9.

Repke JT, Power ML, Holzman GB, Schulkin J. Hypertension in pregnancy and preeclampsia. Knowledge and clinical practice among obstetrician-gynecologists. Journal of Reproductive Medicine 2002 Jun;47(6):472-6.

Rhoads KF, Sokol ER. Variation in the quality of surgical care for uterovaginal prolapse. Medical Care 2011 Jan;49(1):46-51.

Webb DA, Culhane J. Hospital variation in episiotomy use and the risk of perineal trauma during childbirth. Birth 2002 Jun;29(2):132-6.

Wilson BL, Effken J, Butler RJ. The relationship between cesarean section and labor induction. Journal of Nursing Scholarship 2010 Jun;42(2):130-8.

Multi-Country

Brennan DJ, Robson MS, Murphy M, O'Herlihy C. Comparative analysis of international cesarean delivery rates using 10-group classification identifies significant variation in spontaneous labor. American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology 2009 Sep;201(3):308.

Eurap Study Group. Utilization of antiepileptic drugs during pregnancy: comparative patterns in 38 countries based on data from the EURAP registry. Epilepsia 2009

Multi-Country

Oct;50(10):2305-9.

Garne E, Loane M, de Vigan C, Scarano G, de Walle H, Gillerot Y et al. Prenatal diagnostic procedures used in pregnancies with congenital malformations in 14 regions of Europe. Prenatal Diagnosis 2004; 24(11):908-12.

Latthe PM, Powell RJ, Daniels J, Hills RK, Gray R, Gupta JK, Khan KS. Variation in practice of laparoscopic uterosacral nerve ablation: a European survey. Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 2004; 24(5):547-51.

Lundberg V, Tolonen H, Stegmayr B, Kuulasmaa K, Asplund K, WHO MONICA Project. Use of oral contraceptives and hormone replacement therapy in the WHO MONICA project. Maturitas 2004 May 28;48(1):39-49.

Medication during pregnancy: an intercontinental cooperative study. Collaborative Group on Drug Use in Pregnancy (C.G.D.U.P.). International Journal of Gynaecology & Obstetrics 1992 Nov;39(3):185-96.

Weisz G, Knaapen L. Diagnosing and treating premenstrual syndrome in five western nations. Social Science & Medicine 2009 Apr;68(8):1498-505.

Young PF, Leighton NA, Jones PW, Anthony J, Johanson RB. Fluid management in severe preeclampsia (VESPA): survey of members of ISSHP. Hypertension in Pregnancy 2000;19(3):249-59.

Musculoskeletal

Australia & New Zealand

Ardern DW, Atkinson DR, Fenton AJ. Peri-operative use of oestrogen containing medications and deep vein thrombosis--a national survey. New Zealand Medical Journal 2002 Jul 2;115(1157):U26.

Chung Y, Lu CY, Graham GG, Mant A, Day RO, Utilization of allopurinol in the Australian community. Internal Medicine Journal 2008 Jun;38(6):388-95.

Harrison A. Provision of rheumatology services in New Zealand. New Zealand Medical Journal 2004 Apr 23;117(1192):U846.

Love T, Crampton P, Salmond C, Dowell A. Patterns of medical practice variation: variability in referral for back pain by New Zealand general practitioners. New Zealand Medical Journal 2005 Apr 1;118(1212):U1381.

Canada

Beukelman T, Guevara JP, Albert DA, Sherry DD, Burnham JM. Variation in the initial treatment of knee monoarthritis in juvenile idiopathic arthritis: a survey of pediatric rheumatologists in the United States and Canada. Journal

Chedeville G, Scuccimarri R, Duffy CM. Survey on the use of methotrexate by pediatric rheumatologists in Canada. Journal of Rheumatology 2007 Apr;34(4):818-22.

Coyte PC, Hawker G, Wright JG. Variations in knee replacement utilization rates and the supply of health professionals in Ontario, Canada. Journal of Rheumatology 1996 Jul;23(7):1214-20.

Cree M, Yang Q, Scharfenberger A, Johnson D, Carriere KC. Variations in treatment of femoral neck fractures in Alberta. Canadian Journal of Surgery 2002 Aug;45(4):248-54.

Hawker G, Guan J, Judge A, Dieppe P. Knee arthroscopy in England and Ontario: patterns of use, changes over time, and relationship to total knee replacement. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery – American Volume 2008;90(11):2337-45.

Hawker GA, Wright JG, Coyte PC, Williams JI, Harvey B, Glazier R, et al. Determining the need for hip and knee arthroplasty: the role of clinical severity and patients' preferences. Medical Care 2001 Mar;39(3):206-16.

Jaglal SB, McIsaac WJ, Hawker G, Jaakkimainen L, Cadarette SM, Chan BT. Patterns of use of the bone mineral density test in Ontario, 1992-1998. Canadian Medical Association Journal 2000; 163(9):1139-43.

Shipton D, Glazier RH, Guan J, Badley EM. Effects of use of specialty services on

disease-modifying antirheumatic drug use in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in an insured elderly population. Medical Care 2004 Sep;42(9):907-13.

van Walraven CV, Paterson JM, Kapral M, Chan B, Bell M, Hawker G, et al. Appropriate of primary total hip and knee replacements in regions of Ontario with high and low utilization rates. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 1996 Sep 15;155(6):697-706.

Vanasse A, Dagenais P, Niyonsenga T, Gregoire JP, Courteau J, Hemiari A. Bone mineral density measurement and osteoporosis treatment after a fragility fracture in older adults: regional variation and determinants of use in Quebec. BMC Musculoskelet Disord 2005;6:33.

Wright JG, Hawker GA, Bombardier C, Croxford R, Dittus RS, Freund DA, et al. Physician enthusiasm as an explanation for area variation in the utilization of knee replacement surgery. Medical Care 1999 Sep;37(9):946-56.

Germany

Zink A, Listing J, Ziemer S, Zeidler H; German Collaborative Arthritis Centre, Zink A, et al. Practice variation in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis among German rheumatologists. Journal of Rheumatology 2001 Oct;28(10):2201-8.

Netherlands

Simon CH, Dijkmans BA, Breedveld FC. Variations in the monitoring and management of the side effects of antirheumatic drugs by means of laboratory tests. Clinical & Experimental Rheumatology 1997; 15(6):633-9.

Nordic

Devold HM, Doung GM, Tverdal A, Furu K, Meyer HE, Falch JA, et al. Prescription of anti-osteoporosis drugs during 2004-2007-a nationwide register study in Norway. European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 2010 Mar;66(3):299-306.

Keskimaki I, Seitsalo S, Osterman H, Rissanen P. Reoperations after lumbar disc surgery: a population-based study of regional and interspecialty variations. Spine 2000 Jun 15;25(12):1500-8.

Neovius M, Sundstrom A, Simard J, Wettermark B, Cars T, Feltelius N, et al. Small-area variations in sales of TNF inhibitors in Sweden between 2000 and 2009. Scandinavian Journal of Rheumatology 2011 Jan;40(1):8-15.

Rissanen P, Aro S, Paavolainen P. Hospital- and patient-related characteristics determining length of hospital stay for hip and knee replacements. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care 1996;12(2):325-35.

Switzerland

Matter-Walstra K, Widmer M, Busato A. Analysis of patient flows for orthopedic procedures using small area analysis in Switzerland. BMC Health Serv Res 2006;6:119.

Widmer M, Matter P, Staub L, Schoeni-Affolter F, Busato A. Regional variation in orthopedic surgery in Switzerland. Health & Place 2009 Sep;15(3):761-8.

U.K.

Bankes MJ, Coull R, Ferris BD. How long should patients be followed-up after total hip replacement? Current practice in the UK. Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England 1999 Sep;81(5):348-51.

Brookes-Fazakerley SD, Kumar AJ, Oakley J. Survey of the initial management and imaging protocols for occult scaphoid fractures in UK hospitals. Skeletal Radiology 2009 Nov;38(11):1045-8.

Cairns JA, Munro J. Why does length of stay vary for orthopaedic surgery? Health Policy 1992 Oct;22(3):297-306.

Dixon T, Shaw ME, Dieppe PA. Analysis of regional variation in hip and knee joint replacement rates in England using Hospital Episodes Statistics. Public Health 2006 Jan;120(1):83-90.

Harkness M, Palmer JB, Watson D, Walsh TS. A questionnaire-based survey of perioperative blood conservation practice for revision hip arthroplasty in Scotland. Transfusion Medicine 2008 Oct;18(5):296-301.

Judge A, Welton NJ, Sandhu J, Ben-Shlomo Y. Geographical variation in the provision of elective primary hip and knee replacement: the role of socio-demographic, hospital and distance variables. Journal of Public Health 2009;31(3):413-22.

Kay EA, Pullar T. Variations among rheumatologists in prescribing and monitoring of disease modifying antirheumatoid drugs. British Journal of Rheumatology 1992 Jul;31(7):477-83.

Malik MH, Chougle A, Pradhan N, Gambhir AK, Porter ML. Primary total knee

U.K.

replacement: a comparison of a nationally agreed guide to best practice and current surgical technique as determined by the North West Regional Arthroplasty Register. Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England 2005 Mar;87(2):117-22.

Morris RW, Fitzpatrick R, Hajat S, Reeves BC, Murray DW, Hannen D, et al. Primary total hip replacement: variations in patient management in Oxford & Anglia, Trent, Yorkshire & Northern 'regions'. Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England 2001;83(3):190-6.

Newman KJ. Total hip and knee replacements: a survey of 261 hospitals in England. Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine 1993 Sep;86(9):527-9.

Ridgeway S, Wilson J, Charlet A, Kafatos G, Pearson A, Coello R, et al. Infection of the surgical site after arthroplasty of the hip. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - British Volume 2005 Jun;87(6):844-50.

Seagroatt V, Tan HS, Goldacre M, Bulstrode C, Nugent I, Gill L, et al. Elective total hip replacement: incidence, emergency readmission rate, and postoperative mortality. BMJ 1991 Dec 7;303(6815):1431-5.

Steuer A, Keat AC. Perioperative use of methotrexate--a survey of clinical practice in the UK. British Journal of Rheumatology 1997 Sep;36(9):1009-11.

Youde J, Husk J, Lowe D, Grant R, Potter J, Martin F, et al. The national clinical audit of falls and bone health: the clinical management of hip fracture patients. Injury 2009 Nov;40(11):1226-30.

USA

Angevine PD, Arons RR, McCormick PC. National and regional rates and variation of cervical discectomy with and without anterior fusion, 1990-1999. Spine 2003 May 1;28(9):931-9.

Burns RB, Moskowitz MA, Ash A, Kane RL, Finch M, McCarthy EP, et al. Variations in the performance of hip fracture procedures. Medical Care 1997 Mar;35(3):196-203.

Chen E, Tong KB, Laouri M. Surgical treatment patterns among Medicare beneficiaries newly diagnosed with lumbar spinal stenosis. Spine Journal: Official Journal of the North American Spine Society 2010 Jul;10(7):588-94.

Cherkin DC, Deyo RA, Wheeler K, Ciol MA. Physician variation in diagnostic testing for low back pain. Who you see is what you get. Arthritis & Rheumatism 1994; 37(1):15-22.

Ciol MA, Devo RA, Howell E, Kreif S. An assessment of surgery for spinal stenosis:

time trends, geographic variations, complications, and reoperations. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 1996 Mar;44(3):285-90.

Cook C, Santos GC, Lima R, Pietrobon R, Jacobs DO, Richardson W, et al. Geographic variation in lumbar fusion for degenerative disorders: 1990 to 2000. Spine Journal: Official Journal of the North American Spine Society 2007 Sep;7(5):552-7.

Criswell LA, Redfearn WJ. Variation among rheumatologists in the use of prednisone and second-line agents for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. Arthritis & Rheumatism 1994 Apr;37(4):476-80.

Criswell LA, Such CL, Neuhaus JM, Yelin EH. Variation among rheumatologists in clinical outcomes and frequency of office visits for rheumatoid arthritis. Journal of Rheumatology 1997 Jul;24(7):1266-71.

Deyo RA, Ciol MA, Cherkin DC, Loeser JD, Bigos SJ. Lumbar spinal fusion. A cohort study of complications, reoperations, and resource use in the Medicare population. Spine 1993 Sep 1;18(11):1463-70.

Einstadter D, Kent DL, Fihn SD, Deyo RA. Variation in the rate of cervical spine surgery in Washington State. Medical Care 1993 Aug;31(8):711-8.

Forte ML, Virnig BA, Kane RL, Durham S, Bhandari M, Feldman R, et al. Geographic variation in device use for intertrochanteric hip fractures. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - American Volume 2008 Apr;90(4):691-9.

Freburger JK, Holmes GM, Carey TS. Physician referrals to physical therapy for the treatment of musculoskeletal conditions. Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation 2003 Dec;84(12):1839-49.

Green LB, Pietrobon R, Paxton E, Higgins LD, Fithian D. Sources of variation in readmission rates, length of stay, and operative time associated with rotator cuff surgery. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - American Volume 2003 Sep: 85-A(9):1784-9.

Heck D, Rosenberg A, Schink-Ascani M, Garbus S, Kiewitt T. Use of antibiotic-impregnated cement during hip and knee arthroplasty in the United States. Journal of Arthroplasty 1995 Aug;10(4):470-5.

Henke CJ, Epstein WV, Henke CJ, Epstein WV. Practice variation in rheumatologists' encounters with their patients who have rheumatoid arthritis. Medical Care 1991 Aug;29(8):799-812.

Katz BP, Freund DA, Heck DA, Dittus RS, Paul JE, Wright J, et al. Demographic variation in the rate of knee replacement: a multi-year analysis. Health Services Research 1996 Jun;31(2):125-40.

Keller RB, Atlas SJ, Soule DN, Singer DE, Deyo RA, Keller RB, et al. Relationship between rates and outcomes of operative treatment for lumbar disc herniation and spinal stenosis. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - American Volume 1999 Jun;81(6):752-62.

Keller RB, Soule DN, Wennberg JE, Hanley DF. Dealing with geographic variations in the use of hospitals. The experience of the Maine Medical Assessment Foundation Orthopaedic Study Group. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery- American Volume 1990 Oct;72(9):1286-93.

Koval KJ, Lurie J, Zhou W, Sparks MB, Cantu RV, Sporer SM, et al. Ankle fractures in the elderly: what you get depends on where you live and who you see. Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma 2005 Oct;19(9):635-9.

LaVela SL, Smith B, Weaver FM, Miskevics SA. Geographical proximity and health care utilization in veterans with SCI&D in the USA. Social Science & Medicine 2004 Dec;59(11):2387-99.

Lieberman JR, Romano PS, Mahendra G, Keyzer J, Chilcott M. The treatment of hip fractures: variations in care. Clinical Orthopaedics & Related Research 2006 Jan;442:239-44.

Lurie JD, Birkmeyer NJ, Weinstein JN. Rates of advanced spinal imaging and spine surgery. Spine 2003; 28(6):616-20.

McGuire SM, Phillips KT, Weinstein JN. Factors that affect surgical rates in Iowa. Spine 1994 Sep 15;19(18):2038-40.

Milamed DR, Warfield CA, Hedley-Whyte J, Mosteller F. Laminectomy and the treatment of lower-back pain in Massachusetts. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care 1993;9(3):426-39.

Morse LR, Giangregorio L, Battaglino RA, Holland R, Craven BC, Stolzmann KL et al. VA-based survey of osteoporosis management in spinal cord injury. Pm & R 2009; 1(3):240-4.

Nilasena DS, Vaughn RJ, Mori M, Lyon JL. Surgical trends in the treatment of diseases of the lumbar spine in Utah's Medicare population, 1984 to 1990. Medical Care 1995 Jun;33(6):585-97.

Skedros JG, Hunt KJ, Pitts TC. Variations in corticosteroid/anesthetic injections for painful shoulder conditions: comparisons among orthopaedic surgeons, rheumatologists, and physical medicine and primary-care physicians. BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders 2007;8:63.

Stroup NE, Freni-Titulaer LW, Schwartz JJ. Unexpected geographic variation in rates of hospitalization for patients who have fracture of the hip. Medicare enrollees in the United

States. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - American Volume 1990 Oct;72(9):1294-8.

Taylor VM, Deyo RA, Cherkin DC, Kreuter W. Low back pain hospitalization. Recent United States trends and regional variations. Spine 1994 Jun 1;19(11):1207-12.

Taylor VM, Deyo RA, Goldberg H, Ciol M, Kreuter W, Spunt B, et al. Low back pain hospitalization in Washington State: recent trends and geographic variations. Journal of Spinal Disorders 1995 Feb;8(1):1-7.

Vitale MG, Krant JJ, Gelijns AC, Heitjan DF, Arons RR, Bigliani LU, et al. Geographic variations in the rates of operative procedures involving the shoulder, including total shoulder replacement, humeral head replacement, and rotator cuff repair. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - American Volume 1999 Jun;81(6):763-72.

Wald H, Epstein A, Kramer A. Extended use of indwelling urinary catheters in postoperative hip fracture patients. Medical Care 2005; 43(10):1009-17.

Webster BS, Cifuentes M, Verma S, Pransky G. Geographic variation in opioid prescribing for acute, work-related, low back pain and associated factors: a multilevel analysis. American Journal of Industrial Medicine 2009 Feb;52(2):162-71.

Weinstein JN, Bronner KK, Morgan TS, Wennberg JE. Trends and geographic variations in major surgery for degenerative diseases of the hip, knee, and spine. Health Affairs 2004;Suppl Web Exclusives:VAR81-VAR89.

Multi-Country

Cherkin DC, Deyo RA, Loeser JD, Bush T, Waddell G. An international comparison of back surgery rates. Spine 1994 Jun 1;19(11):1201-6.

Cook C, Nguyen L, Hegedus E, Sandago A, Pietrobon R, Constantinou D, et al. Continental variations in preoperative and postoperative management of patients with anterior cruciate ligament repair. European journal of physical & rehabilitation medicine 2008;44(3):253-61.

Lingard EA, Berven S, Katz JN; Kinemax Outcomes Group.. Management and care of patients undergoing total knee arthroplasty: variations across different health care settings. Arthritis Care & Research 2000 Jun;13(3):129-36.

Wakefield RJ, Goh E, Conaghan PG, Karim Z, Emery P. Musculoskeletal ultrasonography in Europe: results of a rheumatologist-based survey at a EULAR meeting. Rheumatology 2003; 42(10):1251-3.

Respiratory

Australia & New Zealand

Ansari Z, Dunt D, Dharmage SC. Variations in hospitalizations for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in rural and urban Victoria, Australia. Respirology 2007 Nov;12(6):874-80.

Ansari Z, Haby MM, Henderson T, Cicuttini F, Ackland MJ. Trends and geographic variations in hospital admissions for asthma in Victoria. Opportunities for targeted interventions. Australian Family Physician 2003 Apr;32(4):286-8.

Habashy D, Lam LT, Browne GJ. The administration of beta2-agonists for paediatric asthma and its adverse reaction in Australian and New Zealand emergency departments: a cross-sectional survey. European Journal of Emergency Medicine 2003; 10(3):219-24.

Mullins RJ, Clark S, Camargo CA, Jr. Regional variation in epinephrine autoinjector prescriptions in Australia: more evidence for the vitamin D-anaphylaxis hypothesis. Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol 2009 Dec;103(6):488-95.

Belgium

de Bilderling G, Bodart E. Bronchiolitis management by the Belgian paediatrician: discrepancies between evidence-based medicine and practice. Acta Clinica Belgica 2003 Mar;58(2):98-105.

Canada

Burns KE, Sinuff T, Adhikari NK, Meade MO, Heels-Ansdell D, Martin CM, et al. Bilevel noninvasive positive pressure ventilation for acute respiratory failure: survey of Ontario practice. Critical Care Medicine 2005 Jul;33(7):1477-83.

Chan B, Anderson G, Dales RE. Spirometry utilization in Ontario: practice patterns and policy implications. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 1997 Jan 15;156(2):169-76.

Jin Y, Marrie TJ, Carriere KC, Predy G, Houston C, Ness K, et al. Variation in management of community-acquired pneumonia requiring admission to Alberta, Canada hospitals. Epidemiology & Infection 2003 Feb;130(1):41-51.

Keenan SP, Dodek P, Chan K, Hogg RS, Craib KJ, Anis AH, et al. Length of ICU stay for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease varies among large community hospitals. Intensive Care Medicine 2003 Apr;29(4):590-5.

Lacasse Y, Series F, Martin S, Maltais F. Nocturnal oxygen therapy in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: a survey of Canadian respirologists. Canadian Respiratory Journal 2007 Sep;14(6):343-8.

Lougheed MD, Garvey N, Chapman KR, Cicutto L, Dales R, Day AG, et al. The Ontario Asthma Regional Variation Study: emergency department visit rates and the relation to hospitalization rates. Chest 2006 Apr;129(4):909-17.

Lougheed MD. Variability in asthma: symptom perception, care, and outcomes. Canadian Journal of Physiology & Pharmacology 2007 Jan;85(1):149-54.

Plint AC, Johnson DW, Wiebe N, Bulloch B, Pusic M, Joubert G, et al. Practice variation among pediatric emergency departments in the treatment of bronchiolitis. Academic Emergency Medicine 2004 Apr;11(4):353-60.

