

Giving Physicians Greater Choice on How, Where They Work

California is grappling with a prolonged shortage and maldistribution of physicians, particularly in rural and underserved urban communities, which is aggravated by a nearly century-old law prohibiting most doctors from choosing to be employed by hospitals.

Kern County has the worst ranking for poor health and health outcomes in the state and is an example of California's maldistribution of physicians.

47

Primary care providers per capita in Kern County, compared to federally recommended average of 60-80 providers per capita.

50%

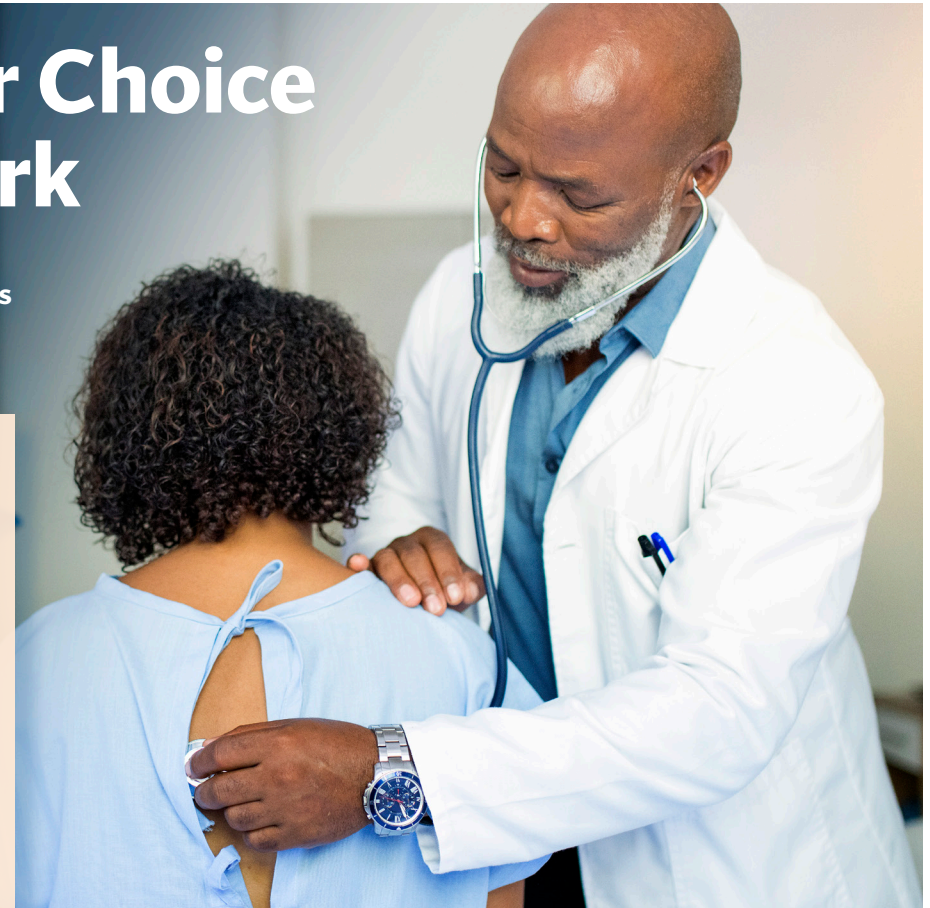
The growth of CA's population 65 or older by 2030 — resulting in a growing gap between supply & demand for physician services.

1/3

of California physicians are 60 or older and within 5 years of retirement

33,000

Projected shortage of CA doctors by 2030



“45% of medical residents surveyed prefer hospital employment as their first practice setting over any other type of setting.... only 1% of medical residents would prefer a solo setting in their first practice...”

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“Physician employment can provide better access to care... especially (to) those with Medicaid coverage who historically have had poor access to independent specialists.”

“Retiring independent physicians are leaving large gaps in care in their economically challenged communities.”

WHAT'S NEEDED

Expanded opportunities for California doctors to choose to be directly employed by rural and other hospitals serving disadvantaged and underserved communities.

