

SCOPE OF PRACTICE AND PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES

ANALYSIS ON THE RELATIONSHIP TO SUPPLY BETWEEN 2015 AND 2019

Author
Sean Kolhoff, PhD

Affiliation
AAPA Research

Related literature
AAMC. New AAMC Report Confirms Growing Physician Shortage. 2020



PAs could help fill gaps in areas where a shortfall of practitioners is expected. However, the regulatory environment of a state may play a role on a PA's desired practice setting. Can regulations impact the supply of PAs across the country?

INTRODUCTION

AAMC projects a shortfall of up to 139,000 physicians by 2023. Impacted areas have attempted multiple solutions, such as expanding scope of practice (SOP) laws, to avoid shortages.

OBJECTIVE

To identify how changes to SOP regulations between 2015 and 2019 impacted PA supply across the United States

METHODOLOGY

- Secondary data analysis utilizing:
- AHRQ's Social Determinants of Health**
 - Number of PAs with an NPI practicing within each county in the U.S.
 - County population 2015-19
 - AAPA's PA State Laws and Regulations**
 - Regulatory data on practice-impacting laws states had in place from 2015-19

ANALYSIS

ANOVA

- Average number of enacted SOP regulations by U.S. census region $F(3, 3138)=19.81, p<0.001$
- PAs per 1,000 residents by region $F(3, 3138)=65.25, p<0.001$

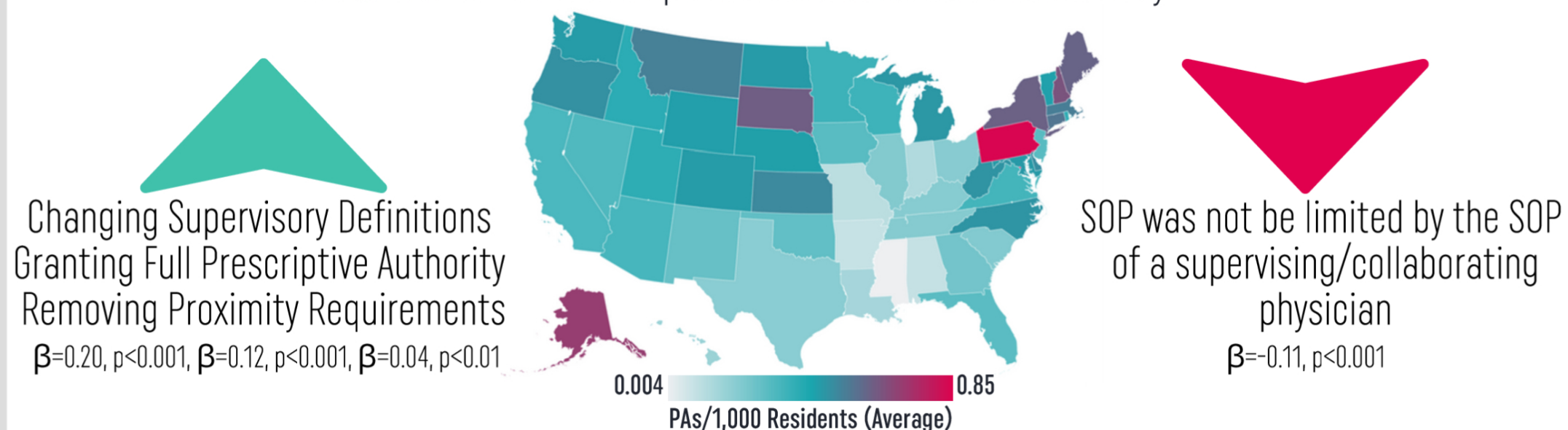
Multiple Linear Regression

- PAs per 1,000 residents by SOP regulation changes between 2015-19 $F(7, 3134)=14.50, p<0.001$

Predictive statistics calculated in IBM SPSSv29

FINDINGS

Favorable regulatory environments are associated with higher PA concentration
Elements of SOP can impact PA concentration differently



CONCLUSION

Changing specific regulations can lead to macro-level PA supply differences.
Future research should evaluate these impacts in alongside other environmental variables

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