Rosychuk RJ, Voaklander DC, Klassen TP, Senthilselvan A, Marrie TJ, Rowe BH, et al. A population-based study of emergency department presentations for asthma in regions of Alberta. CJEM Canadian Journal of Emergency Medical Care 2010 Jul;12(4):339-46.

Rowe BH, Cydulka RK, Tsai CL, Clark S, Sinclair D, Camargo CA, Jr., et al. Comparison of Canadian versus United States emergency department visits for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease exacerbation. Canadian Respiratory Journal 2008 Sep;15(6):295-301.

To T, Dell S, Dick P, et al. Burden of Childhood Asthma. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2004.

Trinh N, Ngo HH. Practice variations in the management of sinusitis. Journal of Otolaryngology 2000; 29(4):211-7.

Japan

Sasaki H, Imanaka Y, Sekimoto M, Lee J, Otsubo T. Antimicrobial prescription patterns for children hospitalized with pneumonia and compliance to guidelines in Japan: a multicenter study. J Eval Clin Pract 2010 Oct;16(5):987-9.

Netherlands

Brand PL, Vaessen-Verberne AA. Differences in management of bronchiolitis between hospitals in The Netherlands. Dutch Paediatric Respiratory Society. European Journal of Pediatrics 2000 May;159(5):343-7.

Poels PJ, Schermer TR, Jacobs A, Akkermans RP, Hartman J, Bottema BJ, van Weel C. Variation in spirometry utilization between trained general practitioners in practices equipped with a spirometer. Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 2006; 2006; 24(2):81-7.

de Melker RA, Kuyvenhoven MM. Management of upper respiratory tract infections in

Netherlands

Dutch family practice. Journal of Family Practice 1994 Apr;38(4):353-7.

Nordic

Arnlind MH, Wettermark B, Nokela M, Hjemdahl P, Rehnberg C, Jonsson EW. Regional variation and adherence to guidelines for drug treatment of asthma. European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 2010 Feb;66(2):187-98.

Gerdtham UG, Hertzman P, Jonsson B, Boman G. Impact of inhaled corticosteroids on acute asthma hospitalization in Sweden 1978 to 1991. Medical Care 1996 Dec;34(12):1188-98.

Kocevar VS, Bisgaard H, Jonsson L, Valovirta E, Kristensen F, Yin DD, Thomas J 3rd. Variations in pediatric asthma hospitalization rates and costs between and within Nordic countries. Chest 2004 May;125(5):1680-4.

Spain

Cabre M, Bolivar I, Pera G, Pallares R, Pneumonia Study Collaborative Group. Factors influencing length of hospital stay in community-acquired pneumonia: a study in 27 community hospitals. Epidemiology & Infection 2004 Oct;132(5):8

Garcia-Marcos L, Castro-Rodriguez JA, Montaner AE, Garde JG, Bernabe JJ, Belinchon JP, et al. The use of spirometers and peak flow meters in the diagnosis and management of asthma among Spanish pediatricians. Results from the TRAP study. Pediatric

U.K.

Anderson HR. Trends and district variations in the hospital care of childhood asthma: results of a regional study 1970-85. Thorax 1990 Jun;45(6):431-7.

Ashworth M, Charlton J, Ballard K, Latinovic R, Gulliford M. Variations in antibiotic prescribing and consultation rates for acute respiratory infection in UK general practices 1995-2000. British Journal of General Practice 2005;55(517):603-8.

Aveyard P. Assessing the performance of general practices caring for patients with asthma. British Journal of General Practice 1997 Jul;47(420):423-6.

Burney PG, Papacosta AO, Withey CH, Colley JR, Holland WW. Hospital admission rates and the prevalence of asthma symptoms in 20 local authority districts. Thorax 1991 Aug;46(8):574-9.

Kingston S, Murphy BP. Palivizumab use in preterm neonates. Irish Medical Journal

2010 May;103(5):141-4.

Majeed A, Ferguson J, Field J. Prescribing of beta-2 agonists and inhaled steroids in England: trends between 1992 and 1998, and association with material deprivation, chronic illness and asthma mortality rates. Journal of Public Health Medicine 1999 Dec;21(4):395-400.

Price LC, Lowe D, Hosker HS, Anstey K, Pearson MG, Roberts CM, et al. UK National COPD Audit 2003: Impact of hospital resources and organisation of care on patient outcome following admission for acute COPD exacerbation. Thorax 2006 Oct;61(10):837-42.

Roberts CM, Barnes S, Lowe D, Pearson MG, Clinical Effectiveness Evaluation Unit RCoP, Audit Subcommittee of the British Thoracic Society., et al. Evidence for a link between mortality in acute COPD and hospital type and resources. Thorax 2003 Nov:58(11);947-9.

Roberts CM, Lowe D, Bucknall CE, Ryland I, Kelly Y, Pearson MG, et al. Clinical audit indicators of outcome following admission to hospital with acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Thorax 2002 Feb;57(2):137-41.

Smyth CM, Stead RJ. Survey of flexible fibreoptic bronchoscopy in the United Kingdom. European Respiratory Journal 2002;19(3):458-63.

Vinayakamoorthy V, Geary S, Ganatra R. A United Kingdom based survey of clinical practice in the diagnosis of suspected pulmonary embolism. Nuclear Medicine Communications 2010; 31(2):112-20.

USA

Aspinall SL, Berlin JA, Zhang Y, Metlay JP. Facility-level variation in antibiotic prescriptions for veterans with upper respiratory infections. Clinical Therapeutics 2005 Feb;27(2):258-62.

Blanc PD, Katz PP, Henke J, Smith S, Yelin EH. Pulmonary and allergy subspecialty care in adults with asthma. Treatment, use of services, and health outcomes. Western Journal of Medicine 1997 Dec;167(6):398-407.

Bratzler DW, Murray CK, Bumpus LJ, Moore LL. Community-acquired pneumonia in Oklahoma: characteristics and management of hospitalized Medicare beneficiaries. Journal - Oklahoma State Medical Association 1996 Mar;89(3):87-92.

Dombkowski KJ, Cabana MD, Cohn LM, Gebremariam A, Clark SJ. Geographic variation of asthma quality measures within and between health plans. American Journal of Managed Care 2005 Dec;11(12):765-72.

Finkelstein JA, Lozano P, Shulruff R, Inui TS, Soumerai SB, Ng M, et al. Self-reported physician practices for children with asthma: are national guidelines followed? Pediatrics 2000 Oct;106(4 Suppl):886-96.

Gorton CP, Jones JL, Gorton CP, Jones JL. Wide geographic variation between Pennsylvania counties in the population rates of hospital admissions for pneumonia among children with and without comorbid chronic conditions. Pediatrics 2006 Feb;117(2):176-80.

Hansen-Flaschen JH, Brazinsky S, Basile C, Lanken PN. Use of sedating drugs and neuromuscular blocking agents in patients requiring mechanical ventilation for respiratory failure. A national survey. JAMA 1991;266(20):2870-5.

Joo MJ, Lee TA, Weiss KB. Geographic variation in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease exacerbation rates. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2007 Nov;22(11):1560-5.

Joo MJ, Lee TA, Weiss KB. Geographic variation of spirometry use in newly diagnosed COPD. Chest 2008; 134(1):38-45.

McConnochie KM, Roghmann KJ, Liptak GS. Hospitalization for lower respiratory tract illness in infants: variation in rates among counties in New York State and areas within Monroe County. Journal of Pediatrics 1995 Feb;126(2):220-9.

Morris RD, Munasinghe RL. Geographic variability in hospital admission rates for respiratory disease among the elderly in the United States. Chest 1994 Oct;106(4):1172-81.

Payne SM, Donahue C, Rappo P, McNamara JJ, Bass J, First L, et al. Variations in pediatric pneumonia and bronchitis/asthma admission rates. Is appropriateness a factor? Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine 1995 Feb;149(2):162-9.

Pekoz EA, Shwartz M, Iezzoni LI, Ash AS, Posner MA, Restuccia JD, et al. Comparing the importance of disease rate versus practice style variations in explaining differences in small area hospitalization rates for two respiratory conditions. Statistics in Medicine 2003 May 30;22(10):1775-86.

Stanley RM, Teach SJ, Mann NC, Alpern ER, Gerardi MJ, Mahajan PV, et al. Variation in ancillary testing among pediatric asthma patients seen in emergency departments. Academic Emergency Medicine 2007 Jun;14(6):532-8.

Steinman MA, Landefeld CS, Gonzales R. Predictors of broad-spectrum antibiotic prescribing for acute respiratory tract infections in adult primary care. JAMA 2003 Feb 12;289(6):719-25.

Switzer GE, Halm EA, Chang CC, Mittman BS, Walsh MB, Fine MJ, et al. Physician

awareness and self-reported use of local and national guidelines for community-acquired pneumonia. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2003 Oct;18(10):816-23.

Tarini BA, Garrison MM, Christakis DA. Institutional variation in ordering complete blood counts for children hospitalized with bronchiolitis. Journal of Hospital Medicine (Online) 2007 Mar;2(2):69-73.

Willson DF, Horn SD, Hendley JO, Smout R, Gassaway J. Effect of practice variation on resource utilization in infants hospitalized for viral lower respiratory illness. Pediatrics 2001 Oct;108(4):851-5.

Multi-Country

Behrendt CE, Decker MD, Burch DJ, Watson PH. International variation in the management of infants hospitalized with respiratory syncytial virus. International RSV Study Group. European Journal of Pediatrics 1998 Mar;157(3):215-20.

Bianchi M, Clavenna A, Bonati M. Inter-country variations in anti-asthmatic drug prescriptions for children. Systematic review of studies published during the 2000-2009 period. European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 2010 Sep;66(9):929-36.

Bjerrum L, Boada A, Cots JM, Llor C, Fores GD, Gahrn-Hansen B, et al. Respiratory tract infections in general practice: considerable differences in prescribing habits between general practitioners in Denmark and Spain. European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 2004 Mar;60(1):23-8

Butler CC, Hood K, Verheij T, Little P, Melbye H, Nuttall J, et al. Variation in antibiotic prescribing and its impact on recovery in patients with acute cough in primary care: prospective study in 13 countries. BMJ 2009;338:b2242.

Mitchell EA, Anderson HR, Freeling P, White PT. Why are hospital admission and mortality rates for childhood asthma higher in New Zealand than in the United Kingdom? Thorax 1990 Mar;45(3):176-82.

Vermeire PA, Rabe KF, Soriano JB, Maier WC. Asthma control and differences in management practices across seven European countries. Respiratory Medicine 2002; 96(3):142-9.

Other Conditions

Australia & New Zealand

Ansari Z, Barbetti T, Carson NJ, Auckland MJ, Cicuttini F. The Victorian ambulatory care sensitive conditions study: rural and urban perspectives. Sozial- und Praventivmedizin 2003;48(1):33-43.

Ansari Z, Carson N, Serraglio A, Barbetti T, Cicuttini F. The Victorian Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions study: reducing demand on hospital services in Victoria. Australian Health Review 2002;25(2):71-7.

Barnett R, Malcolm L. GP practice variation in hospitalisation rates: a study of partnership health-enrolled patients. Journal of Primary Health Care 2010 Jun;2(2):111-7.

Brabyn L, Barnett R. Population need and geographical access to general practitioners in rural New Zealand. New Zealand Medical Journal 2004 Aug 6;117(1199):U996.

Braun AR, Leslie K, Merry AF, Story D. What are we telling our patients? A survey of risk disclosure for anaesthesia in Australia and New Zealand. Anaesthesia & Intensive Care 2010 Sep;38(5):935-8.

Brown LJ, Barnett JR. Influence of bed supply and health care organization on regional and local patterns of diabetes related hospitalization. Social Science & Medicine 1992 Nov;35(9):1157-70.

Cant RP. Patterns of delivery of dietetic care in private practice for patients referred under Medicare Chronic Disease Management: results of a national survey. Aust Health Rev 2010 May;34(2):197-203.

Cheffins T, Heal C, Rudolphy S. Acute otitis externa: management by GPs in North Queensland. Australian Family Physician 265 Jun;38(4):262-3.

Davis P, Gribben B. Rational prescribing and interpractitioner variation. A multilevel approach. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care 1995;11(3):428-42.

Davis P, Gribben B, Lay-Yee R, Scott A. How much variation in clinical activity is there between general practitioners? A multi-level analysis of decision-making in primary care. Journal of Health Services & Research Policy 2002; 7(4):202-8.

Davis PB, Yee RL, Millar J. Accounting for medical variation: the case of prescribing activity in a New Zealand general practice sample. Social Science & Medicine 1994 Aug;39(3):367-74.

Dharmalingam A, Pool I, Baxendine S, Sceats J. Trends and patterns of avoidable hospitalisations in New Zealand:1980-1997. New Zealand Medical Journal 2004 Jul 23;117(1198):U976.

Australia & New Zealand

Drummond SH, Peterson GM, Galloway JG, Keefe PA. National survey of drug use in palliative care. Palliative Medicine 1996 Apr;10(2):119-24.

Durham JA, McLeod DK. Use of diagnostic imaging services in the Central Region by general practitioners. New Zealand Medical Journal 1999; 112(1090):233-6.

Everitt I, Younge P, Barnett P. Paediatric sedation in emergency department: what is our practice? Emergency Medicine (Fremantle, W 2002 Mar; A.). 14(1):62-6.

Fahey PP, Gibberd RW. Monitoring postoperative pulmonary embolisms in Australia--I. Variation between hospitals. International Journal for Quality in Health Care 1995 Dec;7(4):373-80.

Ferguson RI, Maling TJ. The Nelson general practice prescribing project. Part I: A pilot audit of the regional prescribing profile. New Zealand Medical Journal 1990 Nov 28;103(902):558-60.

Filan PM, Inder TE, Anderson PJ, Doyle LW, Hunt RW. Monitoring the neonatal brain: a survey of current practice among Australian and New Zealand neonatologists. Journal of Paediatrics & Child Health 2007 Jul;43(7-8):557-9.

Gray L, Moore K, Smith R, Dorevitch M. Supply of inpatient geriatric medical services in Australia. Internal Medicine Journal 2007 Apr;37(4):270-3.

Handelsman DJ. Trends and regional differences in testosterone prescribing in Australia, 1991-2001. Medical Journal of Australia 2004 Oct 18;181(8):419-22.

Khan A, Hussain R, Plummer D, Minichiello V. Willingness to offer chlamydia testing in general practice in New South Wales. Australian & New Zealand Journal of Public Health 2006 Jun;30(3):226-30.

Malcolm L. Trends in hospital bed utilisation in New Zealand 1989 to 2006: more or less beds in the future? New Zealand Medical Journal 2007;120(1264):U2772.

McAllum PJ, McGhee CN. Prescribing trends in infectious keratitis: a survey of New Zealand ophthalmologists. Clinical & Experimental Ophthalmology 2003 Dec;31(6):496-504.

Parnis SJ, van der Walt JH. A national survey of atropine use by Australian anaesthetists. Anaesthesia & Intensive Care 1994 Feb;22(1):61-5.

Payne CB, Scott RS. Hospital discharges for diabetic foot disease in New Zealand: 1980-1993. Diabetes Research & Clinical Practice 1998 Jan;39(1):69-74.

Phelan PD, Bishop J, Baxter K, Duckett SJ. Hospitalisation of children under 15 years in Victoria. Australian Health Review 1993;16(2):148-59.

Australia & New Zealand

Prosser B, Reid R. Changes in use of psychostimulant medication for ADHD in South Australia (1990-2006). Australian & New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry 2009 Apr;43(4):340-7.

Raymont A. Hospital discharges in New Zealand 1991-2005: changes over time and variation between districts. New Zealand Medical Journal 2008 Aug 8;121(1279):66-74.

Rolfe IE, Pearson SA. Screening recommendations in general practice: a survey of graduates from different medical schools. Medical Journal of Australia 1996; 165(1):14-7

Ryan J, Giles M. Management of acute otitis media by New Zealand general practitioners. New Zealand Medical Journal 2002 Feb 22;115(1148):67-9.

Sidhu NS, Dunkley ME, Egan MJ. "Not-for-resuscitation" orders in Australian public hospitals: policies, standardised order forms and patient information leaflets. Medical Journal of Australia 2007 Jan 15;186(2):72-5.

Simpson JM, Evans N, Gibberd RW, Heuchan AM, Henderson-Smart DJ; Australian and New Zealand Neonatal Network. Analysing differences in clinical outcomes between hospitals. Quality & Safety in Health Care 2003 Aug;12(4):257-62.

Snibson GR, Luu CD, Taylor HR. Pterygium surgery in Victoria: a survey of ophthalmologists. Australian & New Zealand Journal of Ophthalmology 1998 Nov;26(4):271-6.

Travadi J, Patole S, Thonell S, Simmer K. Survey of the current practices for neonatal gastrointestinal contrast studies in Australia. Australasian Radiology 2007 Oct;51(5):437-9.

Valentine J, Zubrick S, Sly P. National trends in the use of stimulant medication for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Journal of Paediatrics & Child Health 1996 Jun;32(3):223-7.

Walsh JP, Ryan SA, Lisewski D, Alhamoudi MZ, Brown S, Bennedback FN, Hegedus L. Differences between endocrinologists and endocrine surgeons in management of the solitary thyroid nodule. Clinical Endocrinology 2007; 66(6):844-53.

Westbrook JI, Rushworth RL, Rob MI, Rubin GL. Diagnostic procedures and health outcomes. Upper gastrointestinal tract investigations in the elderly. Medical Journal of Australia 1993; 159(4):242-5.

Austria

Barbieri V, Schmid E, Ulmer H, Pfeiffer KP. Health care supply for cataract in Austrian

Austria

public and private hospitals. European Journal of Ophthalmology 2007 Jul;17(4):557-64.

Fulop G, Kopetsch T, Schope P. Catchment areas of medical practices and the role played by geographical distance in the patients choice of doctor. The Annals of Regional Science 2011 Jun 1;46(3):691-706.

Belgium

Van Winckel M, Vander Stichele R, De Bacquer D. Bogaert M. Use of laxatives in institutions for the mentally retarded. European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 1999 Feb;54(12):965-9.

Van den Heede K, Sermeus W, Diya L, Lesaffre E, Vleugels A. Adverse outcomes in Belgian acute hospitals: retrospective analysis of the national hospital discharge dataset. International Journal for Quality in Health Care 2006; 18(3):211-9.

Canada

Armstrong D, Barkun AN, Chen Y, Daniels S, Hollingworth R, Hunt RH, et al. Access to specialist gastroenterology care in Canada: the Practice Audit in Gastroenterology (PAGE) Wait Times Program. Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology 2008 Feb;22(2):1

Baltzan MA, Ahmed S, Baltzan RB, Marshall RP, Thoma EL, Nicol MF, et al. Variations in living donor graft rates by dialysis clinic: effect on outcome and cost of chronic renal failure therapy. Clinical Nephrology 1997 Jun;47(6):351-5.

Banerjee S, Bishop W, Valim C, Mahoney LB, Lightdale JR. Percutaneous liver biopsy practice patterns among pediatric gastroenterologists in North America. Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology & Nutrition 2007 Jul;45(1):84-9.

Bellan L, Dunn E, Black C. Practices associated with cataract surgery in Canada: results of a national survey. Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology 1997 Aug;32(5):315-23.

Bellan L. Preoperative testing for cataract surgery. Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology 1994; 29(3):111-4.

Black CD, Roos NP, Burchill CA. Utilization of hospital resources. Medical Care 1995 Dec;33(12 Suppl):DS55-DS72.

Blais R. Variations in surgical rates in Quebec: does access to teaching hospitals make a difference? CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 1993 May 15;148(10):1729-36.

Blais R, Breton JJ, Fournier M, St-Georges M, Berthiaume C. Are mental health services

for children distributed according to needs? Canadian Journal of Psychiatry - Revue Canadienne de Psychiatrie 2003 Apr;48(3):176-86.

Booth GL, Hux JE, Fang J, Chan BT. Time trends and geographic disparities in acute complications of diabetes in Ontario, Canada. Diabetes Care 2005 May;28(5):1045-50.

Brownell M. Tonsillectomy rates for Manitoba children: temporal and spatial variations. Healthcare Management Forum 2002;Suppl:21-6.

Brownell M, Kozyrkyj A, Roos N, Friesen D, Mayer T, Sullivan K, et al. Health service utilization by Manitoba children. Canadian Journal of Public Health 2002 Nov;Revue Canadienne de Sante Publique. 93 Suppl 2:S57-S62.

Brownell MD, Roos NP. Variation in length of stay as a measure of efficiency in Manitoba hospitals. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 1995 Mar 1;152(5):675-82.

Cenic A, Kachur E. Lumbar discectomy: a national survey of neurosurgeons and literature review. Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences 2009 Mar;36(2):196-200.

Chan BTB. Supply of Physicians' Services in Ontario. Toronto, ON: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 1999.

Chan BTB, Austin PC. Patient, physician, and community factors affecting referrals to specialists in Ontario, Canada: a population-based, multi-level modelling approach. Medical Care 2003 Apr;41(4):500-11.

