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Spatial Sufficiency of 5% Medicare Standard Analytic Files

Lee R. Mobley

Editor, Spatial Data

Abstract

The 5% Medicare Standard Analytic Files (SAF) are random samples used to analyze national trends in medical treatments, expenditures, and outcomes. Their utility in small-area or multilevel analyses is unknown. To demonstrate possible limitations of the 5% SAF for analysis of health behaviors in small areas. We use descriptive Chi-square goodness-of-fit tests and mapping to explore consistency in the 5% representation of the 100% population in states and counties. We conduct multilevel modeling of individual utilization of mammography or endoscopy services for cancer screening and contrast findings across the 5% and 100% files. Subjects are enrolled in both parts A and B Medicare coverage and ages 65–104, alive and residing in the same state, with no gaps in coverage during the study period. Identically defined groups are drawn from the 5% SAF and 100% population claims and denominator files. The Chi-square tests of homogeneous population subgroups in 5% and 100% files exhibit significant differences in 7 of 8 states. Maps confirm this among states' counties and find that one state is generally under-represented by the 5% SAF, while others show areas with variable representation. Multilevel modeling results are largely consistent across the partitions of the data, but 5% sample models have much lower statistical power. Area-level covariate effect estimates show some differences across the two datasets. Multilevel modeling with contextual variables may be misleading in small area analyses conducted using 5% Medicare SAFs. Provider supply and market characteristics show inconsistent results. Disparities research may benefit from 100% files to provide statistical power needed to detect meaningful differences. This is significant because the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have recently curtailed permissions to use the 100% files. These 100% files are one of few sources of population data available in the U.S. that are representative of small areas in the U.S.. In times of constrained budgets, using population data files is essential so that resources can be targeted to areas robustly identified as having greatest need or gaps in outcomes.

Keywords

Sampling; population health; spatial analysis; access to care; cancer control

INTRODUCTION

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provide to researchers 5% sample extracts from claims for reimbursement for Medicare services rendered by various kinds of providers. The 5% extracts, known as the 5% Standard Analytic Files (SAF), are randomly drawn from the 100% population of claims files using a standard set of Health Insurance Claim (HIC) numbers, to provide manageable subsets of the 100% data files that allow researchers to track a standard cohort of individuals over time.

Many recent studies have used the 5% Medicare SAF to analyze national trends in medical treatments and outcomes, including: changes over time in coronary revascularization procedures, outcomes, and costs (Ryan et al, 2009), outcomes and costs associated with peripheral arterial disease (Jaff et al, 2010), heart failure readmission rates (Aranda et al, 2009), outcomes in heart failure patients after major non-cardiac surgery (Hernandez et al, 2004), glaucoma surgery (Strutton and Walt, 2004), and abdominal aortic aneurysm repair (Dillavou et al, 2006). Other studies have used the SAF to analyze trends in Medicare expenditures by persons receiving different treatment paths. Pyenson et al (2004) used the SAF to examine total expenditures for Medicare patients with terminal medical conditions; Niefeld et al (2003) examined the impact of comorbid conditions on preventable hospitalizations among Medicare beneficiaries aged 65+ years with type 2 diabetes; and Hogan et al (2001) used the SAF to examine Medicare beneficiaries' expenditures in the last year of life.

The 5% Medicare SAF is a convenient sample to use in study of national outcomes and statistics, but the sampling design does not ensure that the sample is spatially representative – thus it may not adequately represent the mix of people and services in many small areas of the US. Thus, to understand geographic variation in health care utilization and outcomes, most researchers have used 100% population files. Examples of this include the Dartmouth Atlas research and other work led by Jack Wennberg (1999), and studies by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO, 2008). Rao et al (2001) used the 100% Medicare Part B files to study use trends and geographic variation in neuroimaging. Koroukian et al (2005, 2006) used 100% Medicare population data to examine disparities in use of colorectal cancer screening and spillovers from Medicare managed care onto fee-for-service (FFS) Medicare CRC screening behaviors. Mobley et al (2006) used 100% Medicare hospital inpatient claims data to examine variation in admission for preventable conditions among the elderly, and Connor et al (2007; 2008) used 100% claims files to examine geographic variation in hospice use across the US. More recently, Mobley et al (2011) used the 100% Medicare Part B and denominator files to study diffusion of endoscopy technology over the period 2001–2006.

We know only one study using the 5% sample to study geographic variations. Pearlman et al (2007) used the 5% SAF to study geographic variations in the use of echocardiography among Medicare beneficiaries between 1999 and 2004, to determine the rate of growth in these services and evaluate the drivers of growth. A potential problem with this analysis is that the local-area (or even state-level) geographic representativeness of the 5% file is not known. Thus the findings are likely to be conditional on the sample, and not generalizable to the entire Medicare population.

While the 5% sample is a random sample and is expected to be nationally representative of the traditional Medicare beneficiary population, but will not necessarily be representative of this population in smaller, sub-national areas. We use several different analyses to explore the small-area representativeness of the 5% SAF, using (only) people with traditional Medicare FFS (with complete claims information) in several comparisons. First, we use Chi-square tests of goodness-of-fit to assess whether area proportions by population subgroup are equivalent in the 5% and 100% Medicare FFS sample files, at the state level. Next, to

explore any patterns in deviations in the 5% and 100% proportions at the sub-state level, we map the county-level ratios of 5% sample counts to 100% populations, county by county. Maps demonstrate any spatial patterns suggesting clusters of areas with over/under representation of the 100% population by the 5% file. Finally, we conduct multilevel modeling of the propensity for individuals to use mammography or endoscopy for breast or colorectal cancer screening or diagnostics. We use the 5% FFS sample and the 100% FFS population to estimate the same empirical model, and contrast the findings.

