

MEDICAL LIABILITY INSURANCE PRICES RISE FOLLOWING MEDICAID EXPANSION

Following the Affordable Care Act, enacted in 2010, costs related to medical malpractice increased. Did this impact medical liability insurance prices, too?

In [an earlier paper](#), Martin Grace and Jingshu Luo found that doctors, hospitals and insurers in states expanding Medicaid after the Affordable Care Act (ACA) paid higher medical liability costs. What does this mean for medical liability insurance prices?

Grace and Luo's follow-up study finds that medical liability insurance prices increased in states where Medicaid was expanded. Medical liability insurance prices for surgeons and general practitioners increased, while remaining the same for OB-GYNs. Medicaid expansion for pregnant women passed years before the ACA, explaining why OB-GYNs would not see the same changes as other doctors at this point in time.

Even in places like Kansas City (located on the border of Missouri and Kansas) where doctors in both states serve identical communities, they find significant differences in medical liability insurance prices on either side of the border.

The increase in medical liability prices is further indication that Medicaid expansion is contributing to medical malpractice. Efforts to increase the number of doctors serving Medicaid patients can help alleviate this issue.

MAJOR TAKEAWAYS:

- Medical liability insurance prices increased in states where Medicaid was expanded.
- The insurance price for surgeons and general practitioners increased, while the price for OB-GYNs remained the same.
- Doctors serving identical communities assumed different medical liability prices based on the policies in their state.

WHO NEEDS TO KNOW:

- Doctors serving Medicaid patients
- Hospitals
- State legislatures and policymakers
- Congressional staff
- Health insurance industry

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- Does Public Health Insurance Expansion Influence Medical Liability Insurance Prices? The Case of the ACA's Optional Medicaid Expansion.
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