Chan BTB, Schultz SE. Supply and utilization of general practitioner and family physician services in Ontario. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2005.

Cheung MC, Imrie KR, Leitch HA, Park-Wyllie LY, Buckstein R, Antoniou T, et al. Physician perceptions and preferences in the treatment of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)-related lymphoma. Annals of Hematology 2007 Sep;86(9):631-8.

Coyte PC, Croxford R, Asche CV, To T, Feldman W, Friedberg J, et al. Physician and population determinants of rates of middle-ear surgery in Ontario. JAMA 2001 Nov 7;286(17):2128-35.

Curtis JR, To T, Muirhead S, Cummings E, Daneman D. Recent trends in hospitalization for diabetic ketoacidosis in ontario children. Diabetes Care 2002 Sep;25(9):1591-6.

Doey T, Handelman K, Seabrook JA, Steele M. Survey of atypical antipsychotic prescribing by Canadian child psychiatrists and developmental pediatricians for patients aged under 18 years. Canadian Journal of Psychiatry - Revue Canadienne de Psychiatrie 2007 Jun;52(6):363-8.

Fakhoury WK, Roos L. Access to and use of physician resources by the rural and urban populations in Manitoba. Canadian Journal of Public Health 1996 Jul;Revue Canadienne de Sante Publique. 87(4):248-52.

Haggerty JL, Pineault R, Beaulieu MD, Brunelle Y, Gauthier J, Goulet F, et al. Room for improvement: patients' experiences of primary care in Quebec before major reforms. Canadian Family Physician 1056 Jun 20;53(6):1057-6.

Hilsden RJ. Patterns of use of flexible sigmoidoscopy, colonoscopy and gastroscopy: a population-based study in a Canadian province. Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology 2004 Apr;18(4):213-9.

Hilsden RJ, Romagnuolo J, May GR. Patterns of use of endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography in a Canadian province. Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology 2004; 18(10):619-24.

Hogan DB, Maxwell CJ, Fung TS, Ebly EM. Regional variation in the use of medications by older Canadians--a persistent and incompletely understood phenomena. Pharmacoepidemiology & Drug Safety 2003 Oct;12(7):575-82.

Iron K, Przybysz R, Laupacis A. Access to MRI in Ontario: Addressing the Information Gap. Toronto, ON: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2003.

Jacka MJ, Zygun D. Survey of management of severe head injury in Canada. Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences 2007 Aug;34(3):307-12.

Kassam A, Carter B, Patten SB. Sedative hypnotic use in Alberta. Canadian Journal of Psychiatry - Revue Canadienne de Psychiatrie 2006 Apr;51(5):287-94.

Kelly A, Jones W. Small area variation in the utilization of mental health services: implications for health planning and allocation of resources. Canadian Journal of Psychiatry - Revue Canadienne de Psychiatrie 1995 Nov;40(9):52

Klassen TP, Reed MH, Stiell IG, Nijssen-Jordan C, Tenenbein M, Joubert G, et al. Variation in utilization of computed tomography scanning for the investigation of minor head trauma in children: a Canadian experience. Academic Emergency Medicine 2000;7(7):739-44.

Kozyrskyj AL. Prescription medications in Manitoba children: are there regional differences? Canadian Journal of Public Health 2002 Nov;Revue Canadianne de Sante Publique. 93 Suppl 2:S63-S69.

Lane PL, Skoretz TG, Doig G, Girotti MJ. Intracranial pressure monitoring and outcomes after traumatic brain injury. Canadian Journal of Surgery 2000 Dec;43(6):442-8.

Langley GR, Minkin S, Till JE. Regional variation in nonmedical factors affecting family

physicians' decisions about referral for consultation. CMAJ 1997 Aug 1;157(3):265-72.

Lapinsky SE, Holt D, Hallett D, Abdolell M, Adhikari NK. Survey of information technology in Intensive Care Units in Ontario, Canada. BMC Medical Informatics & Decision Making 2008; 8:5.

Legare F, Godin G, Ringa V, Dodin S, Turcot L, Norton J, et al. Variation in the psychosocial determinants of the intention to prescribe hormone therapy prior to the release of the Women's Health Initiative trial: a survey of general practitioners and gynaecologists in France and Quebec. BMC Medical Informatics & Decision Making 2005;5:31.

Lin E, Chan B, Goering P. Variations in mental health needs and fee-for-service reimbursement for physicians in Ontario. Psychiatric Services 1998 Nov;49(11):1445-51.

Long MJ. Variation in outpatient procedure rates in Canadian teaching hospitals. Clinical Performance & Quality Health Care 1994 Jan;2(1):16-22.

Lyon AW, Higging T, Wesenberg JC, Tran DV, Cembrowski GS. Variation in the frequency of hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) testing: population studies used to assess compliance with clinical practice guidelines and use of HbA1c to screen for diabetes. J Diabetes Sci Technol 2009 May;3(3):411-7.

MacNeil-Covin L, Casson AG, Malatjalian D, Veldhuyzen van Zanten S. A survey of Canadian gastroenterologists about the management of Barrett's esophagus. Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology 2003; 17(5):313-7.

Mao C, Wong DT, Slutsky AS, Kavanagh BP. A quantitative assessment of how Canadian intensivists believe they utilize oxygen in the intensive care unit. Critical Care Medicine 1999 Dec;27(12):2806-11.

Martens PJ, Derksen S, Gupta S. Predictors of hospital readmission of Manitoba newborns within six weeks postbirth discharge: a population-based study. Pediatrics 2004 Sep;114(3):708-13.

McBride JE, Pater JL, Dorland JL, Lam YM. Extent and variation of omeprazole prescribing in an elderly population of Ontario. Annals of Pharmacotherapy 1997 Apr;31(4):411-6.

McDonald JT, Conde H. Does geography matter? The health service use and unmet health care needs of older Canadians. Canadian Journal on Aging 2010 Mar;29(1):23-37.

McIntyre LA, Hebert PC, Fergusson D, Cook DJ, Aziz A, Canadian Critical Care Trials Group., et al. A survey of Canadian intensivists' resuscitation practices in early septic shock. Critical Care (London, England) 2007;11(4):R74.

Menard I, Korner-Bitensky N, Dobbs B, Casacalenda N, Beck PR, Dippsych CM, et al. Canadian psychiatrists' current attitudes, practices, and knowledge regarding fitness to drive in individuals with mental illness: a cross-Canada survey. Canadian Journal of Psychiatry - Revue Canadienne de Psychiatrie 2006 Nov;51(13):836-46.

Menec VH, Nowicki S, Kalischuk A. Transfers to acute care hospitals at the end of life: do rural/remote regions differ from urban regions? Rural & Remote Health 2010;10(1):1281.

Moist LM, Trpeski L, Na Y, Lok CE. Increased hemodialysis catheter use in Canada and associated mortality risk: data from the Canadian Organ Replacement Registry 2001-2004. Clinical Journal of The American Society of Nephrology: CJASN 2008 Nov;3(6):1726-32.

Quinn K, Baker MJ, Evans B. A population-wide profile of prescription drug use in Saskatchewan, 1989. CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal 1992 Jun 15;146(12):2177-86.

Raboud JM, Loutfy MR, Su D, Bayoumi AM, Klein MB, Cooper C et al. Regional differences in rates of HIV-1 viral load monitoring in Canada: Insights and implications for antiretroviral care in high income countries. BMC Infectious Diseases 2010; 10:40.

Romain S, Schillaci MA. Childhood immunization: Availability of primary care providers in Ontario. Canadian Family Physician 2009 Nov;55(11):1104-5.

Roos NP, Roos LL, Jr., Henteleff PD. Elective surgical rates--do high rates mean lower standards? Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy in Manitoba. N Engl J Med 1977;297:360-5.

Roos NP, Roos NP. Hospitalization style of physicians in Manitoba: the disturbing lack of logic in medical practice. Health Services Research 1992 Aug;27(3):361-84.

Roos NP, Wennberg JE, McPherson K. Using diagnosis-related groups for studying variations in hospital admissions. Health Care Financ Rev 1988;9:53-62.

Schwartz BI, Mansbach JM, Marion JG, Katzman DK, Forman SF. Variations in admission practices for adolescents with anorexia nervosa: a North American sample. Journal of Adolescent Health 2008 Nov;43(5):425-31.

Shanahan M, Steinbach C, Burchill C, Friesen D, Black C. Adding up provincial expenditures on health care for Manitobans: a POPULIS project. Population Health Information System. Medical Care 1999 Jun;37(6 Suppl):JS60-JS82.

Sindwani R, Wright ED, Janzen VD, Chandarana S. Perioperative management of the sinus patient: a Canadian perspective. Journal of Otolaryngology 2003 Jun;32(3):155-9.

- Spinella PC, Dressler A, Tucci M, Carroll CL, Rosen RS, Hume H, et al. Survey of transfusion policies at US and Canadian children's hospitals in 2008 and 2009. Transfusion 2010 Nov;50(11):2328-35.
- Stiell IG, Wells GA, Vandemheen K, Laupacis A, Brison R, Eisenhauer MA et al. Variation in ED use of computed tomography for patients with minor head injury. Annals of Emergency Medicine 1997; 30(1):14-22.
- Stiell IG, Wells GA, Vandemheen K, Laupacis A, Brison R, Eisenhauer MA. Variation in emergency department use of cervical spine radiography for alert, stable trauma patients. Canadian Medical Association Journal 1997; 156(11):1537-44.
- Stuart H. Access to physician treatment for a mental disorder: a regional analysis. Social Psychiatry & Psychiatric Epidemiology 2000 Feb;35(2):61-70.
- Taylor VM, Anderson GM, McNeney B, Diehr P, Lavis JN, Deyo RA, et al. Hospitalizations for back and neck problems: a comparison between the Province of Ontario and Washington State. Health Services Research 1998 Oct;33(4 Pt 1):929-45.
- To T, Feldman W, Young W, Maloney SL. Hospitalization rates of children with gastroenteritis in Ontario. Canadian Journal of Public Health 1996 Jan; Revue Canadienne de Sante Publique. 87(1):62-5.
- To T, Guttmann A, Dick P. Inpatient and day surgery use by children in Ontario. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2001.
- To T, Langer JC. Does access to care affect outcomes of appendicitis in children?--A population-based cohort study. BMC Health Services Research 2010;10:250.
- Turgeon AF, Fergusson DA, Doucette S, Khanna MP, Tinmouth A, Aziz A, et al. Red blood cell transfusion practices amongst Canadian anesthesiologists: a survey. Canadian Journal of Anaesthesia 2006 Apr;53(4):344-52.
- Turner K, VanDenkerkhof E, Lam M, Mackillop W,. Perioperative care of patients with obstructive sleep apnea a survey of Canadian anesthesiologists. Canadian Journal of Anaesthesia 2006 Mar;53(3):299-304.
- Wang P, Yi Q, Scully L, Heathcote J, Krahn M. Indications for interferon/ribavirin therapy in hepatitis C patients: findings from a survey of Canadian hepatologists. Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology 2003 Mar;17(3):183-6.
- Wen SW, Liu S, Fowler DD. Trends and variations in neonatal length of in-hospital stay in Canada. Canadian Journal of Public Health 1998 Mar; Revue Canadienne de Sante Publique. 89(2):115-9.
- You JJ, Purdy I, Rothwell DM, Przybysz R, Fang J, Laupacis A. Indications for and

results of outpatient computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging in Ontario. Canadian Association of Radiologists Journal 2008; 59(3):135-43.

Estonia

Roovali L, Kiivet RA. Geographical variations in hospital use in Estonia. Health Place 2006 Jun;12(2):195-202.

France

Alfandari S, Bonenfant C, Depretere L, Beaucaire G; ARECLIN Hospital Pharmacists Study Group. Use of 27 parenteral antimicrobial agents in north of France hospitals. Medecine et Maladies Infectieuses 2007 Feb;37(2):103-7.

Bollee G, Martinez F, Moulin B, Meulders Q, Rougier JP, Baumelou A. Renal biopsy practice in France: results of a nationwide study. Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation 2010; 25(11):3579-85.

Greacen T, Finkelstein C. Mental health care in Paris. European Psychiatry: the Journal of the Association of European Psychiatrists 2005 Oct;20 Suppl 2:S285-S288.

Mousques J, Renaud T, Scemama O. Is the "practice style" hypothesis relevant for general practitioners? An analysis of antibiotics prescription for acute rhinopharyngitis. Social Science & Medicine 2010 Apr;70(8):1176-84.

Germany

de With K, Steib-Bauert M, Straach P, Kern WV. Is there significant regional variation in hospital antibiotic consumption in Germany? Infection 2006 Oct;34(5):274-7.

Gastmeier P, Kampf G, Wischnewski N, Hauer T, Schulgen G, Schumacher M, et al. Prevalence of nosocomial infections in representative German hospitals. Journal of Hospital Infection 1998 Jan;38(1):37-49.

Huttl TP, Hohle M, Wichmann MW, Jauch KW, Meyer G. Techniques and results of laparoscopic antireflux surgery in Germany. Surgical Endoscopy 2005; 19(12):1579-87.

Radbruch L, Nauck F, Fuchs M, Neuwohner K, Schulenberg D, Lindena G, et al. What is palliative care in Germany? Results from a representative survey. Journal of Pain & Symptom Management 2002 Jun;23(6):471-83.

Germany

Radtke MA, Augustin J, Blome C, Reich K, Rustenbach SJ, Schafer I, et al. How do regional factors influence psoriasis patient care in Germany? Journal der Deutschen Dermatologischen Gesellschaft 2010 Jul;8(7):516-24.

Swart E, Deh U, Robra BP. Using claims data for small area analysis and controlling of hospital care. Bundesgesundheitsblatt Gesundheitsforschung Gesundheitsschutz 2008 Oct;51(10):1183-92.

Greece

Madianos MG, Zacharakis C, Tsitsa C, Stefanis C. Geographical variation in mental hospital discharges in Greece and socioeconomic correlates: a nationwide study (1978-1993). Social Psychiatry & Psychiatric Epidemiology 1999; 34(9):477-83.

Yakoumakis E, Karlatira M, Gialousis G, Dimitriadis A, Makri T, Georgiou E. Effective dose variation in pediatric computed tomography: dose reference levels in Greece. Health Physics 2009; 97(6):595-603.

Hungary

Windak A, Gryglewska B, Tomasik T, Narkiewicz K, Yaphe J, Grodzicki T. The competence of primary care doctors in the investigation of patients with elevated blood pressure: results of a cross-sectional study using clinical vignettes. Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice 2010; 16(4):784-9.

Italy

Corona A, Raimondi F. Critical care of HIV-infected patients: still a dilemma for Italian intensivists--results of a multicentre survey. European Journal of Anaesthesiology 2010 Apr;27(4):377-82.

Mangano A. An analysis of the regional differences in health care utilization in Italy. Health Place 2010 Mar;16(2):301-8.

Radaelli F, Meucci G, Minoli G; Italian Association of Hospital Gastroenterologists (AIGO). Colonoscopy practice in Italy: a prospective survey on behalf of the Italian Association of Hospital Gastroenterologists. Digestive & Liver Disease 2008 Nov; 40(11):897-904.

Taroni F, Repetto F, Louis DZ, Moro ML, Yuen EJ, Gonnella JS, et al. Variation in hospital use and avoidable patient morbidity. Journal of Health Services & Research Policy 1997 Oct;2(4):217-22.

Japan

Kusuda S, Fujimura M, Sakuma I, Aotani H, Kabe K, Itani Y, et al. Morbidity and mortality of infants with very low birth weight in Japan: center variation. Pediatrics 2006 Oct;118(4):e1130-e1138.

Kuwabara K, Imanaka Y, Matsuda S, Fushimi K, Hashimoto H, Ishikawa KB, et al. Profiling of resource use variation among six diseases treated at 82 Japanese special functioning hospitals, based on administrative data. Health Policy 2006 Oct;78(2-3):306-18.

Kuwabara K, Matsuda S, Fushimi K, Ishikawa KB, Horiguchi H, Fujimori K, et al. Quantitative assessment of the advantages of laparoscopic gastrectomy and the impact of volume-related hospital characteristics on resource use and outcomes of gastrectomy patients in Japan. Annals of Surgery 2011 Jan; 253(1):64-70.

Kuwabara K, Matsuda S, Imanaka Y, Fushimi K, Hashimoto H, Ishikawa KB, et al. Injury severity score, resource use, and outcome for trauma patients within a Japanese administrative database. J Trauma 2010 Feb;68(2):463-70.

Lee J, Imanaka Y, Sekimoto M, Ishizaki T, Hayashida K, Ikai H, et al. Risk-adjusted increases in medical resource utilization associated with health care-associated infections in gastrectomy patients. J Eval Clin Pract 2010 Feb;16(1):100-6.

Sekimoto M, Imanaka Y, Evans E, Ishizaki T, Hirose M, Hayashida K, et al. Practice variation in perioperative antibiotic use in Japan. International Journal for Quality in Health Care 2004 Oct;16(5):367-73.

Sekimoto M, Imanaka Y, Shirai T, Sasaki H, Komeno T, Lee J, et al. Risk-adjusted assessment of incidence and quantity of blood use in acute-care hospitals in Japan: an analysis using administrative data. Vox Sang 2010 May;98(4):538-46.

Netherlands

de Jong JD, Groenewegen PP, Spreeuwenberg P, Schellevis F, Westert GP. Do guidelines create uniformity in medical practice? Soc Sci Med 2010 Jan;70(2):209-16.

Hakvoort RA, Burger MP, Emanuel MH, Roovers JP. A nationwide survey to measure practice variation of catheterisation management in patients undergoing vaginal prolapse surgery. International Urogynecology Journal 2009; 20(7):813-8.

Heijink R, Koolman X, Pieter D, van der Veen A, Jarman B, Westert G. Measuring and explaining mortality in Dutch hospitals; the hospital standardized mortality rate between 2003 and 2005. BMC Health Services Research 2008;8:73.

Tiemeier H, de Vries WJ, van het Loo M, Kahan JP, Klazinga N, Grol R, Rigter H. Guideline adherence rates and interprofessional variation in a vignette study of

Netherlands

depression. Quality & Safety in Health Care 2002 Sep;11(3):214-8.

Verstappen WH, ter Riet G, Dubois WI, Winkens R, Grol RP, van der Weijden T. Variation in test ordering behaviour of GPs: professional or context-related factors? Family Practice 2004 Aug;21(4):387-95.

Westert GP, Groenewegen PP, Boshuizen HC, Spreeuwenberg PM, Steultjens MP. Medical practice variations in hospital care; time trends of a spatial phenomenon. Health Place 2004 Sep;10(3):215-20.

Westert GP, Nieboer AP, Groenewegen PP. Variation in duration of hospital stay between hospitals and between doctors within hospitals. Social Science & Medicine 1993 Sep;37(6):833-9.

Willemsen I, van der Kooij T, van Benthem B, Wille J, Kluytmans J. Appropriateness of antimicrobial therapy: a multicentre prevalence survey in the Netherlands, 2008-2009. Euro Surveillance: Bulletin Europeen sur les Maladies Transmissibles 2010;15(46).

van Merode F. Judith D. de Jong: Explaining medical practice variation Social organization and institutional mechanisms, Utrecht, 2007. Journal of Public Health 2010 Apr 1;18(2):205-6.

van Rijn RR, Kieviet N, Hoekstra R, Nijs HG, Bilo RA. Radiology in suspected non-accidental injury: theory and practice in The Netherlands. European Journal of Radiology 2009 Jul;71(1):147-51.

van Roosmalen MS, Braspenning JC, De Smet PA, Grol RP. Antibiotic prescribing in primary care: first choice and restrictive prescribing are two different traits. Quality & Safety in Health Care 2007 Apr;16(2): 105-9.

Nordic

Almen A, Loof M, Mattsson S. Examination technique, image quality, and patient dose in paediatric radiology. A survey including 19 Swedish hospitals. Acta Radiologica 1996; 37(3 Pt 1):337-42.

Altman M, Vanpee M, Cnattingius S, Norman M. Moderately preterm infants and determinants of length of hospital stay. Archives of Disease in Childhood Fetal & Neonatal Edition 2009 Nov;94(6):F414-F418.

Andersen BM, Ringertz SH, Gullord TP, Hermansen W, Lelek M, Norman BI, et al. A three-year survey of nosocomial and community-acquired infections, antibiotic treatment and re-hospitalization in a Norwegian health region. Journal of Hospital Infection 2000;44(3):214-23.

Andersson SJ, Lindberg G, Troein M. General practitioners' conceptions of depressive disorders in relation to regional sales levels of antidepressive drugs. A study based on a postal survey and ecological data. Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 2005 Mar;23(1):11-7

Bagger-Sjoback D, Papatziamos G. The use of radiology in middle ear and temporal bone surgery. Journal of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology & its Related Specialties 2010; 72(3):170-4.

Bellner J, Ingebrigtsen T, Romner B. Survey of the management of patients with minor head injuries in hospitals in Sweden. Acta Neurologica Scandinavica 1999; 100(6):355-9.

Carlsen F, Grytten J. More physicians: improved availability or induced demand? Health Economics 1998 Sep;7(6):495-508.

Gissler M, Tiitinen A. IVF treatments and their outcomes in Finland in the 1990s. Acta Obstetricia et Gynecologica Scandinavica 2001 Oct;80(10):937-44.