We conclude with a summary of the findings from these three sets of analyses. The main contribution of this paper is to demonstrate some possible limitations of using the 5% SAF for analysis of population behaviors in counties or smaller areas.

METHODS

Sampling Design for the 5% Medicare Enrollment File

At age 65 or time of entitling disability, people enroll in Medicare and their personal information becomes part of the Enrollment Data Base (EDB). The 100% Denominator File is an annually extracted, abbreviated version of the EDB, combining Medicare beneficiary entitlement status information from administrative enrollment records with third-party payer information, and information regarding enrollment in Part A (hospitalization), Part B (outpatient care), help with Part B premiums from state Medicaid/state buy-in (MEDPAC, 2004), and enrollment in Medicare HMOs. Every year CMS pulls a 5% enrollment sample from the Denominator File, based on enrollees having one of the following numerical sequences in positions 8 and 9 of their personal Health Insurance Claim (HIC) number: 05, 20, 45, 70, or 95. The same numerical sequences in positions 8 and 9 are used in drawing the 5% file in consecutive years. This 5% enrollment sample is the basis for the 5% SAF drawn from the claims files.

While this sampling method produces a random sample that is likely to be nationally representative, there is no guarantee that the sample is spatially random. That is, there is no guarantee that certain areas won't contain disproportionate numbers of persons in the 5% enrollment and SAF. Thus the 5% file may not be locally representative, which has implications for any geospatial analyses using the 5% files. To assess the spatial sufficiency of the Medicare 5% SAF in utilization and outcomes research requires that we focus our analysis on people with traditional FFS Medicare coverage only. Other groups lack Medicare claims information for use in the comparisons.

Data and Measures

We used the annual 100% Medicare denominator files 2001–2005, and annual extracts from 100% Medicare physician carrier and outpatient claims for all mammography and endoscopy services used 2001–2005. We created a 'pure FFS' sample for each year (2001 to 2005) from the 100% population files. The annual 'pure FFS' subjects included beneficiaries aged 65 to 104, who were alive the entire year, had both Parts A and B Medicare coverage, had no Medicare HMO coverage during the year, and remained living in the same state during the study period (so that a single area context was relevant for the multilevel

modeling). We then used the 5% SAF indicator variable in the denominator file to draw the 5% subsample from the 100% population file. We prepared these data files for eight states to use in this analysis (California, Connecticut, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Jersey, New Mexico, and Utah).

Statistical Analyses

We used three methods to assess differences in the 5% and 100% files and whether these differences matter for empirical research: 1) Chi-square tests, 2) mapping of ratios of 5% to 100% area populations, and 3) multilevel modeling of personal cancer test use.

Chi-square goodness-of-fit tests—We use Chi-Square tests in SAS 9.2 (SAS, 2010) to test homogeneity in the proportions of population subgroups (age, race or ethnicity, gender) across the 5% and 100% sample files, at the state level. The null hypothesis for the test is that the proportions of sample members in each state are equivalent in the 5% and 100% samples. This hypothesis would not be rejected if the 5% file was perfectly representative of the 100% file in every subgroup category in the state. The Chi-square distribution is used to determine how much deviation might occur by chance, and rejection of this hypothesis leads to the conclusion that the 5% and 100% files come from significantly different distributions of subgroup population characteristics.

We conduct the test separately for each state and population subgroup (age, race or ethnicity, gender). The number of classes in the test statistic is the number of classes in the subgroup of interest in the state. For gender, there are 2 classes; for age, there are three classes (65–74, 75–84, 85+) and for race or ethnicity there are six classes (white, African American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, other). We lose 1 degree of freedom because the state population count is used to derive all proportions in the test statistic. The degrees of freedom for the test statistic is (number of classes – 1), so each state has the same degrees of freedom for each subgroup test. A larger value for the test statistic indicates greater discordance between the 5% and 100% files at the state level. Results from this analysis are presented in Table 1.

Mapping the 5% file to 100% file ratio—We use mapping to show where within states the 5% sample is disproportionate to exactly 5% of the 100% file. (This discordance results in the statistically significant state-level Chi-square test statistics noted above). To do this, we map the county-level ratio of the 5% sample counts to 100% file counts. We use a tri-color map to show counties where the ratio = 1 (the 5% sample is exactly 5% of the 100% population sample in the county, colored white), > 1 (the 5% sample contains > 5% of the 100% population in the county, colored red) and < 1 (the 5% sample contains < 5% of the 100% population in the county, colored blue). Because the population denominator is so large, the ratio is differentiated across counties at 6 decimal places. To simplify and focus on significant patterns, we round the ratio to 3 decimal points and count anything ≥ 0.045 as < 5%, and anything ≤ 0.055 as > 5%. Results from this analysis are presented in Figure 1.

Multilevel Modeling—We use the socio-ecological model from previous research to specify a comprehensive set of variables to include in the multilevel model (Mobley et al,

2008a; 2008b; 2010). These include person-level, local area level, and county level variables. We define the health system factors at the county level, and these include capacity factors (availability of endoscopy or mammography facilities, and oncologists) and market factors impacting diffusion dynamics (MMC penetration, area poverty). The socio-demographic factors are defined for smaller areas known as primary care service areas (PCSA), which were formed from the aggregation of ZIP code tabulation areas to reflect Medicare patient travel to primary care providers (Goodman et al, 2003). PCSAs are smaller than counties, and are thought to better represent local neighborhood conditions (Mobley et al, 2008a).

