Graphic Summary

from “Evaluating the Efficiency of California Providers in Caring for Patients with Chronic Illness”

John Wennberg et al

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While Medicare spends more in Los Angeles hospitals, patients express higher dissatisfaction with the quality of the care they receive.

Quality Measures for Care Related to Specific Conditions
Los Angeles and Sacramento

Sacramento hospitals perform better on quality measures for chronic conditions, even though they spend less on care.

Relationship of Availability of ICU Beds to ICU Use
Los Angeles and Sacramento

In Los Angeles, with significantly more ICU beds than Sacramento, the likelihood of being admitted to an ICU is far greater.

* Represents the average number of ICU days used in the last six months of life.
Wide variation exists in how aggressively patients are treated, even within a hospital system.

Medicare Expenditures for Care of Chronic Disease Patients by Geographic Region

Significant variation exists in what Medicare spends to care for chronically ill patients.