

Appendix 1: Baseline characteristics of participating family physicians* (*n* = 21)

| Characteristic | no. (%)† |
|---|----------|
| Male | 18 (86) |
| Age, mean (SD), yr | 54 (7) |
| Experience with computer | |
| Not at all | 3 (14) |
| A little | 2 (9) |
| Moderate | 13 (62) |
| Very much | 3 (14) |
| Communication from ED | |
| Summaries received by mail | 20 (95) |
| Summaries received by mail within 1–2 wk of patient visit to ED | 9 (43) |
| Practice characteristics | |
| Solo | 12 (57) |
| Group | 9 (43) |
| No. of patients, mean | 4184 |
| Duration of practice, mean (SD), yr | 24 (6) |
| Proportion of patients currently followed by specialist, mean | 39% |
| Proportion of patients with chronic medical conditions, mean | 49% |
| Proportions of patients by age ranges, mean, yr | |
| < 40 | 27% |
| 40–69 | 40% |
| 70–79 | 22% |
| ≥ 80 | 11% |

Note: SD = standard deviation, ED = emergency department.

*Two physicians did not answer the baseline characteristics questionnaire.

†Unless stated otherwise.