For these analyses, the cohort identified in 2001 and satisfying in subsequent years all exclusion criteria (age, coverage, single state residence, death described above) is followed over subsequent years to determine whether any utilization occurred. For mammography (radiograph or MRI), the cohort is followed 3 years (2001–2003). For endoscopy (colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy) the cohort is followed 5 years (2001–2005). A binary indicator is created if any use occurs over the period.

The multilevel probit model is estimated in SAS. Tables 3 and 4 contain estimated marginal probability effects, i.e. the coefficient estimate ‘0.05’ on covariate X is interpreted: ‘a small change in covariate X from its mean value is associated with a 5% higher probability of utilization’. We use Generalized Estimating Equations (GEE) to control for clustering of people within counties so that the county-level variables have robust estimates of their standard errors, and the effect estimates are thus reliable in statistical inference. Results from this analysis are presented in Table 3 (mammography utilization, 2001–2003) and Table 4 (endoscopy utilization, 2001–2005).

RESULTS

Chi-square Test Findings

The Chi-square tests of homogeneous population subgroups (Table 1) find the greatest discrepancies in California and in New Mexico, as regards the race or ethnicity subgroups in 2001. By 2003 the difference was reduced in California and nonexistent in New Mexico. In Louisiana, Iowa, and Utah, discrepancies existed in 2001 but disappeared by 2003. Only in New Jersey did the discrepancy in race or ethnicity subgroups not exist in 2001 but become apparent by 2003. In Kentucky and Connecticut, no significant discrepancies existed between the 5% and 100% files in terms of racial or ethnic subgroup proportions at the state level, in either period.

All states except New Mexico and Utah exhibited significant discrepancies in the sex proportions in both years. California and Louisiana exhibited discrepancies in the age proportions in 2001 that disappeared by 2003, while New Jersey exhibited discrepancies in both periods. Overall, California and New Jersey exhibited the greatest discordance between the 5% and 100% files, with significant differences noted in 5 out of 6 tests. Louisiana exhibited discordance in 4 out of 6 tests; Iowa 3 out of 6 tests; Connecticut, 2 out of 6 and Utah, New Mexico and Kentucky only 1 out of 6 tests. Also, there is more agreement in age than in other subgroup dimensions.

Findings from Mapping

Maps (Figure 1) are used to demonstrate where among the states' counties discordance exists in the proportion of the 100% population actually represented by the 5% SAF. Connecticut is the only state that is apparently well-represented by the 5% SAF. New Jersey has several under-represented counties, but no over-represented counties, so the state is generally under-represented by the 5% SAF. This may reflect the possibility that many elderly persons leave New Jersey for warmer climates. Other states show a mix of over- and under-represented areas, and the map patterns change over time for all states except Connecticut, and New Jersey is consistently under-represented over time.

Multilevel Regression Findings

Table 2 contains sample statistics for the interested reader; highlighted rows correspond to the following observations. The 5% sample is about 5% as large as the 100% sample in every state, with the exception of New Jersey, where the 5% file is several percentage points less than 5%. In Table 2 we also see that the sample proportion who used any mammography 2001–2003 is always lower in the 5% file than in the 100% file, thus the 5% sample is probably not a good predictor of national mammography use rates. Also, the sample proportion who used endoscopy is usually lower in the 5% file than in the 100% file (the exceptions being in Iowa and Kentucky). The endoscopy use samples are larger than the mammography use samples, because they include both men and women. The sample statistics also show that the number of counties and local neighborhoods (PCSAs) covered by the two samples are largely equivalent. Exceptions include Utah, where the 5% sample actually misses 1 county and 2 PCSAs, and in Kentucky and California where it misses 1 PCSA. These areas not covered by the 5% file are the most sparsely populated counties and PCSAs in these states.

In each Table 3 and 4, the 5% sample regression results are presented next to the 100% sample regression results for each state. Model prediction success rates (bottom row) are roughly the same across the 5% and 100% sample regressions. Only the effect estimates that are statistically significant at the 5% level are presented in the tables. These are augmented by results significant at the 10% level, indicated with an asterisk, for the 5% sample model.

Comparisons across the 5% and 100% regression results lead to the following conclusions. The person-level variables (age through miles to closest provider) are largely consistent across the two regressions. However, the 100% sample regression has greater statistical power than the 5% sample to detect significant effect estimates for sparser population subgroups. For area-level covariates (isolation index through oncologists) the greater power in the 100% file model is even more evident. Overall, when significant, the 5% sample results are generally consistent with the 100% sample results in terms of sign of effect (positive, negative) and often in terms of magnitude of effect. The supply variables (mammography or endoscopy providers per thousand elderly, oncologists per thousand elderly) are generally significant in the 100% file analysis, but rarely so in the 5% file analysis.

Cases where the 5% and 100% file regression models provide inconsistent findings are shaded green in Tables 3 and 4. Out of 176 possible pairs of effect estimates (22 covariates in 8 states) there are 9 instances where the sign is contradictory or the 5% model produced a significant effect and the 100% model did not. Thus about 5% of the pairs of effect estimates (9 out of 176 cases) are contradictory across the two samples. Four of the disagreements are in California, two are in New Jersey, and one each are in New Mexico Louisiana, and Connecticut. Two of the instances (New Mexico and New Jersey) result from the 5% model finding a significant and positive effect of oncologist density, while the 100% model finds none. Two (in Louisiana and New Jersey) are opposite signs on the association between having state buy-in assistance for purchase of part B (low income). The remaining 5 instances (California/4 and Connecticut/1) are associated with percent rural or Medicare managed care penetration.

Unfortunately, all of these (9 out of 176) cases are associated with variables that are of policy importance, and modifiable by policy intervention. However, the disagreements are infrequent overall.