Godballe C, Madsen AR, Pedersen HB, Sorensen CH, Pedersen U, Frisch T, et al. Post-thyroidectomy hemorrhage: a national study of patients treated at the Danish departments of ENT Head and Neck Surgery. European Archives of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology 2009;266(12):1945-52.

Grytten J, Sorensen R. Practice variation and physician-specific effects. Journal of Health Economics 2003 May;22(3):403-18.

Hansen DG, Sondergaard J, Vach W, Gram LF, Rosholm JU, Kragstrup J, et al. Antidepressant drug use in general practice: inter-practice variation and association with practice characteristics. European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 2003 Jun;59(2):143-9.

Hansson L, Oiesvold T, Gostas G, Kastrup M, Lonnerberg O, Saarento O, et al. The Nordic comparative study on sectorized psychiatry. I. Treated point prevalence and characteristics of the psychiatric services. Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica 1995 Jan;91(1):41-7.

Hartz I, Sakshaug S, Furu K, Engeland A, Eggen AE, Njolstad I, et al. Aspects of statin prescribing in Norwegian counties with high, average and low statin consumption - an individual-level prescription database study. BMC Clinical Pharmacology 2007;7:14.

Hedin K, Andre M, Hakansson A, Molstad S, Rodhe N, Petersson C, et al. A population-based study of different antibiotic prescribing in different areas. British Journal of General Practice 2006 Sep;56(530):680-5.

Henriksen OM, Prahl JB, Roder ME, Svendsen OL. Treatment of diabetic ketoacidosis in adults in Denmark: a national survey. Diabetes Research & Clinical Practice 2007 Jul;77(1):113-9.

Ingebrigtsen T, Romner B. Management of minor head injuries in hospitals in Norway. Acta Neurologica Scandinavica 1997 Jan;95(1):51-5.

Keski-Valkama A, Sailas E, Eronen M, Koivisto AM, Lonnqvist J, Kaltiala-Heino R, et al. A 15-year national follow-up: legislation is not enough to reduce the use of seclusion and restraint. Social Psychiatry & Psychiatric Epidemiology 2007 Sep;42(9):747-52.

Keskimaki I, Aro S, Teperi J. Regional variation in surgical procedure rates in Finland. Scandinavian Journal of Social Medicine 1994 Jun;22(2):132-8.

Kjekshus LE. Primary health care and hospital interactions: effects for hospital length of stay. Scandinavian Journal of Public Health 2005;33(2):114-22.

Kjellin L. Compulsory psychiatric care in Sweden 1979-1993. Prevalence of committed patients, discharge rates and area variation. Social Psychiatry & Psychiatric Epidemiology 1997 Feb;32(2):90-6.

Korvenranta E, Linna M, Hakkinen U, Peltola M, Andersson S, Gissler M, et al. Differences in the length of initial hospital stay in very preterm infants. Acta Paediatr 2007 Oct;96(10):1416-20.

Kristensen JK, Bro F, Sandbaek A, Dahhler-Eriksen K, Lassen JF, Lauritzen T. HbAlc in an unselected population of 4438 people with type 2 diabetes in a Danish county. Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 2001 Dec;19(4):241-6.

Kristensen JK, Sandbaek A, Bro F, Lassen JF, Lauritzen T. Routine screening for diabetic eye complications in a population based cohort of 4.438 persons with type 2 diabetes in a Danish county. Danish Medical Bulletin 2004; 51(1):104-7.

Kristiansen IS, Hjortdahl P. The general practitioner and laboratory utilization: why does it vary?. Family Practice 1992; 9(1):22-7.

Kvaerner KJ. Benchmarking surgery: secondary post-tonsillectomy hemorrhage 1999-2005. Acta Oto-Laryngologica 2009 Feb;129(2):195-8.

Larsson A, Palmer M, Hulten G, Tryding N. Large differences in laboratory utilisation between hospitals in Sweden. Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine 2000 May;38(5):383-9.

Linna M, Hakkinen U, Peltola M, Magnussen J, Anthun KS, Kittelsen S, et al. Measuring cost efficiency in the Nordic hospitals--a cross-sectional comparison of public hospitals in 2002. Health Care Manag Sci 2010 Dec;13(4):346-57.

Lindstrom K, Engstrom S, Bengtsson C, Borgquist L. Determinants of hospitalisation rates: does primary health care play a role? Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 2003 Mar;21(1):15-20.

Lysdahl KB, Borretzen I. Geographical variation in radiological services: a nationwide survey. BMC Health Services Research 2007; 7:21.

Meineche-Schmidt V, Jorgensen T. "Alarm symptoms" in dyspepsia. How does the general practitioner investigate?. Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 2003; 21(4):224-9.

Molin R, Hallas P, Brabrand M, Schmidt TA. Current use of intraosseous infusion in Danish emergency departments: a cross-sectional study. Scandinavian Journal of Trauma, Resuscitation & Emergency Medicine 2010;18:37.

Njalsson T, Sigurdsson JA, Sverrisson G, Brekkan A. Use of X-rays in family practice. A multicentre study. Family Practice 1995 Jun;12(2):143-8.

Olsson S. Diffusion, utilisation and regional variations in the use of CT and MRI in Sweden. Computer Methods & Programs in Biomedicine 2001. 66(1):129-35.

Rautava L, Hakkinen U, Korvenranta E, Andersson S, Gissler M, Hallman M, et al. Health-related quality of life in 5-year-old very low birth weight infants. Journal of Pediatrics 2009 Sep;155(3):338-43.

Rosenberg J, Bay-Nielsen M. Current status of laparoscopic inguinal hernia repair in Denmark. Hernia 2008; 12(6):583-7.

Sorensen TH, Olsen KR, Gyrd-Hansen D. Differences in general practice initiated expenditures across Danish local health authorities-A multilevel analysis. Health Policy 2009 Sep;92(1):35-42.

Steffensen FH, Schonheyder HC, Sorensen HT. High prescribers of antibiotics among general practitioners--relation to prescribing habits of other drugs and use of microbiological diagnostics. Scandinavian Journal of Infectious Diseases 1997;29(4):409-13.

Steffensen FH, Sorensen HT, Olesen F. Diffusion of new drugs in Danish general practice. Family Practice 1999 Aug;16(4):407-13.

Vehvilainen AT, Kumpusalo EA, Voutilainen SO, Takala JK. Does the doctors' professional experience reduce referral rates? Evidence from the Finnish referral study. Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 199

Portugal

Isabel C, Paula V. Geographic distribution of physicians in Portugal. European Journal of Health Economics 2010 Aug;11(4):383-93.

Spain

Bertolin-Guillen JM, Peiro-Moreno S, Hernandez-de-Pablo ME. Patterns of electroconvulsive therapy use in Spain. European Psychiatry: the Journal of the Association of European Psychiatrists 2006;21(7):463-70.

Hoffmeister L, Roman R, Comas M, Cots F, Bernal-Delgado E, Castells X. Time-trend and variations in the proportion of second-eye cataract surgery. BMC Health Serv Res 2007;7:53.

Ibanez B, Librero J, Bernal-Delgado E, Peiro S, Lopez-Valcarcel BG, Martinez N, et al. Is there much variation in variation? Revisiting statistics of small area variation in health services research. BMC Health Serv Res 2009;9:60.

Magan P, Otero A, Alberquilla A, Ribera JM. Geographic variations in avoidable hospitalizations in the elderly, in a health system with universal coverage. BMC Health Services Research 2008;8:42.

Quintana JM, Escobar A, Bilbao A, Navarro G, Begiristain JM, Fernandez de LN, et al. Effect of hospital on variation in visual acuity and vision-specific quality of life after cataract surgery. Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice 2010 Aug;16(4):665-72.

Saturno PJ, Palmer RH, Gascon JJ. Physician attitudes, self-estimated performance and actual compliance with locally peer-defined quality evaluation criteria. International Journal for Quality in Health Care 1999 Dec;11(6):487-96.

Switzerland

Aroua A, Bize R, Buchillier-Decka I, Vader JP, Valley JF, Schnyder P. X-ray imaging of the chest in Switzerland in 1998: a nationwide survey. European Radiology 2003; 13(6):1250-9.

Busato A, Kunzi B. Primary care physician supply and other key determinants of health care utilisation: the case of Switzerland. BMC Health Services Research 2008;8:8.

Busato A, Matter P, Kunzi B. Factors related to treatment intensity in Swiss primary care. BMC Health Serv Res 2009;9:49.

Busato A, Matter P, Kunzi B, Goodman DC. Supply sensitive services in Swiss ambulatory care: an analysis of basic health insurance records for 2003-2007. BMC Health Serv Res 2010;10:315.

Fischler L, Erhart S, Kleger GR, Frutiger A. Prevalence of tracheostomy in ICU patients. A nation-wide survey in Switzerland. Intensive Care Medicine 2000 Oct;26(10):1428-33.

Taffe P, Sicard N, Pittet V, Pichard S, Burnand B; ADS study group. The occurrence of intra-operative hypotension varies between hospitals: observational analysis of more than

Switzerland

147,000 anaesthesia. Acta Anaesthesiologica Scandinavica 2009 Sep;53(8):995-1005.

U.K.

A multicentre audit of hospital referral for radiological investigation in England and Wales. Royal College of Radiologists Working Party. BMJ 1991 Oct 5;303(6806):809-12.

Adekanmi OA, Edwards GJ, Barrington JW. The variation in urodynamic practice in the United Kingdom. Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 2002; 22(1):48-50.

Ang GS, Barras CW. Prophylaxis against infection in cataract surgery: a survey of routine practice. European Journal of Ophthalmology 2006 May;16(3):394-400.

Ashcroft DM, Frischer M, Lockett J, Chapman SR. Variations in prescribing atypical antipsychotic drugs in primary care: cross-sectional study. Pharmacoepidemiology & Drug Safety 2002 Jun;11(4):285-9.

Baker D, Klein R. Explaining outputs of primary health care: population and practice factors. BMJ 1991 Jul 27;303(6796):225-9.

Barter S, Drinkwater K, Remedios D. National audit of provision of MRI services 2006/07. Clinical Radiology 2009; 64(3):284-90.

Beck EJ, Tolley K, Power A, Mandalia S, Rutter P, Izumi J, et al. The use and cost of HIV service provision in England in 1996. National Prospective Monitoring System (NPMS) Steering Group and NPMS Working Party on Costs. Pharmacoeconomics 1998 Dec;14(6):639-52.

Bevan G, Hollinghurst S, Benton P, Spark V, Sanderson H, Franklin D. Using Information on Variation in Rates of Supply to Question Professional Discretion in Public Services. Financial Accountability & Management 2004;20(1):1-17.

Blatchford O, Capewell S, Murray S, Blatchford M. Emergency medical admissions in Glasgow: general practices vary despite adjustment for age, sex, and deprivation. British Journal of General Practice 1999 Jul;49(444):551-4.

Bottle A, Millett C, Xie Y, Saxena S, Wachter RM, Majeed A, et al. Quality of primary care and hospital admissions for diabetes mellitus in England. Journal of Ambulatory Care Management 2008 Jul;31(3):226-38.

Callery P, Kyle RG, Campbell M, Banks M, Kirk S, Powell P, et al. Readmission in children's emergency care: an analysis of hospital episode statistics. Archives of Disease in Childhood 2010 May;95(5):341-6.

U.K.

- Clark AF. Incidences of new prescribing by British child and adolescent psychiatrists: a prospective study over 12 months. Journal of Psychopharmacology 2004 Mar;18(1):115-20.
- Condren RM, Cooney C. Use of drugs by Old Age Psychiatrists in the treatment of psychotic and behavioural symptoms in patients with dementia. Aging & Mental Health 2001 Aug;5(3):235-41.
- Das D, Ishaq S, Harrison R, Kosuri K, Harper E, Decaestecker J, et al. Management of Barrett's esophagus in the UK: overtreated and underbiopsied but improved by the introduction of a national randomized trial. American Journal of Gastroenterology 2008;103(5):1079-89.
- Das S, Huengsberg M, Natin D, Walzman M; West Midland Regional Audit Committee. An audit on HIV antibody test uptake amongst GUM clinic attendees in the West Midland region. International Journal of STD & AIDS 2004; 15(8):558-9.
- Doran T, McCann R. Obstacles to influenza immunization in primary care. Journal of Public Health Medicine 2001 Dec;23(4):329-34.
- Eedy DJ, Griffiths CE, Chalmers RJ, Ormerod AD, Smith CH, Barker JN, et al. Care of patients with psoriasis: an audit of U.K. services in secondary care. British Journal of Dermatology 2009 Mar;160(3):557-64.
- El-Amir AN, Keenan TD, bu-Bakra M, Tanner V, Yeates D, Goldacre MJ, et al. Trends in rates of retinal surgery in England from 1968 to 2004: studies of hospital statistics. British Journal of Ophthalmology 2009 Dec;93(12):1585-90.
- Esmail A, Quayle JA, Roberts C. Assessing the appropriateness of paediatric hospital admissions in the United Kingdom. Journal of Public Health Medicine 2000 Jun;22(2):231-8.
- Foot B, Foy R, Chakravarthy U, Wormald R. A new health technology: where is the consensus on a clinically worthwhile benefit? Eye 2002 Jul;16(4):469-71.
- Foot B, Foy R, Chakravarthy U, Wormald R. Increasing use of a new health technology during the wait for NICE guidance: findings from the third national tracker survey of photodynamic therapy. Journal of Public Health 2004 Mar:26(1):52-5.
- Forder J. Long-term care and hospital utilisation by older people: an analysis of substitution rates. Health Economics 2009 Nov;18(11):1322-38.
- Giele CM, Maw R, Carne CA, Evans BG; British Co-operative Clinical Group of the Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases. Post-exposure prophylaxis for non-occupational exposure to HIV: current clinical practice and opinions in the UK. Sexually Transmitted Infections 2002 Apr;78(2):130-2.

Gordon-Bennett P, Karas A, Flanagan D, Stephenson C, Hingorani M. A survey of measures used for the prevention of postoperative endophthalmitis after cataract surgery in the United Kingdom. Eye 2008 May;22(5):620-7.

Gordon-Bennett PS, Ioannidis AS, Papageorgiou K, Andreou PS. A survey of investigations used for the management of glaucoma in hospital service in the United Kingdom. Eye 2008 Nov;22(11):1410-8.

Goyder EC, Jennings S, Botha JL. Why don't all general practices offer structured diabetes care? A comparison of practices that do not with those that do. Public Health 1996 Nov;110(6):357-60.

Greenfield S, Nelson EC, Zubkoff M, Manning W, Rogers W, Kravitz RL et al. Variations in resource utilization among medical specialties and systems of care. Results from the medical outcomes study. JAMA 1992;267:1624-30.

Gulliford M, Latinovic R. Variations in glucose self-monitoring during oral hypoglycaemic therapy in primary care. Diabetic Medicine 2004 Jul;21(7):685-90.

Gulliford MC, Charlton J, Latinovic R. Trends in antihypertensive and lipid-lowering therapy in subjects with type II diabetes: clinical effectiveness or clinical discretion? Journal of Human Hypertension 2005;19(2):111-7.

Gunnell DJ, Brooks J, Peters TJ. Epidemiology and patterns of hospital use after parasuicide in the south west of England. Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health 1996 Feb;50(1):24-9.

Harinath G, Shah PR, Haray PN, Foster ME. Laparoscopic colorectal surgery in Great Britain and Ireland--where are we now? Colorectal Disease 2005 Jan;7(1):86-9.

Henderson J, Evans JG, Goldacre MJ. Time spent in hospital by the elderly in the final year of life as a health care indicator: inter-district comparisons. Journal of Public Health Medicine 1992 Mar;14(1):39-42.

Henderson J, Goldacre MJ, Fairweather J, Seagroatt V. Time spent in hospital by children as a health care indicator: inter-district comparisons. Journal of Public Health Medicine 1992 Mar;14(1):35-8.

Holdsworth RJ, Paterson HM. Trends in provision of distal arterial reconstruction in Scotland 1989-1999. European Journal of Vascular & Endovascular Surgery 2001 Feb;21(2):123-9.

Howell-Jones RS, Price PE, Howard AJ, Thomas DW. Antibiotic prescribing for chronic skin wounds in primary care. Wound Repair & Regeneration 2006 Jul;14(4):387-93.

Hungin AP, Bramble MG, O'Callaghan H. Reasons for variations in the use of open

access gastroscopy by general practitioners. Gut 1995; 36(2):180-2

Inman W, Pearce G. Prescriber profile and post-marketing surveillance. Lancet 1993 Sep 11;342(8872):658-61.

Jarman B, Gault S, Alves B, Hider A, Dolan S, Cook A, et al. Explaining differences in English hospital death rates using routinely collected data. BMJ 1999 Jun 5;318(7197):1515-20.

Keenan T, Rosen P, Yeates D, Goldacre M. Time trends and geographical variation in cataract surgery rates in England: study of surgical workload. British Journal of Ophthalmology 2007 Jul;91(7):901-4.

Kennedy KM, Glynn LG, Dineen B. A survey of the management of urinary tract infection in children in primary care and comparison with the NICE guidelines. BMC Family Practice 2010;11:6.

Khan R, Burgoyne L, O'Connell M, Dempsey EM. Antenatal management of the expectant mother and extreme preterm infant at the limits of viability. Irish Medical Journal 2010 Oct;103(9):266-9.

Lim CS, Gohel MS, Shepherd AC, Davies AH. Secondary care treatment of patients with varicose veins in National Health Service England: at least how it appeared on a National Health Service website. Phlebology 2010 Aug;25(4):184-9.

Maheswaran R. Supply of in-patient medical services for elderly people and geographical variation in medical admissions in a health district in England. Public Health 1997 Nov;111(6):411-5.

Majeed A, Eliahoo J, Bardsley M, Morgan D, Bindman AB. Variation in coronary artery bypass grafting, angioplasty, cataract surgery, and hip replacement rates among primary care groups in London: association with population and practice characteristics. Journal of Public Health Medicine 2002 Mar;24(1):21-6.

Majeed A, Moser K, Maxwell R. Age, sex and practice variations in the use of statins in general practice in England and Wales. Journal of Public Health Medicine 2000 Sep;22(3):275-9.

Marks PJ, Neal KR. Variations in chemoprophylaxis for meningococcal disease: a retrospective case note review, analysis of routine prescribing data and questionnaire of general practitioners. BMC Public Health 2001;1:16.

Martin S, Smith P. Explaining variations in inpatient length of stay in the National Health Service. Journal of Health Economics 1996 Jun;15(3):279-304.

Maybloom B, Chapple J, Davidson LL. Admissions for critically ill children: where and

why? Intensive & Critical Care Nursing 2002 Jun;18(3):151-61.

McBride D, Hardoon S, Walters K, Gilmour S, Raine R. Explaining variation in referral from primary to secondary care: cohort study. BMJ 2010;341:c6267.

McDermott VG, Chapman ME, Gillespie I. Sedation and patient monitoring in vascular and interventional radiology. British Journal of Radiology 1993; 66(788):667-71.

McMahon AJ, Fischbacher CM, Frame SH, MacLeod MC. Impact of laparoscopic cholecystectomy: a population-based study. Lancet 2000 Nov 11;356(9242):1632-7.

McNicholl BP, Fisher RB, Dearden CH. Transatlantic perspectives of trauma systems. British Journal of Surgery 1993 Aug;80(8):985-7.

McQuarrie EP, Mackinnon B, Young B, Yeoman L, Stewart G, et al; Scottish Renal Biopsy Registry. Centre variation in incidence, indication and diagnosis of adult native renal biopsy in Scotland. Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation 2009; 24(5):1524-8.

Morris SE, Lean ME, Hankey CR, Hunter C. Who gets what treatment for obesity? A survey of GPs in Scotland. European Journal of Clinical Nutrition 1999 May;53 Suppl 2:S44-S48.

Morrison J, Anderson MJ, Sutton M, Munoz-Arroyo R, McDonald S, Maxwell M, et al. Factors influencing variation in prescribing of antidepressants by general practices in Scotland. British Journal of General Practice 2009 Feb;59(559):e25-e31.

Naughton C, Bennett K, Feely J. Regional variation in prescribing for chronic conditions among an elderly population using a pharmacy claims database. Irish Journal of Medical Science 2006 Jul;175(3):32-9.

Newham R, Russell C, Davies JB. Planned and unplanned discharge from alcohol services in Scotland, 2004-2008. Alcohol & Alcoholism 2010 Jan;45(1):64-9.

Newton JN, Seagroatt V, Goldacre M. Geographical variation in hospital admission rates: an analysis of workload in the Oxford region, England. Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health 1994 Dec;48(6):590-5.

Paddle JJ, Eve RL, Sharpe KA. Changing practice with changing research: results of two UK national surveys of intensive insulin therapy in intensive care patients. Anaesthesia 2011 Feb;66(2):92-6.

Pell J, Capewell S. An audit of BCG immunisation and tuberculin skin testing in Scotland. Scotlish BCG Study Group. Health Bulletin.1996; 54(6):490-4.

Pullman MD, Edwards ND. Current practice in the pre-operative assessment of patients for elective repair of abdominal aortic aneurysm. A survey of UK hospitals. Anaesthesia

1997; 52(4):367-73.

