



The Commonwealth Fund is a private foundation that aims to promote a high performing health care system. The Fund carries out this mandate by supporting independent research on health care issues and making grants to improve health care practice and policy. An international program in health policy is designed to stimulate innovative policies and practices in the United States and other industrialized countries.

The Fund's Commission on a High Performance Health System is dedicated to moving the U.S. toward a health care system that achieves better access, improved quality, and greater efficiency, particularly for those who are most vulnerable due to income, race/ethnicity, health, or age.

## The Commonwealth Fund Program on Quality of Care for Underserved Populations

The goal of The Commonwealth Fund's Program on Quality of Care for Underserved Populations is to improve the quality of health care delivered to low-income Americans and members of racial and ethnic minority groups, and to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. The program builds on efforts to improve quality of care overall in the United States, focusing on safety net institutions and other health care settings that serve large numbers of low-income and minority patients. The strategies it pursues include:

- Finding and promoting models of high performance health systems for the underserved that provide accessible, effective, safe, and efficient health care.
- Promoting health care that is culturally competent and patient-centered.
- Supporting the development of public policy that will lead to improvement in health care systems serving minority and low-income populations.

# The Commonwealth Fund Program on Quality of Care for Underserved Populations

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## Selected Publications

A.C. Beal, M.M. Doty, S.E. Hernandez, K. Shea, and K. Davis, *Closing the Divide: How Medical Homes Promote Equity in Health Care*, The Commonwealth Fund, June 2007

J. R. Betancourt, J. S. Weissman, M. K. Kim et al., *Resident Physicians' Preparedness to Provide Cross-Cultural Care: Implications for Clinical Care and Medical Education Policy*, The Commonwealth Fund, May 2007

C. Divi, R. G. Koss, S. P. Schmaltz et al., Language Proficiency and Adverse Events in U.S. Hospitals: A Pilot Study, *International Journal for Quality in Health Care*, April 2007 19(2):60–67

B. E. Landon, L. S. Hicks, A. J. O'Malley et al., Improving the Management of Chronic Disease at Community Health Centers, *New England Journal of Medicine*, March 1, 2007 356(9):921–34

N. Ponce, L. Ku, and W. Cunningham, Language Barriers to Health Care Access Among Medicare Beneficiaries, *Inquiry* Spring 2006 43(1):66–76

M. Youdelman, J. Perkins, J. D. Brooks, and D. Reid, *Providing Language Services in State and Local Health-Related Benefits Offices: Examples From the Field*, The Commonwealth Fund, January 2007

L. S. Hicks, A. J. O'Malley, T. A. Lieu et al., Quality of Chronic Disease Care in Community Health Centers, *Health Affairs* Nov./Dec. 2006 25(6):1712–23

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*Fund publications are available for free download on  
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