DISCUSSION

The Medicare 5% Standard Analytic Files (SAF) may have important limitations in small area analysis due to the sampling method used to construct it, which was not designed to be representative of people in small areas, such as counties. The literature provides no evidence to date regarding whether the 5% SAF is representative of state samples, or whether using the 5% SAF to model neighborhood influences in multilevel modeling is misleading due to non-representation of areas by the 5% sample. This paper is the first to demonstrate potential limitations of Medicare 5% FFS SAF regarding small-area sufficiency of these data when used in spatial analysis of access and utilization of healthcare services.

We used the 5% SAF indicator provided in Medicare denominator file, and focused on 8 states. We found that the 5% and 100% file samples are generally consistent in terms of empirical results from multilevel regression, although statistical power is greater in the 100% file and a greater number of covariates have significant estimates.

The two states where the instances of discordance between the 5% and 100% regressions are most numerous are also the two states with the greatest discordance exhibited from the Chi-square tests - California and New Jersey. The Chi-square analysis tests the assumption that the distribution of population subgroups is equal in the two partitions of the data (100% versus 5% files) for a particular state. In New Jersey, the 5% file is also 2–3 percentage points smaller than 5% of the 100% file sample. Mapping demonstrates that Connecticut is well-represented by the 5% file in all counties in the state, while New Jersey is generally under-represented by the 5% SAF. In other states, some counties are over- and others under-represented, and patterns change over time (2001–2003).

Of policy importance, the covariates that produce discrepancies in regression are several that are modifiable by policy: assistance to elderly in purchasing Part B premiums through state buy-in programs; supply of oncologists; rural intensity; and Medicare managed care

penetration. Although our findings are not likely to represent all of the United States, they do provide some cause for concern, especially when interpreting results from disparities research or when small-area analysis of access to facilities are based on 5% samples.

Acknowledgments

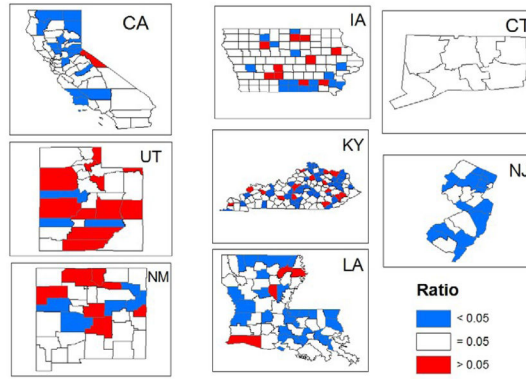
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2001 data



2003 data

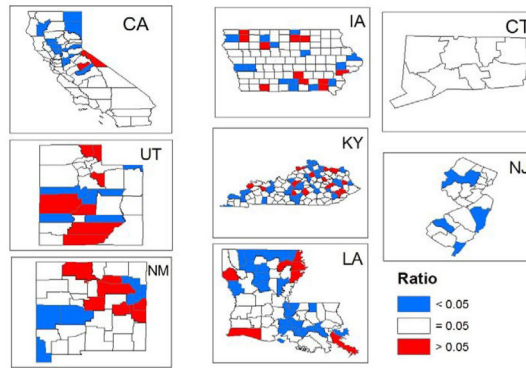


Figure 1. Ratio of 5% to 100% file observation counts by county in 8 states, 2001(top) and 2003 (bottom)

Chi-square Tests of Goodness of Fit Comparing 5% and 100% File Subgroup Proportions, by State for 8 states (statistically significant findings bolded).

Table 1

State	Year	Race or ethnicity		Sex		Age	
		Chi-square	p-value	Chi-square	p-value	Chi-square	p-value
California	2001	410.098	0.000	32.823	0.000	10.697	0.0048
California	2003	50.607	0.000	30.236	0.000	3.726	0.1552
Connecticut	2001	6.558	0.256	5.625	0.018	2.477	0.2898
Connecticut	2003	1.288	0.936	4.331	0.037	1.621	0.4446
Iowa	2001	12.930	0.024	3.954	0.047	0.693	0.7072
Iowa	2003	5.254	0.386	4.583	0.032	2.157	0.3402
Kentucky	2001	4.801	0.441	24.836	0.000	1.583	0.4533
Kentucky	2003	5.468	0.361	20.124	0.000	2.859	0.2395
Louisiana	2001	21.760	0.001	43.884	0.000	9.614	0.0082
Louisiana	2003	7.359	0.195	36.742	0.000	3.017	0.2212
New Jersey	2001	10.354	0.066	28.231	0.000	10.83	0.0044
New Jersey	2003	13.046	0.023	17.106	0.000	8.589	0.0136
New Mexico	2001	132.874	0.000	0.077	0.781	1.326	0.5153
New Mexico	2003	1.230	0.942	0.907	0.341	0.903	0.6366
Utah	2001	23.739	0.000	2.639	0.104	0.762	0.6832
Utah	2003	4.041	0.544	0.571	0.450	0.929	0.6286

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Table 2

Sample Statistics by person, local area PCSA, and county for covariates in multilevel regression of mammography or endoscopy utilization