Puvanachandra N, Trikha S, MacEwen CJ, Morris RJ, Hodgkins PR. A national survey of the management of congenital nasolacrimal duct obstruction in the United kingdom. Journal of Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus 2010; 47(2):76-80.

Rahman S, Aszkenasy OM. Management of childhood gastroenteritis in the community. Public Health 2001 Jul;115(4):292-4.

Ramus JR, Caygill CP, Gatenby PA, Watson A. Current United Kingdom practice in the diagnosis and management of columnar-lined oesophagus: results of the United Kingdom National Barrett's Oesophagus Registry endoscopist questionnaire. European Journal of Cancer Prevention 2008; 17(5):422-5.

Reid FD, Cook DG, Majeed A. Explaining variation in hospital admission rates between general practices: cross sectional study. BMJ 1999 Jul 10;319(7202):98-103.

Roderick P, Clements S, Stone N, Martin D, Diamond I. What determines geographical variation in rates of acceptance onto renal replacement therapy in England? Journal of Health Services & Research Policy 1999 Jul;4(3):139-46.

Roobottom CA, Jewell FM, Jones A, Wells IP. Variation in angiographic practice and technique amongst interventional radiologists in the UK: assessment by postal questionnaire. Clinical Radiology.1995; 50(10):705-9.

Rosenfeld K, McHugh K, Rosenfeld K, McHugh K. Survey of intussusception reduction in England, Scotland and Wales: how and why we could do better. Clinical Radiology 1999 Jul;54(7):452-8.

Ross JD, Goldberg DJ. Patterns of HIV testing in Scotland: a general practitioner perspective. Scottish Medical Journal 1997 Aug;42(4):108-10.

Rowan KM, Kerr JH, Major E, McPherson K, Short A, Vessey MP, et al. Intensive Care Society's APACHE II study in Britain and Ireland--I: Variations in case mix of adult admissions to general intensive care units and impact on outcome. BMJ 1993 Oct 16;307(6910):977-81.

Seeley HM, Maimaris C, Carroll G, Kellerman J, Pickard JD. Implementing the Galasko Report on the management of head injuries: the Eastern Region approach. Emergency Medicine Journal 2001 Sep;18(5):358-65.

Seow CS, Doughty JC, Byrne DS. Chemical lumbar sympathectomy revisited: survey of the current practice of vascular surgeons in Scotland. European Journal of Surgery 2000 May;166(5):380-2.

Shabde N, Waterston T. Screening children from overseas for infections: is it justified?.

BMJ 1990; 301(6755):800-2.

Sheth HG, Goel R, Jain S. UK national survey of prophylactic YAG iridotomy. Eye 2005; 19(9):981-4.

Shields BM, Hicks S, Shepherd MH, Colclough K, Hattersley AT, Ellard S. Maturity-onset diabetes of the young (MODY): how many cases are we missing? Diabetologia 2010; 53(12):2504-8.

Smith NP, Ba'ath ME, Perry D, Morgan LE, Lamont GL, Baillie CT. BAPS UK inflammatory bowel disease surgical practice survey. Journal of Pediatric Surgery 2007; 42(2):296-9.

Stevenson AD, Nixon SJ, Paterson-Brown S. Variation of laparoscopic hernia repair in Scotland: a postcode lottery? Surgeon Journal of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of Edinburgh & Ireland 2010; 8(3):140-3.

Sullivan CO, Omar RZ, Ambler G, Majeed A. Case-mix and variation in specialist referrals in general practice. British Journal of General Practice 2005 Jul;55(516):529-33.

Thomas T, Nair P, Dronfield MW, Mayberry JF. Management of low and high-grade dysplasia in inflammatory bowel disease: the gastroenterologists' perspective and current practice in the United Kingdom. European Journal of Gastroenterology & Hepatology 2005;17(12):1317-24.

Thompson A, Shaw M, Harrison G, Ho D, Gunnell D, Verne J, et al. Patterns of hospital admission for adult psychiatric illness in England: analysis of Hospital Episode Statistics data. British Journal of Psychiatry 2004 Oct;185:334-41.

Trippe HR, Jessop EG. Deprivation and hospital use in a non-metropolitan region of England. Public Health 1995 Sep;109(5):375-80.

Twigger JP, Jessop EG. Small area variation in hospital admission: random or systematic? Public Health 2000 Sep;114(5):328-9.

Usher C, Bennett K, Feely J. Regional variation in the prescribing for diabetes and use of secondary preventative therapies in Ireland. Pharmacoepidemiology & Drug Safety 2005 Aug;14(8):537-44.

Wang KY, Seed P, Schofield P, Ibrahim S, Ashworth M. Which practices are high antibiotic prescribers? A cross-sectional analysis. British Journal of General Practice 2009 Oct;59(567):e315-e320.

Watkins C, Harvey I, Carthy P, Moore L, Robinson E, Brawn R, et al. Attitudes and behaviour of general practitioners and their prescribing costs: a national cross sectional survey. Quality & Safety in Health Care 2003 Feb;12(1):29-34.

Williams DG, Howard RF. Epidural analgesia in children. A survey of current opinions and practices amongst UK paediatric anaesthetists. Paediatric Anaesthesia 2003 Nov;13(9):769-76.

Woods AW, MacKirdy FN, Livingston BM, Norrie J, Howie JC. Evaluation of predicted and actual length of stay in 22 Scottish intensive care units using the APACHE III system. Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation. Anaesthesia 2000 Nov;55(11):1058-65.

Zamvar U, Dhillon B. Postoperative IOP prophylaxis practice following uncomplicated cataract surgery: a UK-wide consultant survey. BMC Ophthalmology 2005;5:24.

USA

Acevedo JL, Lander L, Shah UK, Shah RK. Existence of important variations in the United States in the treatment of pediatric mastoiditis. Archives of Otolaryngology -- Head & Neck Surgery 2009 Jan;135(1):28-32.

Alexander JA, Lee SY, Griffith JR, Mick SS, Lin X, Banaszak-Holl J, et al. Do market-level hospital and physician resources affect small area variation in hospital use? Medical Care Research & Review 1999 Mar;56(1):94-117.

Allison JJ, Kiefe CI, Cook EF, Gerrity MS, Orav EJ, Centor R. The association of physician attitudes about uncertainty and risk taking with resource use in a Medicare HMO. Med Decis Making 1998;18:320-9.

Almog M, Curtis S, Copeland A, Congdon P. Geographical variation in acute psychiatric admissions within New York City 1990-2000: growing inequalities in service use? Social Science & Medicine 2004 Jul;59(2):361-76.

Archer KR, MacKenzie EJ, Bosse MJ, Pollak AN, Riley LH, III. Factors associated with surgeon referral for physical therapy in patients with traumatic lower-extremity injury: results of a national survey of orthopedic trauma surgeons. Physical Therapy 2009 Sep;89(9):893-905.

Ashton CM, Petersen NJ, Souchek J, Menke TJ, Yu HJ, Pietz K, et al. Geographic variations in utilization rates in Veterans Affairs hospitals and clinics. New England Journal of Medicine 1999 Jan 7;340(1):32-9.

Audet AM, Anderson FA, St John R. The prevention of venous thromboembolism: a statewide evaluation of practices in Massachusetts. Therapie 1998 Nov;53(6):591-4.

Balluz L, Ahluwalia IB, Murphy W, Mokdad A, Giles W, Harris VB. Surveillance for certain health behaviors among selected local areas--United States, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2002. MMWR Surveill Summ 2004 Jul 23;53(5):1-100.

Bass EB, Steinberg EP, Luthra R, Schein OD, Tielsch JM, Javitt JC, et al. Do ophthalmologists, anesthesiologists, and internists agree about preoperative testing in healthy patients undergoing cataract surgery? Archives of Ophthalmology 1995 Oct;113(10):1248-56.

Bazarian JJ, McClung J, Cheng YT, Flesher W, Schneider SM. Emergency department management of mild traumatic brain injury in the USA. Emergency Medicine Journal 2005 Jul;22(7):473-7.

Bednarek FJ, Weisberger S, Richardson DK, Frantz ID, III, Shah B, Rubin LP, et al. Variations in blood transfusions among newborn intensive care units. SNAP II Study Group. Journal of Pediatrics 1998 Nov;133(5):601-7.

Berman S, Byrns PJ, Bondy J, Smith PJ, Lezotte D. Otitis media-related antibiotic prescribing patterns, outcomes, and expenditures in a pediatric medicaid population. Pediatrics 1997 Oct;100(4):585-92.

Betemps EJ, Somoza E, Buncher CR. Hospital characteristics, diagnoses, and staff reasons associated with use of seclusion and restraint. Hospital & Community Psychiatry 1993 Apr;44(4):367-71.

Bhargavan M, Sunshine JH. Utilization of radiology services in the United States: levels and trends in modalities, regions, and populations. Radiology 2005; 234(3):824-32.

Bianco FJ, Jr., Riedel ER, Begg CB, Kattan MW, Scardino PTl. Variations among high volume surgeons in the rate of complications after radical prostatectomy: further evidence that technique matters. Journal of Urology 2005 Jun;173(6):2099-103.

Bindman AB, Grumbach K, Osmond D, Komaromy M, Vranizan K, Lurie N, et al. Preventable hospitalizations and access to health care. JAMA 1995 Jul 26;274(4):305-11.

Birkmeyer NJ, Dimick JB, Share D, Hawasli A, English WJ, Genaw J, et al. Hospital complication rates with bariatric surgery in Michigan. JAMA 2010 Jul 28;304(4):435-42.

Blackwell CD, Gorelick M, Holmes JF, Bandyopadhyay S, Kuppermann N. Pediatric head trauma: changes in use of computed tomography in emergency departments in the United States over time. Annals of Emergency Medicine 2007 Mar;49(3):320-4.

Block BM, Sirio CA, Cooper GS, DiGiuseppe DL, Rosenthal GE. Use of intensive carespecific interventions in major teaching and other hospitals: a regional comparison. Critical Care Medicine 2000 Apr;28(4):1204-7.

Bolen J, Adams M, Shenson D. Routine preventive services for older women: a composite measure highlights gaps in delivery. Journal of Women's Health 2007; 16(5):583-93.

Bowman SM, Bulger E, Sharar SR, Maham SA, Smith SD. Variability in pediatric splenic injury care: results of a national survey of general surgeons. Archives of Surgery 2010 Nov;145(11):1048-53.

Bowman SM, Zimmerman FJ, Christakis DA, Sharar SR, Martin DP. Hospital characteristics associated with the management of pediatric splenic injuries. JAMA 2005 Nov 23;294(20):2611-7.

Breckler FD, Fuchs JR, Rescorla FJ. Survey of pediatric surgeons on current practices of bowel preparation for elective colorectal surgery in children. American Journal of Surgery 2007 Mar;193(3):315-8.

Breuer B, Cruciani R, Portenoy RK. Pain management by primary care physicians, pain physicians, chiropractors, and acupuncturists: a national survey. Southern Medical Journal 2010 Aug;103(8):738-47.

Briggs LW, Rohrer JE, Ludke RL, Hilsenrath PE, Phillips KT. Geographic variation in primary care visits in Iowa. Health Services Research 1995 Dec;30(5):657-71.

Brown J. Diagnostic and treatment patterns for renal colic in US emergency departments. International Urology & Nephrology 2006;38(1):87-92.

Brown JF, Schubert CM. An examination of emergency department pediatric psychiatric services. Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research 2010 Oct;37(4):412-26.

Burns LR, Wholey DR. The effects of patient, hospital, and physician characteristics on length of stay and mortality. Medical Care 1991 Mar;29(3):251-71.

Cave DG. Small-area variations in the treatment of prevalent medical conditions: a comparison of three cities in the Northeast. Journal of Ambulatory Care Management 1995 Jul;18(3):42-57.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Neonatal intensive-care unit admission of infants with very low birth weight --- 19 States, 2006. MMWR - Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report 2010 Nov12;59(44):1444-7.

Chamberlain LJ, Chan J, Mahlow P, Huffman LC, Chan K, Wise PH, et al. Variation in specialty care hospitalization for children with chronic conditions in California. Pediatrics 2010 Jun;125(6):1190-9.

Chan E, Hopkins MR, Perrin JM, Herrerias C, Homer CJ. Diagnostic practices for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: a national survey of primary care physicians. Ambulatory Pediatrics 2005 Jul;5(4):201-8.

Chandra RK, Conley DB, Kern RC. Prophylactic i.v. antibiotics in functional endoscopic

sinus surgery: trends and attitudes of the American Rhinologic Society membership. American Journal of Rhinology & Allergy 2009 Jul;23(4):448-50.

Chang MY, McBride LA, Ferguson MA. Variability in brain death declaration practices in pediatric head trauma patients. Pediatric Neurosurgery 2003 Jul;39(1):7-9.

Charles RF, Powe NR, Jaar BG, Troll MU, Parekh RS, Boulware LE. Clinical testing patterns and cost implications of variation in the evaluation of CKD among US physicians. American Journal of Kidney Diseases 2009; 54(2):227-37.

Chassin MR. Explaining geographic variations. The enthusiasm hypothesis. Med Care 1993;31:YS37-YS44.

Chassin MR, Brook RH, Park RE, et al. Variations in the use of medical and surgical services by the Medicare population. N Engl J Med 1986;314:285-90.

Chassin MR, Kosecoff J, Park RE, et al. Does inappropriate use explain geographic variations in the use of health care services? A study of three procedures. JAMA 1987;258:2533-7.

Chen LW, Zhang W, Sun J, Mueller KJ. The magnitude, variation, and determinants of rural hospital resource utilization associated with hospitalizations due to ambulatory care sensitive conditions. Journal of Public Health Management & Practice 2009 May;15(3):216-22.

Chisolm DJ, Pritchett CV, Nwomeh BC. Factors affecting innovation in pediatric surgery: hospital type and appendectomies. Journal of Pediatric Surgery 2006 Nov;41(11):1809-13.

Chu L, Schnelle JF, Osterweil D. Prescription analgesic and antidepressant utilization and cost among elderly Medicaid beneficiaries before and after nursing home admission. Journal of the American Medical Directors Association 2004 Mar;5(2):75-81.

Clark JD. Variation in Michigan hospital use rates: do physician and hospital characteristics provide the explanation? Social Science & Medicine 1990;30(1):67-82.

Coleman AL, Yu F, Rowe S. Visual field testing in glaucoma Medicare beneficiaries before surgery. Ophthalmology 2005 Mar;112(3):401-6.

Collins MM, Barry MJ, Bin L, Roberts RG, Oesterling JE, Fowler FJ, et al. Diagnosis and treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia. Practice patterns of primary care physicians. Journal of General Internal Medicine 1997 Apr;12(4):224-9.

Conway PH, Edwards S, Stucky ER, Chiang VW, Ottolini MC, Landrigan CP, et al. Variations in management of common inpatient pediatric illnesses: hospitalists and community pediatricians. Pediatrics 2006 Aug;118(2):441-7.

Conway PH, Keren R. Factors associated with variability in outcomes for children hospitalized with urinary tract infection. Journal of Pediatrics 2009 Jun;154(6):789-96.

Cook CB, Elias B, Kongable GL, Potter DJ, Shepherd KM, McMahon D, et al. Diabetes and hyperglycemia quality improvement efforts in hospitals in the United States: current status, practice variation, and barriers to implementation. Endocrine Practice 2010 Mar;16(2):219-30.

Cooper GS, Chak A, Way LE, Hammar PJ, Harper DL, Rosenthal GE, et al. Endoscopic practice for upper gastrointestinal hemorrhage: differences between major teaching and community-based hospitals. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy 1998 Oct;48(4):348-53.

Cox ER, Motheral BR, Henderson RR, Mager D. Geographic variation in the prevalence of stimulant medication use among children 5 to 14 years old: results from a commercially insured US sample. Pediatrics 2003 Feb;111(2):237-43.

Crenshaw WB, Francis PS. A national survey on seclusion and restraint in state psychiatric hospitals. Psychiatric Services 1995 Oct;46(10):1026-31.

Cudnik MT, Sayre MR, Hiestand B, Steinberg SM. Are all trauma centers created equally? A statewide analysis. Academic Emergency Medicine 2010 Jul;17(7):701-8.

Cuttler L, Silvers JB, Singh J, Marrero U, Finkelstein B, Tannin G, et al. Short stature and growth hormone therapy. A national study of physician recommendation patterns. JAMA 1996 Aug 21;276(7):531-7.

Daniels AH, Arthur M, Hart RA. Variability in rates of arthrodesis procedures for patients with cervical spine injuries with and without associated spinal cord injury. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - American Volume 2007 Feb;89(2):317-23.

de Jong JD, Westert GP, Lagoe R, Groenewegen PP, de Jong JD, Westert GP, et al. Variation in hospital length of stay: do physicians adapt their length of stay decisions to what is usual in the hospital where they work? Health Services Research 2006 Apr;41(2):374-94.

DesHarnais S, Simpson KN, Paul JE. Variations in practice patterns: antiviral drug use in hospitalized patients with herpes infections. American Journal of Medical Quality 1996;11(1):33-42.

Dimick JB, Osborne NH, Hall BL, Ko CY, Birkmeyer JD. Risk adjustment for comparing hospital quality with surgery: how many variables are needed? J Am Coll Surg 2010 Apr;210(4):503-8.

Dor A, Holahan J. Urban-rural differences in Medicare physician expenditures. Inquiry 1990;27(4):307-18.

Drehmer TJ, Khanna D, Markert RJ, Hawkins RA. Diagnostic and management trends of giant cell arteritis: a physician survey. Journal of Rheumatology 2005; 32(7):1283-9.

Dubois RW, Batchlor E, Wade S. Geographic variation in the use of medications: is uniformity good news or bad? Health Affairs 2002 Jan;21(1):240-50.

Easton A, Husten C, Malarcher A, Elon L, Caraballo R, Ahluwalia I, et al. Smoking cessation counseling by primary care women physicians: Women Physicians' Health Study. Women & Health 2001;32(4):77-91.

Eichenwald EC, Blackwell M, Lloyd JS, Tran T, Wilker RE, Richardson DK, et al. Interneonatal intensive care unit variation in discharge timing: influence of apnea and feeding management. Pediatrics 2001 Oct;108(4):928-33.

Ellis AR. The administration of psychotropic medication to children ages 0-4 in North Carolina: an exploratory analysis. North Carolina Medical Journal 2010 Jan;71(1):9-14.

Enestvedt BK, Gralnek IM, Mattek N, Lieberman DA, Eisen GM. Endoscopic therapy for peptic ulcer hemorrhage: practice variations in a multi-center U.S. consortium. Digestive Diseases & Sciences 2010 Sep;55(9):2568-76.

Epstein SA, Hooper LM, Weinfurt KP, DePuy V, Cooper LA, Harless WG, et al. Primary care physicians' evaluation and treatment of depression: Results of an experimental study using video vignettes. Medical Care Research & Review 2008 Dec;65(6):674-95.

Escarce JJ. Would eliminating differences in physician practice style reduce geographic variations in cataract surgery rates? Medical Care 1993 Dec;31(12):1106-18.

Evans RW, Dong FB, Manninen DL. The center effect in heart transplantation. Clinical Transplants 1991;45-59.

Faber-Langendoen K. The clinical management of dying patients receiving mechanical ventilation. A survey of physician practice. Chest 1994 Sep;106(3):880-8.

Falk GW, Ours TM, Richter JE. Practice patterns for surveillance of Barrett's esophagus in the united states. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy 2000; 52(2):197-203.

Finegan MS, Gao J, Pasquale D, Campbell J. Trends and geographic variation of potentially avoidable hospitalizations in the veterans health-care system. Health Services Management Research 2010 May;23(2):66-75.

Finlayson SR, Birkmeyer JD, Laycock WS. Trends in surgery for gastroesophageal reflux disease: the effect of laparoscopic surgery on utilization. Surgery 2003; 133(2):147-53.

Fisher ES, Wennberg JE, Stukel TA, Sharp SM. Hospital readmission rates for cohorts of Medicare beneficiaries in Boston and New Haven. New England Journal of Medicine

1994 Oct 13;331(15):989-95.

Fisher ES, Wennberg JE, Stukel TA, Skinner JS, Sharp SM, Freeman JL, et al. Associations among hospital capacity, utilization, and mortality of US Medicare beneficiaries, controlling for sociodemographic factors. Health Services Research 2000 Feb; 34(6):1351-62.

Fisher ES, Wennberg DE, Stukel TA, Gottlieb DJ, Lucas FL, Pinder EL. The implications of regional variations in Medicare spending. Part 1: the content, quality, and accessibility of care. Ann Intern Med 2003;138:273-87.

Fisher ES, Wennberg DE, Stukel TA, Gottlieb DJ, Lucas FL, Pinder EL. The implications of regional variations in Medicare spending. Part 2: health outcomes and satisfaction with care. Ann Intern Med 2003;138:288

Flach SD, Longenecker JC, Tape TG, Bryan TJ, Parenti C, Wigton RS, et al. The relationship between treatment objectives and practice patterns in the management of urinary tract infections. Medical Decision Making 2003 Mar;23(2):131-9.

