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Spring 4-26-2024

# The relationship between patient satisfaction and the interaction of physical therapy availability and Medicare spending

Ruoxuan Wang  
rwang1@skidmore.edu

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### Recommended Citation

Wang, Ruoxuan, "The relationship between patient satisfaction and the interaction of physical therapy availability and Medicare spending" (2024). *Economics Student Theses and Capstone Projects*. 159.  
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Ruoxuan Wang

Abstract for Economics senior thesis

My research aims to find out whether the interaction of availability of physical therapy services and Medicare spending will impact patient satisfaction. This study also investigates whether improvements in patients' breathing will impact patient satisfaction with nonparametric regression methodology. The findings show that patient satisfaction increases at a much higher rate when physical therapy services are available to Medicare beneficiaries. Further, the results demonstrates that a statistically significant association exist between patient satisfaction and the improvements in the frequency with which patients' breathing improves. This study demonstrates that the government needs to increase both Medicare funding and accessibility to high-quality physical therapy services simultaneously to achieve the greatest possible amount of patient satisfaction.