State	California			Connecticut			Iowa			Kentucky			Louisiana			New Jersey			New Mexico			Utah		
	5% File	100% File	Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)	5% File	100% File	Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)	5% File	100% File	Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)	5% File	100% File	Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)	5% File	100% File	Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)	5% File	100% File	Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)	5% File	100% File	Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)	5% File	100% File	Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)
Person level (N) - BC Screening	38,769	781,832	0.050	9,208	177,375	0.052	10,010	197,168	0.051	10,862	217,727	0.050	9,011	184,005	0.049	19,394	415,796	0.047	3,482	68,114	0.051	4,078	78,565	0.052
Prop. used mammography 2001-2003	0.555	0.580		0.572	0.593		0.577	0.593		0.522	0.55		0.531	0.551		0.476	0.502		0.526	0.545		0.572	0.578	
age75-84	0.385 (0.487)	0.385 (0.487)		0.408 (0.492)	0.405 (0.491)		0.385 (0.487)	0.383 (0.486)		0.352 (0.478)	0.355 (0.478)		0.352 (0.478)	0.360 (0.480)		0.400 (0.490)	0.402 (0.490)		0.334 (0.472)	0.340 (0.474)		0.361 (0.480)	0.363 (0.481)	
age 85+	0.116 (0.321)	0.117 (0.321)		0.132 (0.338)	0.135 (0.341)		0.128 (0.335)	0.132 (0.338)		0.098 (0.297)	0.099 (0.299)		0.101 (0.302)	0.103 (0.303)		0.114 (0.318)	0.117 (0.322)		0.091 (0.288)	0.096 (0.295)		0.090 (0.286)	0.093 (0.291)	
African American	0.047 (0.211)	0.046 (0.209)		0.044 (0.206)	0.044 (0.204)		0.009 (0.095)	0.008 (0.089)		0.051 (0.221)	0.047 (0.212)		0.219 (0.413)	0.216 (0.412)		0.086 (0.281)	0.084 (0.278)		0.013 (0.114)	0.013 (0.112)		0.004 (0.063)	0.003 (0.057)	
Hispanic	0.051 (0.220)	0.049 (0.215)		0.007 (0.086)	0.008 (0.089)		<11*	0.001 (0.031)		<11*	0.000 (0.018)		0.003 (0.055)	0.003 (0.054)		0.018 (0.133)	0.017 (0.128)		0.089 (0.285)	0.088 (0.284)		0.008 (0.091)	0.008 (0.087)	
Asian	0.085 (0.279)	0.080 (0.272)		0.006 (0.074)	0.005 (0.071)		<11*	0.001 (0.035)		<11*	0.001 (0.035)		0.002 (0.046)	0.002 (0.045)		0.008 (0.087)	0.008 (0.088)		<11*	0.002 (0.047)		0.006 (0.080)	0.007 (0.081)	
Native American	0.004 (0.063)	0.001 (0.054)		<11*	0.000 (0.016)		<11*	0.000 (0.017)		<11*	0.000 (0.010)		0.001 (0.024)	0.001 (0.024)		0.001 (0.024)	0.000 (0.016)		0.047 (0.212)	0.029 (0.168)		0.004 (0.063)	0.002 (0.045)	
Other race/ethnicity	0.035 (0.183)	0.035 (0.184)		0.008 (0.089)	0.006 (0.078)		0.004 (0.060)	0.004 (0.062)		0.003 (0.057)	0.003 (0.057)		0.004 (0.059)	0.004 (0.066)		0.009 (0.092)	0.009 (0.092)		0.009 (0.094)	0.023 (0.149)		0.010 (0.099)	0.009 (0.094)	
disability original reason for Medicare	0.003 (0.053)	0.059 (0.235)		0.005 (0.072)	0.044 (0.206)		0.005 (0.070)	0.039 (0.194)		<11*	0.071 (0.256)		0.003 (0.053)	0.063 (0.242)		0.002 (0.046)	0.052 (0.222)		0.004 (0.066)	0.052 (0.223)		0.004 (0.064)	0.039 (0.193)	
have state buy-in Part B coverage	27,888 (44,180)	27,282 (43,836)		10,957 (29,800)	10,740 (29,489)		8,063 (26,012)	8,265 (26,210)		17,223 (36,608)	16,860 (36,256)		22,207 (40,507)	21,427 (39,805)		11,270 (30,666)	11,068 (30,425)		17,689 (36,882)	17,831 (36,976)		5,328 (21,510)	5,363 (21,430)	
moved to new home	0.080 (0.272)	0.087 (0.281)		0.074 (0.262)	0.071 (0.258)		0.038 (0.192)	0.046 (0.209)		0.045 (0.204)	0.050 (0.217)		0.045 (0.208)	0.052 (0.222)		0.065 (0.243)	0.064 (0.245)		0.076 (0.265)	0.067 (0.249)		0.060 (0.237)	0.063 (0.243)	
miles to closest provider	2.161 (3.963)	2.165 (3.964)		1.980 (2.573)	1.984 (2.607)		6.603 (7.237)	6.570 (7.224)		3,742 (5,028)	3,785 (5,019)		5,772 (7,591)	5,835 (7,535)		1,761 (2,728)	1,762 (2,741)		7,947 (13,280)	8,064 (13,356)		4,785 (9,172)	4,743 (8,963)	
Person level (N) - CRC Screening	54,536	1,126,335	0.048	12,581	245,186	0.051	13,774	274,939	0.050	0.522	0.55		11,859	244,130	0.049	26,055	567,836	0.046	5,070	100,328	0.051	5,699	113,066	0.050
Ratio N (5% File)/N (100% File)																								
Prop. used endoscopy 2001-2005	0.375	0.382		0.425	0.427		0.402	0.395		0.380	0.380		0.365	0.376		0.382	0.396		0.339	0.342		0.405	0.418	
female	0.600	0.591		0.630	0.617		0.619	0.611		0.631	0.612		0.644	0.617		0.633	0.621		0.574	0.570		0.589	0.578	
age75-84	0.365 (0.481)	0.365 (0.481)		0.386 (0.487)	0.385 (0.487)		0.365 (0.481)	0.362 (0.481)		0.325 (0.469)	0.322 (0.467)		0.319 (0.466)	0.328 (0.469)		0.374 (0.484)	0.378 (0.485)		0.302 (0.459)	0.312 (0.463)		0.344 (0.475)	0.341 (0.474)	
age 85+	0.072 (0.258)	0.073 (0.260)		0.080 (0.271)	0.081 (0.274)		0.078 (0.269)	0.081 (0.273)		0.060 (0.237)	0.058 (0.234)		0.061 (0.239)	0.060 (0.237)		0.072 (0.258)	0.073 (0.259)		0.057 (0.233)	0.057 (0.232)		0.065 (0.242)	0.058 (0.233)	
African American	0.043 (0.202)	0.041 (0.199)		0.041 (0.198)	0.042 (0.200)		0.009 (0.094)	0.007 (0.085)		0.047 (0.212)	0.044 (0.204)		0.206 (0.404)	0.194 (0.396)		0.080 (0.272)	0.079 (0.270)		0.012 (0.110)	0.012 (0.110)		0.004 (0.059)	0.003 (0.056)	
Hispanic	0.056 (0.231)	0.052 (0.223)		0.007 (0.085)	0.008 (0.089)		0.001 (0.030)	0.001 (0.034)		0.000 (0.018)	0.000 (0.020)		0.003 (0.054)	0.002 (0.050)		0.018 (0.134)	0.016 (0.127)		0.095 (0.293)	0.095 (0.293)		0.010 (0.098)	0.008 (0.088)	
Asian	0.087 (0.282)	0.083 (0.275)		0.006 (0.075)	0.005 (0.072)		0.002 (0.040)	0.001 (0.035)		0.001 (0.032)	0.001 (0.034)		0.002 (0.046)	0.002 (0.044)		0.009 (0.092)	0.008 (0.091)		<11*	0.002 (0.044)		0.006 (0.076)	0.007 (0.081)	

