

PS1.225

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and physicians

Randolph Quaye

Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, USA

Corresponding author: Associate Professor Randolph Quaye, Ohio Wesleyan University, World Studies, Delaware, OH, USA. E-mail: rkquaye@owu.edu

After almost a century of fashioning a healthcare system for the uninsured in America, Congress in 2010 passed the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care (ACA).

This paper aims to explore the perspectives of Ohio physicians on ACA. While much has been debated about ACA, relatively few studies have focused on how ACA will impact physicians' practice behavior.

Method: The research data come from a mailed survey of 90 randomly selected physicians practicing in Ohio, USA.

Results: Overwhelmingly, while the physicians surveyed were familiar with the specific provisions of ACA, almost half of them opposed it. Primary care physicians reported generally favorable opinions about ACA. All but one, concluded that ACA, much like managed care provisions, has undermined and will continue to reduce the autonomy of physicians.

Conclusion: Study has practical implications for examining how physicians are responding to the new health care reform. It has broader implications for addressing the problem of the uninsured and the role of the federal government in health care provision.