



This Week in **Physician-Led Care**: *Clips from News Sources*  
Week Ending July 10, 2020

**Health Leaders Media:** (7/10) – Primary care physicians experience the highest level of burnout at 31% compared to other specialties. This article highlights ways to reduce anxiety and burnout at primary care practices with methods to improve the work environment to increase support, education, effective communication, and individual coaching.

**Medical Economics:** (7/10) – Patient volumes continue to stay at decreased levels, with recent data finding that only 31% of patients feel comfortable visiting their doctor's office. Despite more patients embracing telehealth, 41% have delayed health care services and 38% intend to delay future care, treatment, and procedures.

**Health Affairs:** (7/9) – While the authors of this article support the creation of the Provider Relief Fund, they argue that the fund has disproportionately benefited a small number of large, financially sound providers, and instead the remaining money should be focused on avoiding outright closures, independent physicians practices, and other vulnerable providers that are risk of being acquired by hospitals or insurers.

**Revcycle Intelligence:** (7/9) – A new study found that standalone ACOs and patient-centered medical homes both saved money and reduced health care costs compared to standard care but combining the alternative payment and care delivery models did double the savings.

**Virginia Mercury:** (7/9) – Primary care doctors in Virginia are calling for more resources from the state as the demand for testing grows with many physicians lacking the necessary amount of PPE to safely see patients and conduct COVID-19 tests.

**Washington Post:** (7/9) – While telemedicine has expanded during the pandemic, a primary care physician wrote this article on how the rise in telehealth is exposing health disparities due to the digital divide that is leaving some of the most vulnerable behind.

**Revcycle Intelligence:** (7/9) – According to recent CMS data, about 98% of eligible clinicians avoided a MIPS penalty and earned a positive payment adjustment.

**Revcycle Intelligence:** (7/7) – According to this week's survey from the Larry A. Green Center and Primary Care Collaborative, 37% of primary care physicians reported new layoffs and furloughs in the last four weeks, with another 28% of physicians reporting skipped or deferred salaries during that time.

**Medical Economics:** (7/7) – With an increasing focus on health care costs combined with primary care practices taking major financial hits due to the coronavirus pandemic, current reimbursement practices for primary care is coming under increased scrutiny.

**Deseret News:** (7/7) – The COVID-19 pandemic has illustrated how harmful patients not having access to their primary care physician is, which has implications for the looming primary care doctor shortage.

**Medical Economics:** (7/6) – A recent study found that independently owned primary care practices are expected to lose \$73,153 per full-time physician during COVID-19. Those losses are 17% higher losses in than non-independent practices which are expected to lose about \$67,774 in gross revenue per full-time physician

**Healthcare Finance News:** (7/6) – Primary care practices are feeling the pressure of the first wave of COVID-19 from the financial hit lower patient volumes, lack of PPE, and burnout from surging cases. According to a survey, 30% of primary care physicians feel unready or spent from the demands of the current wave and 40% are unready for another wave.