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State	California		Connecticut		Iowa		Kentucky		Louisiana		New Jersey		New Mexico		Utah	
	5% File	100% File	5% File	100% File	5% File	100% File	5% File	100% File	5% File	100% File	5% File	100% File	5% File	100% File	5% File	100% File
Native American	0.004 (0.061)	0.001 (0.034)	<11*	0.000 (0.015)	0.000 (0.014)	0.000 (0.010)	0.001 (0.033)	0.001 (0.025)	0.000 (0.021)	0.000 (0.016)	0.052 (0.221)	0.031 (0.173)	0.004 (0.065)	0.004 (0.046)		
Other race/ethnicity	0.056 (0.187)	0.037 (0.189)	0.008 (0.087)	0.006 (0.080)	0.003 (0.058)	0.003 (0.052)	0.004 (0.062)	0.004 (0.063)	0.010 (0.099)	0.009 (0.096)	0.010 (0.102)	0.022 (0.147)	0.010 (0.099)	0.009 (0.094)		
disability original reason for Medicare	0.003 (0.055)	0.064 (0.244)	0.005 (0.068)	0.050 (0.218)	0.002 (0.040)	0.096 (0.295)	0.003 (0.056)	0.084 (0.277)	0.002 (0.041)	0.057 (0.233)	0.004 (0.063)	0.075 (0.263)	0.005 (0.067)	0.047 (0.211)		
have state buy-in Part B coverage	25.428	24.717	8.455 (26.212)	8.141 (25.738)	13.757 (32.863)	13.400 (32.448)	18.153 (37.069)	16.691 (35.668)	8.832 (27.154)	8.539 (26.738)	14.499 (35.656)	14.950 (34.011)	4.330 (19.060)	3.927 (18.078)		
moved to new home	0.145 (0.352)	0.156 (0.363)	0.105 (0.306)	0.121 (0.326)	0.075 (0.263)	0.087 (0.282)	0.086 (0.280)	0.113 (0.317)	0.109 (0.311)	0.113 (0.317)	0.112 (0.315)	0.106 (0.308)	0.102 (0.303)	0.112 (0.316)		
miles to closest provider	1.378 (3.548)	2.185 (4.046)	1.032 (2.009)	1.914 (2.241)	2.803 (4.572)	4.339 (5.146)	3.270 (5.864)	4.389 (5.926)	0.776 (1.654)	1.377 (1.952)	5.245 (10.311)	7.271 (11.327)	2.040 (6.711)	3.834 (6.303)		
PCSA level (N)	337	338	71	71	144	145	112	112	139	139	61	61	52	54		
isolation index - African American	4.925 (7.792)	4.910 (7.785)	6.794 (10.420)	6.794 (10.420)	5.872 (9.405)	5.841 (9.380)	35.646 (17.050)	35.646 (17.050)	12.629 (15.832)	12.629 (15.832)	1.444 (1.788)	1.444 (1.788)	0.620 (1.376)	0.608 (1.352)		
isolation index - Hispanic	31.153(23.614)	31.080 (23.617)	7.681 (10.848)	7.681 (10.848)	1.470 (1.380)	1.468 (1.375)	1.938 (1.676)	1.938 (1.676)	12.147 (14.541)	12.147 (14.541)	50.501 (21.295)	50.501 (21.295)	9.292 (9.350)	9.237 (9.205)		
isolation index-Asian	6.666 (8.483)	6.649 (8.476)	2.339 (1.512)	2.339 (1.512)	0.610 (0.986)	0.608 (0.983)	1.087 (3.093)	1.087 (3.093)	5.302 (5.532)	5.302 (5.532)	0.652 (0.841)	0.652 (0.841)	0.991 (1.133)	0.964 (1.120)		
isolation index - Native American	2.257 (5.730)	2.260 (5.722)	0.407 (0.565)	0.407 (0.565)	0.390 (0.537)	0.393 (0.535)	1.144(2.791)	1.144 (2.791)	0.226 (0.234)	0.226 (0.234)	13.889 (27.187)	13.889 (27.187)	5.894 (17.633)	5.706 (17.324)		
% workers who commute 60+ minutes	10.223 (5.957)	10.207 (5.955)	8.635 (5.996)	8.635 (5.996)	9.334 (4.691)	9.382 (4.710)	10.297 (4.436)	10.297 (4.436)	12.977 (5.343)	12.977 (5.343)	9.317 (6.804)	9.317 (6.804)	7.176 (4.150)	7.156 (4.072)		
% elderly with no/ poor English	28.619 (16.794)	28.671(16.796)	15.077 (9.753)	15.077 (9.753)	8.777 (14.937)	8.782 (14.885)	8.398 (10.431)	8.398 (10.431)	24.459 (13.660)	24.459 (13.660)	24.657 (18.552)	24.657 (18.552)	20.343 (22.459)	20.275 (22.039)		
proportion county in rural tracts	27.836(34.204)	27.892 (34.169)	24.396 (29.946)	24.396 (29.946)	72.384 (29.104)	72.574 (29.093)	54.449 (30.887)	54.449 (30.887)	12.445 (22.899)	12.445 (22.899)	61.932 (35.917)	61.932 (35.917)	49.856 (38.906)	50.094(39.117)		
County level (N)	58	58	8	8	120	120	64	64	21	21	33	33	28	29		
% Medicare managed care in 1998	23.743(16.927)	23.743 (16.927)	14.059 (4.158)	14.059 (4.158)	2.136 (4.330)	2.136(4.330)	11.961 (11.472)	11.961 (11.472)	14.000 (5.759)	14.000 (5.759)	7.723 (12.256)	7.723 (12.256)	5.431 (5.834)	5.339 (5.750)		
% poverty rate	13.247 (4.764)	13.247 (4.764)	6.425 (1.578)	6.425 (1.578)	17.526 (6.569)	17.526 (6.569)	20.127 (5.754)	20.127 (5.754)	7.600 (3.387)	7.600 (3.387)	21.091 (5.954)	21.091 (5.954)	11.650 (4.069)	11.576 (4.016)		
mammography facilities per thousand elderly	0.896 (0.508)	0.896 (0.508)	0.919 (0.255)	0.919 (0.255)	1.138 (1.409)	1.138 (1.409)	0.545 (0.692)	0.545 (0.692)	0.944 (0.384)	0.944 (0.384)	0.617 (0.758)	0.617 (0.758)	1.129 (1.606)	1.090 (1.391)		
oncologists per thousand elderly	0.077 (0.069)	0.077 (0.069)	0.098 (0.086)	0.098 (0.086)	0.027 (0.087)	0.027 (0.087)	0.029 (0.068)	0.029 (0.068)	0.085 (0.067)	0.085 (0.067)	0.019 (0.051)	0.019 (0.051)	0.020 (0.053)	0.020 (0.052)		

