Research informing health policy and practice

Established in 2011, the Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation (IHPI) is the nation’s largest university-based community of health services researchers. Our mission: to improve the quality, safety, equity, and affordability of healthcare.

A research community across the University of Michigan (U-M)

IHPI unites nearly 700 faculty across 15 U-M schools and colleges on the University’s main Ann Arbor campus, and several units on the Flint and Dearborn campuses. Our members study complex issues in health policy and practice and respond to emerging public health problems, collaborating across diverse disciplines that include:

- Architecture and Urban Planning
- Art & Design
- Business
- Dentistry
- Economics
- Engineering
- Information
- Kinesiology
- Law
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Public Health
- Public Policy
- Social Research
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Statistics
- Women & Gender

IHPI also partners with:

30 U-M Collaborating Centers & Programs focused on health services research across a variety of areas.

21 State-wide Collaborative Quality Initiatives funded by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (17 of which are led by IHPI members), which collect, share, and analyze data on patient care to rapidly design and implement changes to improve quality and safety and reduce costs.

Addressing today’s most pressing health and healthcare priorities

Our members design and conduct timely research that both anticipates and responds to real-world health challenges, and share evidence with decision-makers seeking solutions to urgent issues in health policy and practice.
Developing the future of health services research

IHPI prepares faculty researchers, trainees, and students to analyze and inform healthcare policy and practice through robust education, training, and professional development programs, all supported by a vibrant community of dedicated mentors and collaborators. IHPI also offers a Health & Health Care Research Master’s Program and is one of six National Clinician Scholars Program sites.

Featured work

Healthy Michigan Plan Evaluation
Since 2014, IHPI has evaluated the impact of Michigan’s Medicaid expansion on the health of Michiganders, access to healthcare, and healthcare spending in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

National Poll on Healthy Aging
Launched in 2017, and conducted in partnership with AARP and Michigan Medicine, this nationally representative survey examines issues related to health, healthcare, and health policy affecting adults age 50-80.

Telehealth Research and Innovation
IHPI members rigorously evaluate federal and state telehealth policies and study the population-level impact of telehealth on healthcare access, quality, costs, and patient experience.

Workforce Diversity & Health Equity
IHPI members study faculty recruitment, retention, and promotion at U-M and assess health equity at Michigan Medicine to recommend system improvements.

IHPI’s data-driven research engine

Our research funding
With $1.2 billion in active awards, $163 million in new grants, and $179 million in research spending in FY21, IHPI members’ health services research grant portfolios represent 11% of the total research volume of U-M (which ranks #1 in research expenditures among U.S. public universities).

IHPI member research is supported by NIH, CDC, AHRQ, HRSA, NSF, DoD, MDHHS, U-M, and many other government agencies, national and local non-profit organizations, and foundations.

Our data sources
IHPI researchers examine data generated from health insurance claims (including Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans Health Administration, and private insurance), electronic health records, detailed surveys (such as the long-running Health and Retirement Study), and clinical registries. They also utilize datasets related to public health, healthcare quality, and healthcare spending.

Discover how IHPI’s work informs healthcare policy and practice

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