



2010 Doctor Survey: Key Findings

- The majority of physicians (60%) said health reform will compel them to **close or significantly restrict their practices to certain categories of patients**. Of these, **93% said they will close or significantly restrict their practices to Medicaid patients**, while **87% said they would close or significantly restrict their practices to Medicare patients**.
- The majority of physicians (59%) said **health reform will cause them to spend less time with patients**.
- While more than half of physicians said health reform will cause patient volumes in their practices to increase, 69% said they **no longer have the time or resources to see additional patients** in their practices while still maintaining quality of care.
- Only 10% of physicians said reform will improve the quality of patient care they are able to provide, while 56% said reform will **diminish the quality** of care they are able to provide.
- With several months to consider the content and direction of the new law, 39% of physicians said they now feel more negative about health reform than when it initially passed, compared to only 10% who now feel more positive.
 - And, 67% said their initial reaction to passage of the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was either **“somewhat negative”** or **“very negative.”**
- In response to reform, **40% of physicians said they would drop out of patient care in the next one to three years**, either by retiring, seeking a non-clinical job within healthcare, or by seeking a non-healthcare related job.
- The great majority of physicians surveyed (86%) believe **the viewpoint of physicians was not adequately represented** to policy makers during the run-up to passage of health reform.
- Physicians are almost **evenly divided over the relative importance of SGR** (36%) and health reform (34%) to their practices, while 30% are unsure which will have the greatest impact.

View the full survey and more at www.physiciansfoundation.org.