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

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?

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

29 MUCCs

- 4 (13%) Accepted all patients regardless of insurance type
- 6 (21%) Had stipulations to be met before accepting Medicaid
- 19 (66%) Rejected Medicaid

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

Median household income

- MUCC locations vs CT overall

- 14 private practice groups owned all MUCCs

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

- 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 Musculoskeletal Urgent Care Centers in Connecticut Restrict Patients with Medicaid Insurance Based on Policy and Location

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