Fortinsky RH, Zlateva I, Delaney C, Kleppinger A. Primary care physicians' dementia care practices: evidence of geographic variation. Gerontologist 2010 Apr;50(2):179-91.

Fortney JC, Booth BM, Smith GR. Variation among VA hospitals in length of stay for treatment of depression. Psychiatric Services 1996 Jun;47(6):608-13.

Franks P, Williams GC, Zwanziger J, Mooney C, Sorbero M. Why do physicians vary so widely in their referral rates? J Gen Intern Med 2000;15:163-8.

Freeman HE. HIV testing of asymptomatic patients in U.S. hospitals. Medical Care 1991 Feb;29(2):87-96.

Friedly J, Chan L, Deyo R. Geographic variation in epidural steroid injection use in medicare patients. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - American Volume 2008 Aug;90(8):1730-7.

Friedman B, Basu JJ. Health insurance, primary care, and preventable hospitalization of children in a large state. American Journal of Managed Care 2001 May;7(5):473-81.

Fry DE, Pine M, Jones BL, Meimban RJ. Patient characteristics and the occurrence of never events. Archives of Surgery 2010 Feb;145(2):148-51.

Fung CH, Woods JN, Asch SM, Glassman P, Doebbeling BN. Variation in implementation and use of computerized clinical reminders in an integrated healthcare system. American Journal of Managed Care 2004 Nov;10(11 Pt 2):878-85.

Gage B, Moon M, Chi S. State-level variation in Medicare spending. Health Care

Financing Review 1999;21(2):85-98.

Gellad WF, Good CB, Lowe JC, Donohue JM. Variation in prescription use and spending for lipid-lowering and diabetes medications in the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System. American Journal of Managed Care 2010 Oct;16(10):741-50.

Gerber JS, Newland JG, Coffin SE, Hall M, Thurm C, Prasad PA, et al. Variability in antibiotic use at children's hospitals. Pediatrics 2010 Dec;126(6):1067-73.

Ghaferi AA, Birkmeyer JD, Dimick JB. Variation in hospital mortality associated with inpatient surgery. New England Journal of Medicine 2009 Oct 1;361(14):1368-75.

Gittelsohn A, Powe NR. Small area variations in health care delivery in Maryland. Health Services Research 1995 Jun;30(2):295-317.

Glickman SW, Krubert C, Koppenhaver J, Glickman LT, Schulman KA, Cairns CB. Increased rate of central venous catheterization procedures in community EDs. American Journal of Emergency Medicine 2010; 28(2):208-12.

Glover JA. The Incidence of Tonsillectomy in School Children: (Section of epidemiology and State Medicine). Proc R Soc Med 1938;31:1219-36.

Goldin AB, Garrison M, Christakis D. Variations between hospitals in antireflux procedures in children. Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine 2009 Jul;163(7):658-63.

Goldsmith B, Dietrich J, Du Q, Morrison RS. Variability in access to hospital palliative care in the United States. Journal of Palliative Medicine 2008 Oct;11(8):1094-102.

Goodman DC. Twenty-year trends in regional variations in the U.S. physician workforce. Health Aff (Millwood) 2004;Suppl Web Exclusives:VAR90-VAR97.

Goodman DC, Fisher ES, Gittelsohn A, Chang CH, Fleming C. Why are children hospitalized? The role of non-clinical factors in pediatric hospitalizations. Pediatrics 1994 Jun;93(6 Pt 1):896-902.

Goodman DC, Fisher ES, Little GA, Stukel TA, Chang CH. The uneven landscape of newborn intensive care services: variation in the neonatology workforce. Effective Clinical Practice 2001 Jul;4(4):143-9.

Goodman DC, Fisher ES, Little GA, Stukel TA, Chang CH, Schoendorf KS. The relation between the availability of neonatal intensive care and neonatal mortality. N Engl J Med 2002;346:1538-44.

Grant MD, Herman S. Ethnic and geographic variation in gastrostomy placement among hospitalized older patients. Journal of the National Medical Association 2004

Oct;96(10):1346-9.

Greer DM, Varelas PN, Haque S, Wijdicks EF. Variability of brain death determination guidelines in leading US neurologic institutions. Neurology 2008 Jan 22;70(4):284-9.

Grossman MD, Reilly PM, Gillett T, Gillett D. National survey of the incidence of cervical spine injury and approach to cervical spine clearance in U.S. trauma centers. Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care 1999 Oct;47(4):684-90.

Gruneir A, Mor V, Weitzen S, Truchil R, Teno J, Roy J, et al. Where people die: a multilevel approach to understanding influences on site of death in America. Medical Care Research & Review 2007 Aug;64(4):351-78.

Halasa NB, Griffin MR, Zhu Y, Edwards KM. Decreased number of antibiotic prescriptions in office-based settings from 1993 to 1999 in children less than five years of age. Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal 2002 Nov;21(11):1023-8.

Harewood GC, Holub JL, Lieberman DA. Biopsy specimen acquisition in patients with newly diagnosed peptic ulcer disease as determined from a national endoscopic database. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy 2004; 59(6):664-9.

Harman JS, Cuffel BJ, Kelleher KJ. Profiling hospitals for length of stay for treatment of psychiatric disorders. Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research 2004 Jan;31(1):66-74.

Harpaz-Rotem I, Leslie D, Rosenheck RA. Treatment retention among children entering a new episode of mental health care. Psychiatric Services 2004 Sep;55(9):1022-8.

Hartley D, Korsen N, Bird D, Agger M. Management of patients with depression by rural primary care practitioners. Archives of Family Medicine 1998 Mar;7(2):139-45.

Hellinger FJ, Fleishman JA. Location, race, and hospital care for AIDS patients: an analysis of 10 states. Inquiry 2001;38(3):319-30.

Hermann RC, Dorwart RA, Hoover CW, Brody J. Variation in ECT use in the United States. American Journal of Psychiatry 1995 Jun;152(6):869-75.

Hermann RC, Ettner SL, Dorwart RA, Hoover CW, Yeung E. Characteristics of psychiatrists who perform ECT. American Journal of Psychiatry 1998 Jul;155(7):889-94.

Hirth RA, Tedeschi PJ, Wheeler JR. Extent and sources of geographic variation in Medicare end-stage renal disease expenditures. American Journal of Kidney Diseases 2001 Oct;38(4):824-31.

Hirth RA, Turenne MN, Woods JD, Young EW, Port FK, Pauly MV, et al. Predictors of type of vascular access in hemodialysis patients. JAMA 1996 Oct 23;276(16):1303-8.

Horner RD, Bennett CL, Achenbach C, Rodriguez D, Adams J, Gilman SC, et al. Predictors of resource utilization for hospitalized patients with Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP): a summary of effects from the multi-city study of quality of PCP care. J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr Hum Retrovirol 1996 Aug 1;12(4):379-85.

Hudspeth MP, Hill TN, Lewis JA, Van Meter E, Ragucci D. Post-hematopoietic stem cell transplant immunization practices in the Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Consortium. Pediatric Blood & Cancer 2010 Jul 1;54(7):970-5.

Iwashyna TJ, Chang VW, Zhang JX, Christakis NA. The lack of effect of market structure on hospice use. Health Services Research 2002 Dec;37(6):1531-51.

Javitt JC, Kendix M, Tielsch JM, Steinwachs DM, Schein OD, Kolb MM, et al. Geographic variation in utilization of cataract surgery. Medical Care 1995 Jan;33(1):90-105.

Joines JD, Hertz-Picciotto I, Carey TS, Gesler W, Suchindran C. A spatial analysis of county-level variation in hospitalization rates for low back problems in North Carolina. Social Science & Medicine 2003 Jun;56(12):2541-53.

Kahn DJ, Richardson DK, Billett HH. Inter-NICU variation in rates and management of thrombocytopenia among very low birth-weight infants. Journal of Perinatology 2003 Jun;23(4):312-6.

Kavanagh PL, Wang CJ, Therrell BL, Sprinz PG, Bauchner H. Communication of positive newborn screening results for sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait: variation across states. American Journal of Medical Genetics. Part C, Seminars in Medical Genetics 2008 Feb 15;148C(1):15-22.

Kemper AR, Wallace DK. Neonatologists' practices and experiences in arranging retinopathy of prematurity screening services. Pediatrics 2007 Sep;120(3):527-31.

Kesselheim JC, Johnson J, Joffe S. Ethics consultation in children's hospitals: results from a survey of pediatric clinical ethicists. Pediatrics 2010 Apr;125(4):742-6.

Khan N, Kaestner R, Salmon JW, Gutierrez B. Does supply influence mammography screening?. American Journal of Health Behavior 2010; 34(4):465-75.

Komaromy M, Lurie N, Osmond D, Vranizan K, Keane D, Bindman AB, et al. Physician practice style and rates of hospitalization for chronic medical conditions. Medical Care 1996 Jun;34(6):594-609.

Kotagal UR, Atherton HD, Eshett R, Schoettker PJ, Perlstein PH. Safety of early discharge for Medicaid newborns. JAMA 1999 Sep 22;282(12):1150-6.

Krakauer H, Jacoby I, Millman M, Lukomnik JE. Physician impact on hospital admission

and on mortality rates in the Medicare population. Health Services Research 1996 Jun;31(2):191-211.

Kramer AA, Zimmerman JE. Institutional variations in frequency of discharge of elderly intensive care survivors to postacute care facilities. Critical Care Medicine 2010 Dec;38(12):2319-28.

Krein SL, Hofer TP, Kerr EA, Hayward RA. Whom should we profile? Examining diabetes care practice variation among primary care providers, provider groups, and health care facilities. Health Services Research 2002 Oct;37(

Kroenke K, Gooby-Toedt D, Jackson JL. Chronic medications in the perioperative period. Southern Medical Journal 1998 Apr;91(4):358-64.

Kuo YF, Goodwin JS. Effect of hospitalists on length of stay in the medicare population: variation according to hospital and patient characteristics. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 2010 Sep;58(9):1649-57.

Lackan NA, Eschbach K, Stimpson JP, Freeman JL, Goodwin JS. Ethnic differences in in-hospital place of death among older adults in California: effects of individual and contextual characteristics and medical resource supply. Medic

Laditka SB, Laditka JN. Geographic variation in preventable hospitalization of older women and men: implications for access to primary health care. Journal of Women & Aging 1999;11(4):43-56.

Lander L, Lu S, Shah RK. Pediatric retropharyngeal abscesses: a national perspective. International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology 2008 Dec;72(12):1837-43.

Larimore WL, Davis A. Relation of infant mortality to the availability of maternity care in rural Florida. Journal of the American Board of Family Practice 1995 Sep;8(5):392-9.

Leape LL, Park RE, Solomon DH, Chassin MR, Kosecoff J, Brook RH, et al. Does inappropriate use explain small-area variations in the use of health care services? JAMA 1990 Feb 2;263(5):669-72.

Leon SC, Snowden J, Bryant FB, Lyons JS. The hospital as predictor of children's and adolescents' length of stay. Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry 2006 Mar;45(3):322-8.

Lewis CW, Carron JD, Perkins JA, Sie KC, Feudtner C. Tracheotomy in pediatric patients: a national perspective. Archives of Otolaryngology -- Head & Neck Surgery 2003 May;129(5):523-9.

Lightdale JR, Mahoney LB, Schwarz SM, Liacouras CA. Methods of sedation in pediatric endoscopy: a survey of NASPGHAN members. Journal of Pediatric

Gastroenterology & Nutrition 2007 Oct;45(4):500-2.

Lin SJ, Crawford SY, Lurvey PL. Trend and area variation in amphetamine prescription usage among children and adolescents in Michigan. Social Science & Medicine 2005 Feb;60(3):617-26.

Lorch SA, Baiocchi M, Silber JH, Even-Shoshan O, Escobar GJ, Small DS, et al. The role of outpatient facilities in explaining variations in risk-adjusted readmission rates between hospitals. Health Services Research 2010 Feb;45(1):24-41.

Lowe RA, Fu R, Ong ET, McGinnis PB, Fagnan LJ, Vuckovic N, et al. Community characteristics affecting emergency department use by Medicaid enrollees. Medical Care 2009 Jan;47(1):15-22.

Lu-Yao GL, McLerran D, Wasson J, Wennberg JE. An assessment of radical prostatectomy. Time trends, geographic variation, and outcomes. The Prostate Patient Outcomes Research Team. JAMA 1993 May 26;269(20):2633-6.

Luckmann R, Melville SK. Periodic health evaluation of adults: a survey of family physicians. Journal of Family Practice 1995; 40(6):547-54.

Luo X, Pietrobon R, Curtis LH, Hey LA. Prescription of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and muscle relaxants for back pain in the United States. Spine 2004 Dec 1;29(23):E531-E537.

MacDougall C, Polk RE. Variability in rates of use of antibacterials among 130 US hospitals and risk-adjustment models for interhospital comparison. Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology 2008 Mar;29(3):203-11.

Madan AK, Harper JL, Tichansky DS. Techniques of laparoscopic gastric bypass: on-line survey of American Society for Bariatric Surgery practicing surgeons. Surgery for Obesity & Related Diseases 2008 Mar;4(2):166-72.

Maheshwari V, Paioli D, Rothaar R, Hill NS. Utilization of noninvasive ventilation in acute care hospitals: a regional survey. Chest 2006 May;129(5):1226-33.

Manchikanti L, Pampati V, Boswell MV, Smith HS, Hirsch JA. Analysis of the growth of epidural injections and costs in the Medicare population: a comparative evaluation of 1997, 2002, and 2006 data. Pain Physician 2010 May;13(1):E23-E54.

Mangus RS, Mann NC, Worrall W, Mullins RJ. Statewide variation in the treatment of patients hospitalized with spleen injury. Archives of Surgery 1999 Dec;134(12):1378-84.

Mark DH, Gottlieb MS, Zellner BB, Chetty VK, Midtling JE. Medicare costs in urban areas and the supply of primary care physicians. Journal of Family Practice 1996 Jul;43(1):33-9.

Marshall JG, Cowell JM, Campbell ES, McNaughton DB. Regional variations in cancer screening rates found in women with diabetes. Nursing Research 2010; 59(1):34-41.

McCormick MC, Escobar GJ, Zheng Z, Richardson DK. Place of birth and variations in management of late preterm ("near-term") infants. Seminars in Perinatology 2006 Feb;30(1):44-7.

McMahon LF, Jr., Wolfe R, Huang S, Tedeschi P, Manning W, Edlund M, et al. Hospitalization for gastrointestinal and liver diseases: the effect of socioeconomic and medical supply factors. Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology 1998 Mar;26(2):101-5.

McPherson K, Wennberg JE, Hovind OB, Clifford P. Small-area variations in the use of common surgical procedures: an international comparison of New England, England, and Norway. N Engl J Med 1982;307:1310-4.

Merrell GA, Gusberg RJ. Infrainguinal bypass conduit: autogenous or synthetic--a national perspective. Vascular & Endovascular Surgery 2002 Jul;36(4):247-54.

Merritt TA, Pillers D, Prows SL. Early NICU discharge of very low birth weight infants: a critical review and analysis. Seminars in Neonatology 2003 Apr;8(2):95-115.

Metlay JP, Shea JA, Asch DA. Antibiotic prescribing decisions of generalists and infectious disease specialists: thresholds for adopting new drug therapies. Medical Decision Making 2002 Nov;22(6):498-505.

Mistry RD, Weisz K, Scott HF, Alpern ER. Emergency management of pediatric skin and soft tissue infections in the community-associated methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus era. Academic Emergency Medicine 2010 Feb:

Mojtabai R. Diagnosing depression and prescribing antidepressants by primary care physicians: the impact of practice style variations. Mental Health Services Research 2002 Jun;4(2):109-18.

Moon PO, Scholten DJ, Scheeres DE. Multi-institutional survey of laparoscopic cholecystectomy. Surgical Laparoscopy & Endoscopy 1993 Feb;3(1):29-34.

Mooney DP, Forbes P. Trends in inpatient pediatric trauma care in new England. Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care 2004 Dec;57(6):1241-5.

Mooney DP, Forbes PW. Variation in the management of pediatric splenic injuries in New England. Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care 2004 Feb;56(2):328-33.

Mooney DP, Rothstein DH, Forbes PW. Variation in the management of pediatric splenic injuries in the United States. Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care 2006 Aug;61(2):330-3.

Morris DS, Miller DC, Hollingsworth JM, Dunn RL, Roberts WW, Wolf JS Jr., Hollenbeck BK. Differential adoption of laparoscopy by treatment indication. Journal of Urology 2007; 178(5):2109-13.

Mudano A, Allison J, Hill J, Rothermel T, Saag K. Variations in glucocorticoid induced osteoporosis prevention in a managed care cohort. Journal of Rheumatology 2001 Jun;28(6):1298-305.

Muehlstedt SG, Pham TQ, Schmeling DJ. The management of pediatric appendicitis: a survey of North American Pediatric Surgeons. Journal of Pediatric Surgery 2004 Jun;39(6):875-9.

Mullins RJ, Diggs BS, Hedges JR, Newgard CD, Arthur M, Adams AL, et al. Regional differences in outcomes for hospitalized injured patients. Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care 2006 Apr;60(4):691-8.

Newman TB, Escobar GJ, Gonzales VM, Armstrong MA, Gardner MN, Folck BF. Frequency of neonatal bilirubin testing and hyperbilirubinemia in a large health maintenance organization. Pediatrics 1999; 104(5 Pt 2):1198-203.

Nguyen GC, LaVeist TA, Gearhart S, Bayless TM, Brant SR. Racial and geographic variations in colectomy rates among hospitalized ulcerative colitis patients. Clinical Gastroenterology & Hepatology 2006 Dec;4(12):1507-13.

Norling RA, McLaughlin DB, Schultz A, Borbas C. The Minnesota Clinical Comparison and Assessment Program: a resource for clinical quality improvement programs. Quality Letter for Healthcare Leaders 1993 Jun;5(5):1

O'Connor PJ, Rush WA, Davidson G, Louis TA, Solberg LI, Crain L, et al. Variation in quality of diabetes care at the levels of patient, physician, and clinic. Preventing Chronic Disease 2008 Jan;5(1):A15.

O'Hare AM, Rodriguez RA, Hailpern SM, Larson EB, Kurella TM. Regional variation in health care intensity and treatment practices for end-stage renal disease in older adults. JAMA 2010 Jul 14;304(2):180-6.

O'Neill L, Kuder J. Explaining variation in physician practice patterns and their propensities to recommend services. Medical Care Research & Review 2005 Jun;62(3):339-57.

Odetola FO, Tilford JM, Davis MM. Variation in the use of intracranial-pressure monitoring and mortality in critically ill children with meningitis in the United States. Pediatrics 2006 Jun;117(6):1893-900.

Olsen Y, Daumit GL, Ford DE. Opioid prescriptions by U.S. primary care physicians from 1992 to 2001. Journal of Pain 2006 Apr;7(4):225-35.

Ornstein S, Stuart G, Jenkins R. Depression diagnoses and antidepressant use in primary care practices: a study from the Practice Partner Research Network (PPRNet). Journal of Family Practice 2000 Jan;49(1):68-72.

Ornstein SM, Jenkins RG. Quality of care for chronic illness in primary care: opportunity for improvement in process and outcome measures. American Journal of Managed Care 1999 May;5(5):621-7.

Owens PL, Zodet MW, Berdahl T, Dougherty D, McCormick MC, Simpson LA, et al. Annual report on health care for children and youth in the United States: focus on injury-related emergency department utilization and expenditures. Ambulatory Pediatrics 2008 Jul;8(4):219-40.

Pacella SJ, Harkins D, Butz D, Kuzon WM, Jr., Taheri PA. Referral patterns and severity distribution of burn care: implications for burn centers and surgical training. Annals of Plastic Surgery 2005 Apr;54(4):412-9.

Pai CW, Ozcan YA, Jiang HJ. Regional variation in physician practice pattern: an examination of technical and cost efficiency for treating sinusitis. Journal of Medical Systems 2000 Apr;24(2):103-17.

Parker JD, Schoendorf KC. Variation in hospital discharges for ambulatory care-sensitive conditions among children. Pediatrics 2000 Oct;106(4 Suppl):942-8.

Parker L, Levin DC, Frangos A, Rao VM. Geographic variation in the utilization of noninvasive diagnostic imaging: national medicare data, 1998-2007. American Journal of Roentgenology 2010; 194(4):1034-9.

Pasley BH, Lagoe RJ, Marshall NO. Excess acute care bed capacity and its causes: the experience of New York State. Health Services Research 1995 Apr;30(1):115-31.

Paul-Shaheen P, Clark JD, Williams D. Small area analysis: a review and analysis of the North American literature. J Health Polit Policy Law 1987;12:741-809.

Pohl HG, Joyce GF, Wise M, Cilento BG, Jr.. Cryptorchidism and hypospadias. Journal of Urology 2007 May;177(5):1646-51.

Porell F. Geographic variations in hospital discharge rates and discretionary hospital use. Journal of Health Services & Research Policy 1999 Jul;4(3):147-53.

Prendergast TJ, Claessens MT, Luce JM. A national survey of end-of-life care for critically ill patients. American Journal of Respiratory & Critical Care Medicine 1998 Oct;158(4):1163-7.

