

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
CHAPTER 1: SUMMARY AND POLICY CONCLUSIONS.	3
Introduction	3
Background and Scope of the Case Study	3
Organization of the Case Study	4
Summary	5
Contributions of Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Certified Nurse-Midwives	5
Effects of Changing Payment Methods	6
Policy Conclusions	10
Addendum: Definitions and Descriptions	12
CHAPTER 2: QUALITY OF CARE.	17
Indicators of Quality	17
Comparisons With Physicians	17
Patients' Satisfaction	18
Physicians' Acceptance	18
Methodological Problems of Studies	18
Quality of Nurse Practitioners' Care	19
Comparisons With Physicians	19
Patients' Satisfaction	19
Physicians' Acceptance	21
Quality of Physician Assistants' Care	22
Comparisons With Physicians	22
Patients' Satisfaction	22
Physicians' Acceptance	23
Quality of Certified Nurse-Midwives' Care	23
Comparisons With Physicians	23
Patients' Satisfaction	24
Physicians' Acceptance	24
Summary	25
CHAPTER 3: ACCESS TO CARE	29
Nurse Practitioners' Contribution to Access to Care	30
Physician Assistants' Contribution to Access to Care	32
Certified Nurse-Midwives' Contribution to Access to Care	33
Summary	34
CHAPTER 4: PRODUCTIVITY, COSTS, AND EMPLOYMENT	39
Scope of Professional Practice	39
Services Provided by Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants	39
Services Provided by Certified Nurse-Midwives	40
Productivity	40
Nurse Practitioners' and Physician Assistants' Productivity	41
Certified Nurse-Midwives' Productivity	43
Costs and Employment.	44
Costs and Benefits of Training Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Certified Nurse-Midwives.	44
Costs and Benefits of Private Employment of Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Certified Nurse-Midwives	46

Contents—continued

Page

Current Employment: Settings and Trends	47
Nurse Practitioners' and Physician Assistants' Employment	47
Certified Nurse-Midwives' Employment	48
Summary	49
CHAPTER 5: PAYMENT ISSUES	53
Effects of Modifying Payment for Services of Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Certified Nurse-Midwives	54
Effects on Independent Practices of Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse-Midwives	54
Effects on Physicians' Practices	57
Effects on Health Maintenance Organizations	58
Effects on Hospitals	58
Effects on Nursing Homes	59
The Changing Context of Health Care	60
Financing	60
Supply of Physicians	60
Delivery Sites and Organizations	61
Effects of Changes in the Health-Care Environment on Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Certified Nurse-Midwives	62
Summary	64
APPENDIX A.—METHODS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	69
APPENDIX B.—PAYMENT FOR THE SERVICES OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, AND CERTIFIED NURSE-MIDWIVES	71
REFERENCES	79

Tables

<i>Table No.</i>	<i>Page</i>
1-1. Coverage and Direct Payment for Services of Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Certified Nurse-Midwives	7
1-2. Comparison of Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Certified Nurse-Midwives	13
2-1. Equivalence in Quality of Care Provided by Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Physicians (MDs)	20
2-2. Difference in Quality of Care Provided by Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Physicians (MDs)	21
2-3. Percentage of U.S. Resident Certified Nurse-Midwives by Type of Organization, 1976-77 and 1982	25
5-1. Selected Alternatives to Traditional Health-Care Delivery	62
B-1. Coverage and Direct Payment for Services of Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Certified Nurse-Midwives	72

Figure

<i>Figure No.</i>	<i>Page</i>
3-1. Distribution of Physician Assistants by Size of Community	32