# Article information:

Team Relationships and Performance: Evidence from Healthcare Referral Networks | Management Science
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# Article summary:

1. This article examines the teams that emerge when a primary care physician (PCP) refers patients to specialists.

2. The authors constructed a new measure of PCP team referral concentration and found that it varies widely across PCPs, even among those in the same organization.

3. Chronically ill patients treated by PCPs with higher team referral concentration had 4% lower healthcare utilization on average, with no discernible reduction in quality.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article is generally reliable and trustworthy, as it provides evidence from two different sources – the Massachusetts All Payer Claims Database and a national sample of Medicare claims – to support its findings. The authors also provide various identification strategies to account for observed and unobserved patient and physician characteristics, which further strengthens their argument. Furthermore, the article does not appear to be one-sided or promotional in nature; rather, it presents both sides of the argument equally and objectively.

However, there are some points of consideration that are missing from the article. For example, while the authors note that repeated interactions between PCPs and specialists can improve team performance, they do not explore any potential risks associated with this approach or discuss any counterarguments that could be made against it. Additionally, while the authors provide evidence for their claims from two different sources, they do not provide any evidence for how these results may apply to other contexts or settings outside of healthcare referral networks. Finally, while the authors note that there was no discernible reduction in quality associated with higher team referral concentration among chronically ill patients, they do not provide any evidence regarding whether this holds true for other types of patients as well.

# Topics for further research:

* Risks associated with healthcare referral networks
* Quality of care in healthcare referral networks
* Impact of team referral concentration on patient outcomes
* Evidence for healthcare referral networks in other contexts
* Counterarguments against healthcare referral networks
* Quality of care for different types of patients in healthcare referral networks

# Report location:

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