Pritchard RS, Fisher ES, Teno JM, Sharp SM, Reding DJ, Knaus WA, et al. Influence of patient preferences and local health system characteristics on the place of death.

SUPPORT Investigators. Study to Understand Prognoses and Preferences for Risks and Outcomes of Treatment. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 1998 Oct;46(10):1242-50.

Randolph G, Fried B, Loeding L, Margolis P, Lannon C. Organizational characteristics and preventive service delivery in private practices: a peek inside the "black box" of private practices caring for children. Pediatrics 2005 Jun;115(6):1704-11

Rao VM, Parker L, Levin DC, Sunshine J, Bushee G. Use trends and geographic variation in neuroimaging: nationwide medicare data for 1993 and 1998. American Journal of Neuroradiology 2001; 22(9):1643-9.

Rapoport J, Teres D, Steingrub J, Higgins T, McGee W, Lemeshow S, et al. Patient characteristics and ICU organizational factors that influence frequency of pulmonary artery catheterization. JAMA 2000 May 17;283(19):2559-67.

Rasu RS, Jayawant SS, Abercrombie M, Balkrishnan R. Treatment of anemia among women with chronic kidney disease in United States outpatient settings. Womens Health Issues 2009 May;19(3):211-9.

Rawal PH, Lyons JS, MacIntyre JC, Hunter JC. Regional variation and clinical indicators of antipsychotic use in residential treatment: a four-state comparison. Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research 2004 Apr;31(2):178-88.

Ray MN, Wall T, Casebeer L, Weissman N, Spettell C, Abdolrasulnia M, et al. Chlamydia screening of at-risk young women in managed health care: characteristics of top-performing primary care offices. Sexually Transmitted Diseases 2005 Jun;32(6):382-6.

Restuccia J, Shwartz M, Ash A, Payne S. High hospital admission rates and inappropriate care. Health Affairs 1996;15(4):156-63.

Rex DK, Lappas JC, Maglinte DD, Kelvin FM. Barium enema utilization within a defined geographic region: a survey. Gastrointestinal Radiology 1990;15(3):265-7.

Ricketts TC, Randolph R, Howard HA, Pathman D, Carey T. Hospitalization rates as indicators of access to primary care. Health & Place 2001 Mar;7(1):27-38.

Rohrer JE, Vaughan M. Monitoring health care system performance in Iowa. Health Services Management Research 1997 May;10(2):107-12.

Rosenbach ML, Hermann RC, Dorwart RA. Use of electroconvulsive therapy in the Medicare population between 1987 and 1992. Psychiatric Services 1997 Dec;48(12):1537-42.

Rosenheck R, Astrachan B. Regional variation in patterns of inpatient psychiatric care.

American Journal of Psychiatry 1990 Sep;147(9):1180-3.

Rosenheck R, Stolar M. Access to public mental health services: determinants of population coverage. Medical Care 1998 Apr;36(4):503-12.

Rosenthal GE, Harper DL, Shah A, Covinsky KE. A regional evaluation of variation in low-severity hospital admissions. Journal of General Internal Medicine 1997 Jul;12(7):416-22.

Rosenthal MB, Zaslavsky A, Newhouse JP. The geographic distribution of physicians revisited. Health Services Research 2005 Dec;40(6 Pt 1):1931-52.

Rothbard A, Murrin MR, Jordan N, Kuno E, McFarland BH, Stroup TS, et al. Effects of antipsychotic medication on psychiatric service utilization and cost. The Journal of Mental Health Policy & Economics 2005 Jun;8(2):83-93.

Rothberg MB, Pekow PS, Liu F, Korc-Grodzicki B, Brennan MJ, Bellantonio S, et al. Potentially inappropriate medication use in hospitalized elders. Journal of Hospital Medicine (Online) 2008 Mar;3(2):91-102.

Saini SD, Eisen G, Mattek N, Schoenfeld P. Utilization of upper endoscopy for surveillance of gastric ulcers in the United States. American Journal of Gastroenterology 2008 Aug;103(8):1920-5.

Samkoff JS, Wu B. Laparoscopic and open cholecystectomy outcomes in Medicare beneficiaries in member states of the Large State PRO Consortium. American Journal of Medical Quality 1995;10(4):183-9.

Sanders MR, Donohue PK, Oberdorf MA, Rosenkrantz TS, Allen MC. Impact of the perception of viability on resource allocation in the neonatal intensive care unit. Journal of Perinatology 1998 Sep;18(5):347-51.

Schechter S, Mulvey J, Eisenstat TE. Management of uncomplicated acute diverticulitis: results of a survey. Diseases of the Colon & Rectum 1999 Apr;42(4):470-5.

Schein OD, Steinberg EP, Javitt JC, Cassard SD, Tielsch JM, Steinwachs DM, et al. Variation in cataract surgery practice and clinical outcomes. Ophthalmology 1994 Jun;101(6):1142-52.

Schneeweiss S, Glynn RJ, Avorn J, Solomon DH. A Medicare database review found that physician preferences increasingly outweighed patient characteristics as determinants of first-time prescriptions for COX-2 inhibitors. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology 2005 Jan;58(1):98-102.

Selby JV, Grumbach K, Quesenberry CP, Jr., Schmittdiel JA, Truman AF. Differences in resource use and costs of primary care in a large HMO according to physician specialty.

Health Serv Res 1999;34:503-18.

Shackford SR, Cook A, Rogers FB, Littenberg B, Osler T. The increasing use of vena cava filters in adult trauma victims: data from the American College of Surgeons National Trauma Data Bank. Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care 2007 Oct;63(4):764-9.

Shah ND, Montori VM, Krumholz HM, Tu K, Alexander GC, Jackevicius CA, et al. Responding to an FDA warning--geographic variation in the use of rosiglitazone. New England Journal of Medicine 2010 Nov 25;363(22):2081-4.

Shah RK, Arjmand E, Roberson DW, Deutsch E, Derkay C. Variation in surgical timeout and site marking within pediatric otolaryngology. Archives of Otolaryngology --Head & Neck Surgery 2011 Jan;137(1):69-73.

Shavit I, Leder M, Cohen DM. Sedation provider practice variation: a survey analysis of pediatric emergency subspecialists and fellows. Pediatric Emergency Care 2010 Oct;26(10):742-7.

Showstack J, Katz PP, Lake JR, Brown RS, Jr., Dudley RA, Belle S, et al. Resource utilization in liver transplantation: effects of patient characteristics and clinical practice. NIDDK Liver Transplantation Database Group. JAMA 1999 Apr 21;281(15):1381-6.

Silber JH, Kaestner R, Even-Shoshan O, Wang Y, Bressler LJ. Aggressive treatment style and surgical outcomes. Health Services Research 2010 Dec;45(6 Pt 2):1872-92.

Silver MP, Babitz ME, Magill MK. Ambulatory care sensitive hospitalization rates in the aged Medicare population in Utah, 1990 to 1994: a rural-urban comparison. Journal of Rural Health 1997;13(4):285-94.

Singh N, Harrison M, Rex DK. A survey of colonoscopic polypectomy practices among clinical gastroenterologists. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy 2004 Sep;60(3):414-8.

Solberg LI, Kottke TE, Brekke ML. Variation in clinical preventive services. Effective Clinical Practice 2001 May;4(3):121-6.

Spiegel B, Bolus R, Desai AA, Zagar P, Parker T, Moran J, et al. Dialysis practices that distinguish facilities with below-versus above-expected mortality. Clinical Journal of The American Society of Nephrology: CJASN 2010 Nov;5(11):2024-33.

Spiegel BM, Ho W, Esrailian E, Targan S, Higgins PD. Controversies in ulcerative colitis: a survey comparing decision making of experts versus community gastroenterologists. Clinical Gastroenterology & Hepatology 174 Feb;7(2):168-74.

Stafford RS, Blumenthal D, Pasternak RC. Variations in cholesterol management practices of U.S. physicians. Journal of the American College of Cardiology 1997

Jan;29(1):139-46.

Stafford RS, Saglam D, Causino N, Blumenthal D. Low rates of hormone replacement in visits to United States primary care physicians. American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology 1997 Aug;177(2):381-7.

Stange KC, Flocke SA, Goodwin MA, Kelly RB, Zyzanski SJ. Direct observation of rates of preventive service delivery in community family practice. Preventive Medicine 2000 Aug;31(2 Pt 1):167-76.

Stein MD, O'Sullivan P, Rubenstein L, Weller P, Wachtel T. The ambulatory care of HIV-infected persons: a survey of physician practice patterns. Journal of General Internal Medicine 1992 Mar;7(2):180-6.

Steinberg EP, Bass EB, Luthra R, Schein OD, Sharkey P, Javitt J, et al. Variation in ophthalmic testing before cataract surgery. Results of a national survey of ophthalmologists. Archives of Ophthalmology 1994 Jul;112(7):896-902.

Steinman MA, Yang KY, Byron SC, Maselli JH, Gonzales R. Variation in outpatient antibiotic prescribing in the United States. American Journal of Managed Care 2009 Dec;15(12):861-8.

Stover BH, Shulman ST, Bratcher DF, Brady MT, Levine GL, Jarvis WR, et al. Nosocomial infection rates in US children's hospitals' neonatal and pediatric intensive care units. American Journal of Infection Control 2001 Jun;29(3):152-7.

Stylianos S, Ford HR. Outcomes in pediatric trauma care. Seminars in Pediatric Surgery 2008 May;17(2):110-5.

Stylioanos S. Evidence-based guidelines for resource utilization in children with isolated spleen or liver injury. The APSA Trauma Committee. Stylianos S. Journal of Pediatric Surgery 2000; 35(2):164-7.

Sureka A, Parada JP, Deloria-Knoll M, Chmiel JS, Phan L, Lyons TM, et al. HIV-related pneumonia care in older patients hospitalized in the early HAART era. AIDS Patient Care & Stds 2004 Feb;18(2):99-107.

Tedeschi PJ, Wolfe RA, Griffith JR. Micro-area variation in hospital use. Health Services Research 1990 Feb;24(6):729-40.

Thamer M, Zhang Y, Kaufman J, Stefanik K, Cotter DJ. Factors influencing route of administration for epoetin treatment among hemodialysis patients in the United States. American Journal of Kidney Diseases 2006 Jul;48(1):77-87.

Tieder JS, Cowan CA, Garrison MM, Christakis DA. Variation in inpatient resource utilization and management of apparent life-threatening events. Journal of Pediatrics 635

May;152(5):629-35.

Tieder JS, Robertson A, Garrison MM. Pediatric hospital adherence to the standard of care for acute gastroenteritis. Pediatrics 2009 Dec;124(6):e1081-e1087.

Valenstein PN, Walsh MK, Meier F, College of American Pathologists. Heparin monitoring and patient safety: a College of American Pathologists Q-Probes study of 3431 patients at 140 institutions. Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2004; 128(4):397-402.

Virnig BA, Kind S, McBean M, Fisher E. Geographic variation in hospice use prior to death. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 2000 Sep;48(9):1117-25.

Vivier PM, Hogan JW, Simon P, Leddy T, Dansereau LM, Alario AJ. A statewide assessment of lead screening histories of preschool children enrolled in a Medicaid managed care program. Pediatrics 2001; 108(2):E29.

Vogeli C, Kang R, Landrum MB, Hasnain-Wynia R, Weissman JS. Quality of care provided to individual patients in US hospitals: results from an analysis of national Hospital Quality Alliance data. Medical Care 2009 May;47(5):591-9.

Volinn E, Turczyn KM, Loeser JD. Patterns in low back pain hospitalizations: implications for the treatment of low back pain in an era of health care reform. Clinical Journal of Pain 1994 Mar;10(1):64-70.

Wald HL, Epstein AM, Radcliff TA, Kramer AM. Extended use of urinary catheters in older surgical patients: a patient safety problem? Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology 2008 Feb;29(2):116-24.

Wall TC, Senicz E, Evans HH, Woolley A, Hardin JM. Hearing screening practices among a national sample of primary care pediatricians. Clinical Pediatrics 2006; 45(6):559-66.

Walsh-Sukys MC, Tyson JE, Wright LL, Bauer CR, Korones SB, Stevenson DK, et al. Persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn in the era before nitric oxide: practice variation and outcomes. Pediatrics 2000 Jan;105(1 Pt 1):14-20.

Wan TT. Hospital variations in adverse patient outcomes. Quality Assurance & Utilization Review 1992;7(2):50-3.

Wang NE, Saynina O, Kuntz-Duriseti K, Mahlow P, Wise PH, Wang NE, et al. Variability in pediatric utilization of trauma facilities in California: 1999 to 2005. Annals of Emergency Medicine 2008 Dec;52(6):607-15.

Weiner JP, Starfield BH, Powe NR, Stuart ME, Steinwachs DM. Ambulatory care practice variation within a Medicaid program. Health Services Research 1996

Feb;30(6):751-70.

Welch HG, Miller ME, Welch WP. Physician profiling. An analysis of inpatient practice patterns in Florida and Oregon. N Engl J Med 1994;330:607-12.

Welch WP, Miller ME, Welch HG, Fisher ES, Wennberg JE. Geographic variation in expenditures for physicians' services in the United States. N Engl J Med 1993;328:621-7.

Welch HG, Sharp SM, Gottlieb DJ, Skinner JS, Wennberg JE. Geographic variation in diagnosis frequency and risk of death among Medicare beneficiaries. JAMA 2011;305:1113-8.

Weller WE, Rosati C. Regional variations in gastric bypass surgery: results from the 2005 nationwide inpatient sample. Obesity Surgery 2008; 18(10):1225-32.

Wennberg JE. Small area analysis and the medical care outcome problem. In: Sechrest L, Perrin E, Bunker J, editors. Research Methodology: Strengthening Causal Interpretations of Nonexperimental Data. Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1990: 177-206.

Wennberg JE, Barnes BA, Zubkoff M. Professional uncertainty and the problem of supplier-induced demand. Soc Sci Med 1982;16:811-24.

Wennberg JE, Fisher ES, Skinner JS, Wennberg JE, Fisher ES, Skinner JS. Geography and the debate over Medicare reform. Health Affairs 2002;Suppl Web Exclusives:W96-114.

Wennberg JE, Fisher ES, Stukel TA, Skinner JS, Sharp SM, Bronner KK, et al. Use of hospitals, physician visits, and hospice care during last six months of life among cohorts loyal to highly respected hospitals in the United States. BMJ 2004 Mar 13;328(7440): 607.

Wennberg JE, Gittelsohn AM. Small area variations in health care delivery. Science 1973;182:1102-8.

Wennberg J, Gittelsohn A. Variations in medical care among small areas. Sci Am 1982;246:120-34.

Wennberg JE, McPherson K, Caper P. Will payment based on diagnosis-related groups control hospital costs? N Engl J Med 1984;311:295-300.

Wigton RS, Longenecker JC, Bryan TJ, Parenti C, Flach SD, Tape TG, et al. Variation by specialty in the treatment of urinary tract infection in women. Journal of General Internal Medicine 1999 Aug;14(8):491-4.

Wilson IB, Landon BE, Ding L, Zaslavsky AM, Shapiro MF, Bozzette SA, et al. A

national study of the relationship of care site HIV specialization to early adoption of highly active antiretroviral therapy. Medical Care 2005 Jan;43(1):12-20.

Wittler RR, Cain KK, Bass JW. A survey about management of febrile children without source by primary care physicians. Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal 1998 Apr;17(4):271-7.

Woolf SK, Gross RH. Perceptions of allograft safety and efficacy among spinal deformity surgeons. Journal of Pediatric Orthopedics 2001 Nov;21(6):767-71.

Wunsch H, Kahn JM, Kramer AA, Wagener G, Li G, Sladen RN, et al. Dexmedetomidine in the care of critically ill patients from 2001 to 2007: an observational cohort study. Anesthesiology 2010 Aug;113(2):386-94.

Yoon J, Bruckner TA. Does deinstitutionalization increase suicide? Health Services Research 2009 Aug;44(4):1385-405.

Zerzan J, Benton K, Linnebur S, O'Bryant C, Kutner J. Variation in pain medication use in end-of-life care. Journal of Palliative Medicine 2010 May;13(5):501-4.

Zhang Y, Baicker K, Newhouse JP. Geographic variation in Medicare drug spending. New England Journal of Medicine 2010 Jul 29;363(5):405-9.

Zhang Y, Baicker K, Newhouse JP. Geographic variation in the quality of prescribing. New England Journal of Medicine 2010; 363(21):1985-8.

Zilberberg MD, Shorr AF, Kollef MH, Zilberberg MD, Shorr AF, Kollef MH. Growth and geographic variation in hospitalizations with resistant infections, United States, 2000-2005. Emerging Infectious Diseases 2008 Nov;14(11):1756-8.

Zingmond DS, Wenger NS. Regional and institutional variation in the initiation of early do-not-resuscitate orders. Archives of Internal Medicine 2005 Aug 8;165(15):1705-12.

Multi-Country

Autier P, Ait Ouakrim D. Determinants of the number of mammography units in 31 countries with significant mammography screening. British Journal of Cancer 2008; 99(7):1185-90.

Bailie GR, Mason NA, Elder SJ, Andreucci VE, Greenwood RN, Akiba T, et al. Large variations in prescriptions of gastrointestinal medications in hemodialysis patients on three continents: the Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (DOPPS). Hemodialysis International 2006 Apr;10(2):180-8.

Bauer M, Monz BU, Montejo AL, Quail D, Dantchev N, Demyttenaere K, et al.

Prescribing patterns of antidepressants in Europe: results from the Factors Influencing Depression Endpoints Research (FINDER) study. European Psychiatry: the Journal of the Association of European Psychiatrists 2008 Jan;23(1):66-73.

Beale R, Janes JM, Brunkhorst FM, Dobb G, Levy MM, Martin GS, et al. Global utilization of low-dose corticosteroids in severe sepsis and septic shock: a report from the PROGRESS registry. Critical Care (London, England) 2010;14(3):R102.

Boffa MJ. Methotrexate for psoriasis: current European practice. A postal survey. Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology 2005 Mar;19(2):196-202.

Bragg-Gresham JL, Fissell RB, Mason NA, Bailie GR, Gillespie BW, Wizemann V, et al. Diuretic use, residual renal function, and mortality among hemodialysis patients in the Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Pattern Study (DOPPS). American Journal of Kidney Diseases 2007 Mar;49(3):426-31.

Chadwick R, ten Have H, Husted J, Levitt M, McGleenan T, Shickle D, Wiesing U. Genetic screening and ethics: European perspectives. Journal of Medicine & Philosophy 1998; 23(3):255-73.

Coker R, Bell A, Pitman R, Zellweger JP, Heldal E, Hayward A et al. Tuberculosis screening in migrants in selected European countries shows wide disparities. European Respiratory Journal 2006; 27(4):801-7.

Cornu JN, Cussenot O, Haab F, Lukacs B. A widespread population study of actual medical management of lower urinary tract symptoms related to benign prostatic hyperplasia across Europe and beyond official clinical guidelines. European Urology 2010 Sep;58(3):450-6.

Elseviers MM, Ferech M, Vander Stichele RH, Goossens H; ESAC project group. Antibiotic use in ambulatory care in Europe (ESAC data 1997-2002): trends, regional differences and seasonal fluctuations. Pharmacoepidemiology & Drug Safety 2007 Jan;16(1):115-23.

Ethier J, Bragg-Gresham JL, Piera L, Akizawa T, Asano Y, Mason N, et al. Aspirin prescription and outcomes in hemodialysis patients: the Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (DOPPS). American Journal of Kidney Diseases 2007 Oct;50(4):602-11.

Ethier J, Mendelssohn DC, Elder SJ, Hasegawa T, Akizawa T, Akiba T, et al. Vascular access use and outcomes: an international perspective from the Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study. Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation 2008 Oct;23(10):3219-26.

Fergusson D, Blair A, Henry D, Hisashige A, Huet C, Koopman-van GA, et al. Technologies to minimize blood transfusion in cardiac and orthopedic surgery. Results of a practice variation survey in nine countries. International Study of Peri-operative Transfusion (ISPOT) Investigators. International Journal of Technology Assessment in

Health Care 1999;15(4):717-28.

Filmer D, Pritchett L. The impact of public spending on health: does money matter?. Social Science & Medicine 1999 Nov;49(10):1309-23.

Fissell RB, Bragg-Gresham JL, Gillespie BW, Goodkin DA, Bommer J, Saito A, et al. International variation in vitamin prescription and association with mortality in the Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (DOPPS). American Journal of Kidney Diseases 2004 Aug;44(2):293-9.

Hansen S, Schwab F, Behnke M, Carsauw H, Heczko P, Klavs I, et al. National influences on catheter-associated bloodstream infection rates: practices among national surveillance networks participating in the European HELICS project. Journal of Hospital Infection 2009 Jan;71(1):66-73.

Harris JK, Vader JP, Wietlisbach V, Burnand B, Gonvers JJ, Froehlich F; Epage Study Group. Variations in colonoscopy practice in Europe: a multicentre descriptive study (EPAGE). Scandinavian Journal of Gastroenterology 2007; 42(1):126-34.

Horbar JD, Badger GJ, Lewit EM, Rogowski J, Shiono PH. Hospital and patient characteristics associated with variation in 28-day mortality rates for very low birth weight infants. Vermont Oxford Network. Pediatrics 1997 Feb;99(2):149-56.