* < 11: Data suppressed due to confidentiality agreements, because fewer than 11 individuals are in this category.

Table 3

Marginal probability effect estimates from multilevel regression modeling of mammography utilization

Variable	California		Connecticut		Iowa		Kentucky		Louisiana		New Jersey		New Mexico		Utah	
	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file
age75-84	-0.120	-0.116	-0.140	-0.147	-0.137	-0.142	-0.167	-0.156	-0.155	-0.148	-0.158	-0.153	-0.143	-0.151	-0.120	-0.151
age 85+	-0.376	-0.386	-0.405	-0.433	-0.449	-0.423	-0.466	-0.431	-0.420	-0.418	-0.427	-0.426	-0.460	-0.433	-0.385	-0.458
African American	-0.049	-0.050	.	-0.015	.	.	-0.056	-0.043	-0.043	-0.063	.	.	.	-0.032	.	.
Hispanic	-0.023*	-0.022	0.204	0.096	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.171	0.148	-0.076	-0.045	.	.
Asian	-0.063	-0.073	.	-0.041	.	-0.129	.	-0.064	.	-0.171	-0.117	-0.079	.	.	.	.
Native American	-0.068*	-0.079	.	.	.	-0.123	.	-0.316	.	.	.	-0.107	-0.135	-0.212	.	-0.107
Other face/ethnicity	-0.078	-0.085	-0.091*	-0.037	.	-0.066	.	-0.079	-0.156*	-0.073	.	-0.030	.	-0.150	-0.132*	-0.074
disability was the original reason for Medicare entitlement	.	-0.018	.	-0.066	.	-0.053	.	-0.038	.	-0.040	-0.137*	-0.047	.	-0.035	.	-0.042
have state buy-in to help purchase Part B coverage	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.003	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002
moved to new residence	-0.048	-0.036	.	-0.041	.	-0.034	.	-0.042	-0.063	-0.060	-0.030	-0.039	.	-0.032	.	-0.035
miles to closest mammography provider	-0.002	-0.002	.	.	.	0.001	.	-0.002	-0.003	-0.002	.	.	.	-0.001	-0.004	-0.003
isolation index - African American	-0.001	-0.001	.	0.001	-0.003	-0.002	.	.	.	0.000	.	0.000	.	.	.	-0.005
isolation index - Hispanic	0.000	-0.001	.	.	.	-0.002	.	.	.	-0.004	0.001	0.000	.	.	.	0.001
isolation index - Asian	.	.	0.012	0.003	.	0.006	.	.	-0.009*	-0.007	.	.	.	.	.	0.011
isolation index - Native American	.	-0.001	.	-0.013	-0.008*	-0.004	.	.	.	-0.002	.	.	.	0.000	-0.004	-0.002
proportion workers who commute 60 minutes or more each way to work	.	-0.002	.	-0.001	-0.006	-0.007	.	-0.003	.	-0.003	0.003	0.002	.	.	.	.
proportion elderly with no/poor English language ability	-0.001	-0.001	.	-0.002	.	0.000	-0.001	-0.001	.	.	-0.003	-0.003	.	0.000	-0.002	-0.002
Medicare managed care penetration in 1998	-0.001	0.000	-0.011	-0.006	.	0.001	.	-0.002	.	0.001	0.003	0.002	.	.	.	.
proportion county population in rural tracts	-0.001	0.000	.	0.000	0.000*	0.000	.	0.000	.	0.000	.	0.000	.	-0.001	.	-0.001
poverty rate	-0.003	-0.001	0.013*	0.010	.	.	-0.004	-0.003	-0.003*	-0.002	0.003	0.003	-0.009	-0.004	0.017	0.007
mammography providers per thousand elderly women	.	-0.005	.	0.027	.	0.004	0.008	0.005	.	0.012	.	0.006	.	0.017	-0.025	-0.011
oncologists per thousand elderly	.	.	.	.	.	0.101	0.132	0.121	0.174	0.137	0.359	0.149	0.336	.	.	.
Model prediction success rate	0.644	0.658	0.647	0.669	0.668	0.674	0.642	0.645	0.626	0.640	0.614	0.614	0.651	0.651	0.630	0.648

