The Geography of Health Services in Los Angeles, County

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Health Services Research

The main goals of health services research are to identify the most effective ways to organize, manage, finance, and deliver high quality care; reduce medical errors; and improve patient safety.

(Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2002)
Geography and HSR

- People are organized geographically
- In some nations health care resources are distributed geographically along with people
- Not yet the case in the United States
- US Health Services are still market economy based, with government intervention to equalize
PCSA AND HRSA Shortage areas

- Dartmouth Atlas
- HRSA Bureau of Health Workforce
There are about 65 PCSA in LA Co.
Health Services contexts are local

- HRSA Provides Tools for examining local contexts
- HRSA Data Warehouse
Patient Protection and ACA

- Has increased financial access
- Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act five years ago, about tens of millions of uninsured people have gained health coverage.
Patient Protection and ACA

- Has not yet increased geographic accessibility to healthcare providers
- Los Angeles County is no exception
Covered California is not local

While healthcare shortages are locally based federal and state based solutions often are less locally sophisticated.
Medical Service Study areas

- OSHPD Workforce
We are here to help

CDU GIS lab can provide expert assistance

- Research collaboration
- Administrative research
- Education and Training