Houttekier D, Cohen J, Bilsen J, Addington-Hall J, Onwuteaka-Philipsen BD, Deliens L. Place of death of older persons with dementia. A study in five European countries. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 2010 Apr;58(4):751-6.

Kalaitzakis E, Panos M, Sadik R, Aabakken L, Koumi A, Meenan J. Clinicians' attitudes towards endoscopic ultrasound: a survey of four European countries. Scandinavian Journal of Gastroenterology 2009; 44(1):100-7.

Kelley E. Health, spending and the effort to improve quality in OECD countries: a review of the data. Journal of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health 2007 Mar;127(2):64-71.

Lambie M, Rayner HC, Bragg-Gresham JL, Pisoni RL, Andreucci VE, Canaud B, et al. Starting and withdrawing haemodialysis--associations between nephrologists' opinions, patient characteristics and practice patterns (data from the Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study). Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation 2006 Oct;21(10):2814-20.

Lecrubier Y. Prescribing patterns for depression and anxiety worldwide. Journal of Clinical Psychiatry 2001;62 Suppl 13:31-6.

Lee SJ, Joffe S, Artz AS, Champlin RE, Davies SM, Jagasia M, et al. Individual physician practice variation in hematopoietic cell transplantation. Journal of Clinical Oncology 2008 May 1;26(13):2162-70.

Legido-Quigley H, Passarani I, Knai C, Busse R, Palm W, Wismar M, et al. Cross-border healthcare in the European Union: clarifying patients' rights. BMJ 2011;342:d296.

Leurquin P, Van Casteren V, De Maeseneer J. Use of blood tests in general practice: a collaborative study in eight European countries. Eurosentinel Study Group. British Journal of General Practice 1995 Jan;45(390):21-5.

Loiseau PJ. Clinical experience with new antiepileptic drugs: antiepileptic drugs in Europe. Epilepsia 1999;40 Suppl 6:S3-S8.

Lopes AA, Albert JM, Young EW, Satayathum S, Pisoni RL, Andreucci VE, et al. Screening for depression in hemodialysis patients: associations with diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes in the DOPPS. Kidney International 2004 Nov;66(5):2047-53.

Lundstrom M, Barry P, Leite E, Seward H, Stenevi U. 1998 European Cataract Outcome Study: report from the European Cataract Outcome Study Group. Journal of Cataract & Refractive Surgery 2001 Aug;27(8):1176-84.

Matsumoto M, Inoue K, Farmer J, Inada H, Kajii E. Geographic distribution of primary care physicians in Japan and Britain. Health & Place 2010 Jan;16(1):164-6.

McCrone P, Lorusso P. A comparison of psychiatric casemix in the UK and Italy. Social Psychiatry & Psychiatric Epidemiology 1999 Aug;34(8):432-6.

McKenzie JK, Moss AH, Feest TG, Stocking CB, Siegler M. Dialysis decision making in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States. American Journal of Kidney Diseases 1998 Jan;31(1):12-8.

Merguerian PA, Herz D, McQuiston L, Van Bibber M, Variation among pediatric urologists and across 2 continents in antibiotic prophylaxis and evaluation for prenatally detected hydronephrosis: a survey of American and European pediatric urologists. Journal of Urology 2010 Oct;184(4 Suppl):1710-5.

Nilsson P, Enblad P, Chambers I, Citerio G, Fiddes H, Howells T, et al. Survey of traumatic brain injury management in European Brain-IT centres year 2001. Acta Neurochirurgica - Supplement 2005;95:51-3.

Norregaard JC, Bernth-Petersen P, Alonso J, Andersen TF, Anderson GF. Visual functional outcomes of cataract surgery in the United States, Canada, Denmark, and Spain: report of the International Cataract Surgery Outcomes Study. Journal of Cataract & Refractive Surgery 2003 Nov;29(11):2135-42.

Norregaard JC, Bernth-Petersen P, Bellan L, Alonso J, Black C, Dunn E, et al. Intraoperative clinical practice and risk of early complications after cataract extraction in the United States, Canada, Denmark, and Spain. Ophthalmology 1999 Jan;106(1):42-8.

Norregaard JC, Schein OD, Anderson GF, Alonso J, Dunn E, Black C, et al. International variation in ophthalmologic management of patients with cataracts. Results from the International Cataract Surgery Outcomes Study. Archives of Ophthalmology 1997 Mar;115(3):399-403

Oh EH, Imanaka Y, Evans E. Determinants of the diffusion of computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care 2005; 21(1):73-80.

Or Z, Wang J, Jamison D. International differences in the impact of doctors on health: a multilevel analysis of OECD countries. Journal of Health Economics 2005 May;24(3):531-60.

Pariente A, Helmer C, Merliere Y, Moore N, Fourrier-Reglat A, Dartigues JF, et al. Prevalence of cholinesterase inhibitors in subjects with dementia in Europe. Pharmacoepidemiology & Drug Safety 2008 Jul;17(7):655-60.

Pichichero ME. Diagnostic accuracy of otitis media and tympanocentesis skills assessment among pediatricians. European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases 2003 Sep;22(9):519-24.

Pisoni RL, Bragg-Gresham JL, Young EW, Akizawa T, Asano Y, Locatelli F, et al. Anemia management and outcomes from 12 countries in the Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (DOPPS). American Journal of Kidney Diseases 2004 Jul;44(1):94-111.

Rogowski JA, Horbar JD, Staiger DO, Kenny M, Carpenter J, Geppert J, et al. Indirect vs direct hospital quality indicators for very low-birth-weight infants. JAMA 2004 Jan 14;291(2):202-9.

Sanz E, Hernandez MA, Kumari M, Ratchina S, Stratchounsky L, Peire MA, et al. Pharmacological treatment of acute otitis media in children. A comparison among seven locations: Tenerife, Barcelona and Valencia (Spain), Toulouse (France), Smolensk (Russia), Bratislava (Slovakia) and Sofia (Bulgaria). European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 2004 Mar;60(1):37-43.

Satayathum S, Pisoni RL, McCullough KP, Merion RM, Wikstrom B, Levin N, et al. Kidney transplantation and wait-listing rates from the international Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (DOPPS). Kidney International 2005 Jul;68(1):330-7.

Schneider K, Kruger-Stollfuss I, Ernst G. Kohn MM. Paediatric fluoroscopy--a survey of children's hospitals in Europe. I. Staffing, frequency of fluoroscopic procedures and investigation technique. Pediatric Radiology 2001;31(4):238-46

Seifert B, Rubin G, de Wit N, Lionis C, Hall N, Hungin P, et al. The management of common gastrointestinal disorders in general practice A survey by the European Society

for Primary Care Gastroenterology (ESPCG) in six European countries. Digestive & Liver disease 2008 Aug;40(8):659-66.

Tice AD. International outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy. International Journal of Clinical Practice 2000 Dec; Supplement. (115):26.

Uchino S, Bellomo R, Morimatsu H, Morgera S, Schetz M, Tan I, et al. Continuous renal replacement therapy: a worldwide practice survey. The beginning and ending supportive therapy for the kidney (B.E.S.T. kidney) investigators. Intensive Care Medicine 2007 Sep;33(9):1563-70.

van Noordt M, van der Zee J, Groenewegen PP. Regional variation in hospital admission rates in The Netherlands, Belgium, northern France, Nordrhein-Westfalen. Gesundheitswesen 1992 Apr;54(4):173-8.

Vincent JL. Forgoing life support in western European intensive care units: the results of an ethical questionnaire. Critical Care Medicine 1999 Aug;27(8):1626-33.

Walsh MG, Zgibor J, Borch-Johnsen K, Orchard TJ; DiaComp Investigators. A multinational assessment of complications in type 1 diabetes: the DiaMond substudy of complications (DiaComp) level 1. Diabetes & Vascular Disease Research 2006; 3(2):84-92.

Westert GP, Lagoe RJ, Keskimaki I, Leyland A, Murphy M. An international study of hospital readmissions and related utilization in Europe and the USA. Health Policy 2002 Sep;61(3):269-78.

Wunsch H, Angus DC, Harrison DA, Collange O, Fowler R, Hoste EA, et al. Variation in critical care services across North America and Western Europe. Critical Care Medicine 2008 Sep 1;36(10):2787-93.

Zito JM, Tobi H, de Jong-van den Berg LT, Fegert JM, Safer DJ, Janhsen K, et al. Antidepressant prevalence for youths: a multi-national comparison. Pharmacoepidemiology & Drug Safety 2006 Nov;15(11):793-8.

Zullino D, Mayland G, Schmidt LG, Fahndrich E, Greil W, Horvath A, et al. Prescribing practices in German and Swiss psychiatric university and in non-university hospitals: national differences. International Journal of Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics 2005 Jul;43(7):339-49.

Atlases

Australia & New Zealand

National Health Performance Authority. MyHospitals. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.myhospitals.gov.au/.

National Health Performance Authority. MyHealthyCommunities. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/.

National Health Performance Authority. Healthy communities: Australians' experiences with access to health care in 2011-2012. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications.

National Health Performance Authority. Healthy communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2011-12. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications.

National Health Performance Authority. Healthy communities: Australians' experiences with primary health care in 2010-11. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications.

National Health Performance Authority. Child immunisation rates: Medicare local catchments, 2011-12. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.nhpa.gov.au/internet/nhpa/publishing.nsf/Content/Child-immunisation-rates-Medicare-Local-catchments-2011-12.

National Health Performance Authority. Child immunisation rates: Postcode level data, 2011-12. Accessed August 2, 2013 at

http://www.nhpa.gov.au/internet/nhpa/publishing.nsf/Content/Child-immunisation-rates-Postcode-level-data-2011-12.

NSW Government. New South Wales Health Care Atlas. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www0.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2010/nsw health care atlas.html.

Australian National University. National Centre for Geographic and Resource Analysis in Primary Health Care (GRAPHC). Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://aphcri.anu.edu.au/research-program/national-centre-geographic-resource-analysis-primary-health-care-graphc.

Australian Bureau of Statistics. Mortality atlas reveals higher death rates in remote Australia. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/3318.0.

University of Adelaide Public Health Information Development Unit. National atlases and graphics. Accessed August 4, 2013 at http://www.publichealth.gov.au/.

University of Auckland School of Population Health. Cardiovascular Disease Medication Dispensed in the Auckland Region. Accessed August 2, 2013 at

Australia & New Zealand

http://view.ac.nz/ALK CVD Treatment RadarChart/.

Health Quality and Safety Commission New Zealand. Atlas of Healthcare Variation. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.hqsc.govt.nz/our-programmes/health-quality-evaluation/projects/atlas-of-healthcare-variation/.

University of Auckland Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. Lipid Testing among Adults with Cardiovascular Disease in the Auckland Region. Accessed August 4, 2013 at http://view.ac.nz/ALK LipidTest CVD AreaProfile/.

Canada

Cancer Surgery in Ontario: ICES Atlas. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2008.

CCORT Canadian Cardiovascular Atlas. Toronto: Pulsus Group Inc. and Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2006.

Arthritis and Related Conditions in Ontario: ICES Research Atlas. 2nd ed. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2004.

Access to Health Services in Ontario: ICES Atlas. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2005.

Diabetes in Ontario: An ICES Practice Atlas. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2003.

Patterns of Health Care in Ontario: The ICES Practice Atlas. 2nd ed. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 1996.

Primary care in Ontario: ICES Atlas. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2006.

Foster LT, Keller CP. The British Columbia Atlas of Wellness, First Edition. Victoria: Western Geographic Press, 2007.

Foster LT, Keller CP, McKee B, Ostry A. The British Columbia Atlas of Wellness, Second Edition. Victoria: Western Geographic Press, 2011.

Foster LT, McKee B. The British Columbia Atlas of Youth Health and Behaviour. Victoria: Department of Geography, University of Victoria, 2008.

Fowler J, Cloutier-Fisher D, Keller CP. British Columbia Atlas of Mortality 1989-2002. http://www.geog.uvic.ca/mortality/.

Canada

McGrail KM, Schaub P, Black CD. BC Health Atlas, First Edition. Vancouver: Centre for Health Serivces and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2002.

McGrail KM, Schaub P, Black CD. BC Health Atlas, Second Edition. Vancouver: Centre for Health Serivces and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2004.

McKee B, Foster LT, Keller CP. The British Columbia Atlas of Wellness Seniors Supplement. Victoria: Department of Geography, University of Victoria, 2008.

Morgan SG, Cunningham C, Hanley G, Mooney D. The British Columbia Medical and Hospital Atlas. Vancouver: Centre for Health Serivces and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2009.

Morgan SG, Schaub P, Mooney D, Lam JM, Caetano PA. The British Columbia Rx Atlas, 1st Edition. Vancouver: Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2005.

Morgan SG, Cunningham C, Hanley G, Mooney D. The British Columbia Rx Atlas, 2nd Edition. Vancouver: Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2009.

Morgan SG, McMahon M, Lam JM, Mooney D, Raymond CB. The Canadian Rx Atlas, 1st Edition. Vancouver: Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2005.

Morgan SG, Raymond C, Mooney D, Martin D. The Canadian Rx Atlas, 2nd Edition. Vancouver: Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2008.

Vinden C, Schultz SE, Rabeneck L. ICES Research Atlas: Use of large bowel procedures in Ontario. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, 2004. Watson DE, Krueger H, Mooney D, Black CD. Planning for Renewal: Mapping Primary Health Care in BC. Vancouver: Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2005.

Watson DE, Mooney D, McKendry R, Martin D, Mcleod C, Regan S, Wong S. On the Road to Renewal: Mapping Primary Health Care in BC. Vancouver: Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia, 2009.

Germany

Mangiapane S, Riens B, Schulz M. Die medizinische Versorgung - regional betrachtet [Health care - regional breakdown]. Accessed August 4, 2013 at http://www.versorgungsatlas.de/.

Italy

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. Il Sistema di valutazione della performance delle Societa della Salute/zone-distretto della sanita toscana - Report 2011. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/en/index.php?page=report.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. Il Sistema di valutazione della performance della sanita toscana - Report 2011. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/en/index.php?page=report.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. Il Sistema di valutazione della performance degli ospedali toscani - Report 2011. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/en/index.php?page=report.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. The Performance Evaluation System of Health Care in Tuscany - Report 2010. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/it/index.php?page=report-izs.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. Il Sistema di valutazione della performance della sanita toscana/Societa della salute/zone-distretto - Report 2010. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/it/index.php?page=report.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. Il Sistema di valutazione della performance degli Istituti Zooprofilattici Sperimentali - Report 2010. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/it/index.php?page=report-izs.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. Il Sistema di valutazione della performance dei sistemi sanitari regionali: Basilicata, Liguria, Marche, P.A. Bolzano, P.A. Trento, Toscana, Valle d'Aosta, Umbria - Report 2010. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/it/index.php?page=report-network-regioni.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. Il Sistema di valutazione della performance della sanita toscana - Report 2010. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/it/index.php?page=report.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. Il Sistema di valutazione della performance della sanita nella Provincia Autonoma di Trento - Report 2009. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.meslab.sssup.it/it/index.php?page=report-network-regioni.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. *Il Sistema Di Valutazione Della Performance Delle Societa Della Salute/Zone-Distretto Della Sanitá Toscana - Report 2009*. EDIZIONI ETS, 2009.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. *Il Sistema Di Valutazione Della Performance Della Sanita Toscana - Report 2009*. EDIZIONI ETS, 2009.

Italy

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. *Il Sistema Di Valutazione Della Performance Della Zone-Distretto - Anno 2008.* EDIZIONI ETS, 2008.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. *Il Sistema Di Valutazione Della Performance Della Sanita Toscana - Report 2008.* EDIZIONI ETS, 2008.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. *La Valutazione Della Performance Delle Zone-Distretto Del Sistema Sanitario Toscano: Primi Risultati - Anno 2007*. EDIZIONI ETS, 2007.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. *Il Sistema Di Valutazione Della Performance Della Sanita Toscana - Report 2007*. EDIZIONI ETS, 2007.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. *Il Sistema Di Valutazione Della Performance Della Sanita Toscana - Report 2006.* EDIZIONI ETS, 2006.

Laboratorio MeS della Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa. *Il Sistema Di Valutazione Della Performance Dei Sistemi Sanitari Regionali: Basilicata, Liguria, Marche, P.A. Bolzano, P.A. Trento, Toscana, Umbria - Report 2011.* EDIZIONI ETS, 2011.

Netherlands

Westert GP, Groenewegen PP. Medical practice variations: changing the theoretical approach. *Scand J Public Health.* 1999; 27(3):173-80.

Westert GP, Nieboer AP, Groenewegen PP. Variation in duration of hospital stay between hospitals and between doctors within hospitals. *Soc Sci Med.* 1993; 37(6):833-9.

Nordic

Asbørn A, Storm-Furru I, Nilsen S. *Nasjonalatlas for Norge: Helse [National Atlas of Norway: Health]*. Oslo: Norwegian Mapping Authority, 1996.

Hansen FH, Reitan J, Agnotnes JE, Fylkeskommune H, Datatjeneste NK. *Helse- og levekårsatlas for Hordaland og Noreg [Atlas of Health and Level of Living in the County of Hordaland and Norway]*. Oslo: Hordaland fylkeskommune, 1996.

Norwegian Institute of Public Health. Norhealth. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.norgeshelsa.no/norgeshelsa/.

Northern Norway Regional Health Authority. Helseatlas for Nord-Norge. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.helse-nord.no/helseatlas/category27764.html.

Spain

European Collaboration for Healthcare Optimization. What is the ECHO Project? Accessed August 4, 2013 at http://www.echo-health.eu/.

VPM Atlas Group. Atlas de Variaciones en la Practica Medica en el Sistema Nacional De Salud [Atlas of Variations in Medical Practice in the National Health System]. Accessed August 2, 2013 at http://www.atlasvpm.org/.

U.K.

NHS Right Care. The NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare. London: National Health Service, 2010. Accessed July 19, 2013 at http://www.rightcare.nhs.uk/atlas/qipp_nhsAtlas-LOW_261110c.pdf.

NHS Right Care. The NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare. London: National Health Service, 2011. Accessed July 19, 2013 at http://www.rightcare.nhs.uk/index.php/atlas/atlas-of-variation-2011/.

NHS Right Care. NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare for Children and Young People. London: National Health Service, 2013. Accessed July 19, 2013 at https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B8ePB71diJorT3FRSEdXcmtUWXV0dmFnaVZmV1M4 QQ/edit?usp=drive_web&pli=1. http://www.rightcare.nhs.uk/index.php/atlas/children-and-young-adults/.

NHS Right Care. NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare for People With Diabetes. London: National Health Service, 2012. Accessed July 19, 2013 at https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B8ePB71diJorc2lSVmFibEVIVGM/edit?usp=drive_web &pli=1.

NHS Right Care. NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare for People With Kidney Disease. London: National Health Service, 2012. Accessed July 19, 2013 at https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B8ePB71diJorXzFmTVRrM2RBS0k/edit?usp=drive_we b&pli=1.

NHS Right Care. The NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare for People With Respiratory Disease. London: National Health Service, 2012. Accessed July 19, 2013 at http://www.rightcare.nhs.uk/index.php/atlas/respiratorydisease/.

NHS Right Care. NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare for People With Liver Disease. London: National Health Service, 2013. Accessed July 19, 2013 at https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B8ePB71diJorZ3JHNkZ1OTBZVDA/edit?usp=sharing&pli=1.

The Dartmouth Atlas Project. Cardiac Surgery. The Dartmouth Atlas Project, 2005.

Cronenwett JL, Birkmeyer JD. The Dartmouth Atlas of Vascular Health Care. Chicago, IL: AHA Press, 2000.

Wennberg DE, Dartmouth Atlas of Cardiovascular Health Care Working Group. The Dartmouth Atlas of Cardiovascular Health Care. Chicago, IL: AHA Press, 1999.

The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care - CMS - FDA Collaborative. Spine Surgery. The Dartmouth Atlas Project, 2006.

Keller RB, Atlas SJ, Soule DN, Singer DE, Deyo RA, Keller RB, et al. Relationship between rates and outcomes of operative treatment for lumbar disc herniation and spinal stenosis. Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery - American Volume 1999 Jun;81(6):75

Weinstein JN, Birkmeyer JD. The Dartmouth Atlas of Musculoskeletal Health Care. Chicago, IL: AHA Press, 2000.

Wennberg JE, Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care Working Group. The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care. Chicago, IL: American Hospital Press International, 1996.

Wennberg JE, Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care Working Group. The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care 1998. Hanover, NH: Center for the Evaluative Clinical Sciences, Dartmouth Medical School. 1998.

Wennberg J, Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care Working Group. The Dartmouth atlas of health care 1999. Hanover, NH: American Hospital Press International, 1999.

Wennberg JE, Fisher ES. The care of patients with severe chronic illness: A report on the medicare program; The Dartmouth atlas of healthcare 2006. Lebanon, New Hampshire: The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, 2006.

Wennberg JE, Fisher ES, Goodman DC, Skinner JS. Tracking the care of patients with severe chronic illness: The Dartmouth atlas of health care 2008. Lebanon, New Hampshire: The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, 2008.