Table 4

Marginal probability effect estimates from multilevel regression modeling of endoscopy utilization in 8 states

Variable	CA		CT		IA		KY		LA		NJ		NM		UT	
	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file	5% file	100% file
age75-84	-0.061	-0.059	-0.110	-0.112	-0.075	-0.075	-0.069	-0.075	-0.063	-0.056	-0.071	-0.067	-0.081	-0.069	-0.122	-0.115
age 85+	-0.210	-0.223	-0.347	-0.323	-0.253	-0.253	-0.258	-0.238	-0.190	-0.193	-0.222	-0.225	-0.231	-0.255	-0.264	-0.299
Female	-0.007*	-0.018	-0.031	-0.040	.	-0.005	0.024	0.024	0.016*	0.005	-0.039	-0.042	.	0.007	-0.044	-0.021
African American	-0.019*	-0.026	.	.	.	.	.	-0.030	-0.051	-0.073	.	-0.007	-0.125	-0.043	.	.
Hispanic	-0.062	-0.055	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	-0.052	0.069	0.051	-0.053	-0.039	.	-0.064
Asian	.	0.007	-0.163	-0.046	-0.404	-0.063	.	.	.	-0.100	-0.130	-0.084	.	.	.	.
Native American	-0.099	-0.063	.	.	.	.	.	-0.211	.	.	.	.	-0.210	-0.205	.	.
Other race/ethnicity	-0.034	-0.039	.	-0.036	-0.199	-0.061	.	.	.	-0.084	.	-0.038	.	-0.138	-0.185	-0.081
disability was the original reason for Medicare entitlement	.	-0.019	.	-0.051	.	-0.023	.	-0.014	.	-0.008	.	-0.016	.	-0.036	.	-0.033
have state buy-in to help purchase Part B coverage	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	0.000	0.000	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.002	-0.001
moved to new residence	.	-0.010	-0.039	-0.017	.	-0.010	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	-0.010	.	.
miles to closest endoscopy provider	-0.001	-0.001	.	.	.	0.000	.	-0.001	.	.	-0.005	-0.003	.	-0.001	.	-0.001
isolation index - African American	.	.	-0.002	-0.001	.	-0.002	-0.001	-0.001	0.001	0.001	.	0.000	.	0.007	.	-0.005
isolation index - Hispanic	-0.001	-0.001	.	.	-0.005	-0.003	.	-0.002	.	.	.	0.000	.	-0.001	.	.
isolation index - Asian	0.000*	0.000	0.008	0.009	0.008	0.007	0.011*	0.003	.	-0.005	0.001	0.001	.	-0.034	.	.
isolation index - Native American	.	-0.001	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	-0.003	.	0.006	.	-0.001	.	.
proportion workers who commute 60 minutes or more each way to work	.	-0.001	0.004	0.003	-0.010	-0.009	.	-0.003	-0.004	-0.004	.	0.001	.	.	.	.
proportion elderly with no/poor English language ability	-0.001	-0.001	.	0.000	.	-0.001	.	0.000	0.001	0.001	-0.001	-0.001	.	0.000	.	0.000
Medicare managed care penetration in 1998	.	0.001	-0.005*	.	.	0.001	.	-0.001	0.001	0.001	.	-0.001	.	0.002	.	.
proportion county population in rural tracts	-0.001	0.000	.	0.000	.	0.000	.	0.000	.	0.000	.	.	.	-0.001	.	-0.001
poverty rate	0.001	0.002	.	.	.	0.002	-0.005	-0.004	-0.003*	-0.002	.	-0.002	.	0.001	.	-0.007
Endoscopy providers per thousand elderly	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	.	0.000	0.001	0.001	.	0.001
oncologists per thousand elderly	.	-0.027	.	-0.139	.	.	.	0.075	-0.196	-0.115	0.123*	.	.	.	.	.
Model prediction success rate	0.626	0.619	0.594	0.591	0.602	0.609	0.623	0.623	0.635	0.624	0.618	0.605	0.664	0.660	0.597	0.589