



**2019** INTERNATIONAL  
HEALTH POLICY  
Survey of Primary Care Physicians



The  
Commonwealth  
Fund

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Thank you for your help with this important study. The purpose of this survey is to gain an understanding of your experiences with the healthcare delivery system. Your responses to this survey are completely confidential.

You can complete this survey online at:

**[www.internationaldoctorsurvey.org](http://www.internationaldoctorsurvey.org)** and enter the following passcode: **XXXX**

Please read each question carefully. Using a blue or black pen, mark the box next to the appropriate response as indicated. It should take you about 15 minutes to complete the survey. Once you have completed the survey, please return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

If you have any questions about the survey, please call Rob Manley at 1-800-633-1986, Ext. 4399 or email **[info@internationaldoctorsurvey.org](mailto:info@internationaldoctorsurvey.org)**

**IF YOU PRACTICE IN MULTIPLE SETTINGS, PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR MAIN PRACTICE SETTING (I.E., WHERE YOU SPEND THE MOST TIME WITH PATIENTS) WHEN ANSWERING THIS SURVEY.**

**NOTE:** This document shows an extract of the full survey instrument used in the 2019 Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey of Primary Care Physicians. Only questions included in the main publication, cited below, are shown:

Michelle M. Doty, Roosa Tikkanen, Arnav Shah, and Eric C. Schneider, "[Primary Care Physicians' Role in Coordinating Medical and Health-Related Social Needs in Eleven Countries](#)," *Health Affairs*, published online Dec. 10, 2019.

5. Do you or any other health care professionals that work with you in your practice provide care in the following ways:

	Yes, Frequently	Yes, Occasionally	Never
Make home visits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coordinate care with social services or other community providers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use video consultations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Not including hospital emergency departments, does your practice have an arrangement, either within or with another practice, where patients can be seen by a doctor or nurse when the practice is closed (e.g., after-hours)?

- Yes  
 No

11. For patients with chronic conditions, how often do you or other health care professionals in your practice provide care in the following ways:

	Usually (75-100% of the time)	Often (50-74% of the time)	Sometimes (25-49% of the time)	Rarely (1-24% of the time)	Never
Use remote monitoring or connected medical devices to monitor patients, where clinically appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. When your patients have been referred to a specialist, how often do you:

	Usually (75-100% of the time)	Often (50-74% of the time)	Sometimes (25-49% of the time)	Rarely (1-24% of the time)	Never
Send the patient history and the reason for the consultation to the specialist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Receive from the specialist information about <u>changes</u> made to the patient medication or care plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Receive a report with the results of the specialist visit within 1 week of service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. How often do you receive notifications that your patients have been:

	Usually (75-100% of the time)	Often (50-74% of the time)	Sometimes (25-49% of the time)	Rarely (1-24% of the time)	Never
Seen for <u>after-hours care</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seen in an <u>emergency department</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Admitted to a <u>hospital</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

16. After your patients have been discharged from a hospital, how long does it take, on average, before you receive the information you need to continue managing the patient, including recommended follow-up care?

- Less than 24 hours  
 24 to less than 48 hours  
 2-4 days  
 5-14 days  
 15-30 days  
 More than 30 days  
 Rarely or never receive this type of information

17. For your patients who receive home-based nursing care, how often:

	Usually (75-100% of the time)	Often (50-74% of the time)	Sometimes (25-49% of the time)	Rarely (1-24% of the time)	Never	Does not apply
Do you communicate with home-based nursing care providers about your patients' needs and the services to be provided?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you advised by the home-based nursing care providers of a relevant change in your patients' condition or health status?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

19. What challenges, if any, do you or other personnel in your practice experience when coordinating your patients' care with social services?

	Major Challenge	Minor Challenge	Not a Challenge
Lack of a referral system or mechanism to make referrals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inadequate staffing to make referrals and coordinate care with social service organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of follow-up from social service organizations about which services patients received or need	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

22. Can you electronically exchange the following with any doctors outside your practice?

*(Note: Do not include fax or regular email.)*

	Yes	No	Not sure
Patient clinical summaries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laboratory and diagnostic test results	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lists of all medications taken by an individual patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

23. Please indicate whether your practice offers your patients the option to:

	Yes	No	Not sure
Communicate with your practice via email or a secure website about a medical question or concern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Request appointments online <i>(Note: Do not include email)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Request refills for prescriptions online <i>(Note: Do not include email)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
View test results online	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
View patient visit summaries online	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>