

# Most Musculoskeletal Urgent Care Centers in Connecticut Turn Away Patients on Medicaid

## A musculoskeletal urgent care center (MUCC)



- Provides fast, short-term orthopaedic care
- Offers triage and referral to specialists
- Low cost and short waiting time



May deny care to patients with Medicaid



Increase healthcare disparity

## Conducted online search for MUCCs in Connecticut (CT)

### Conducted telephone interviews

#### Asked MUCCs about:

- Ownership
- Policy toward patients with Medicaid

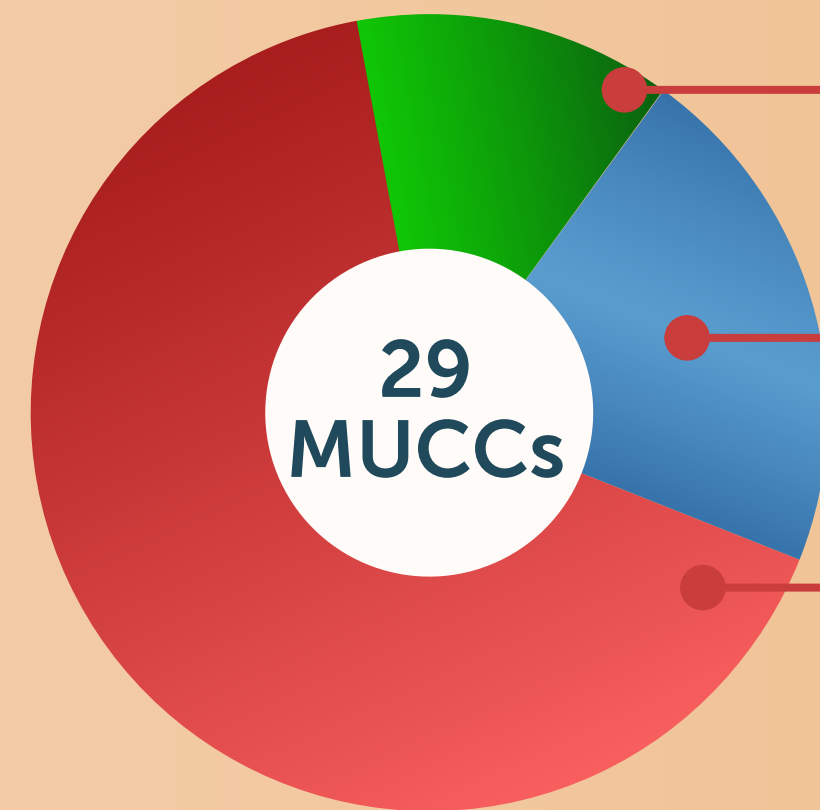
#### Asked MUCC ownership about:

- Policy toward patients with Medicaid

### Median household income



MUCC locations vs CT overall



4 (13%) Accepted all patients regardless of insurance type

6 (21%) Had stipulations to be met before accepting Medicaid

19 (66%) Rejected Medicaid

14 private practice groups owned all MUCCs



9 had same policy toward Medicaid as their MUCCs

### Median household income

MUCCs located in areas with greater median household incomes than CT median income

Most MUCCs in CT do not accept patients with Medicaid insurance, suggesting that private practices are using MUCCs to capture patients with more-favorable insurance, which could exacerbate existing disparities in the delivery of musculoskeletal care

- Do MUCCs provide aid for patients with Medicaid?
- Do MUCCs have the same policy toward patient health insurance as their owners?
- Are MUCCs more common in wealthy neighborhoods?

