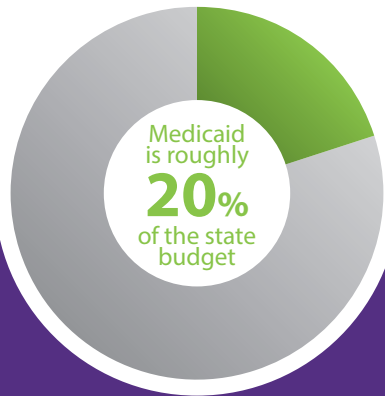


# MEDICAID SAVINGS IN ARKANSAS

## The case for full practice authority for Nurse Practitioners



At one-fifth of the total state budget, *Medicaid is one of the largest expenses in Arkansas.*



About 1 out of every 3 Arkansans is covered by Medicaid or ArKids.



Nurse Practitioners could save Arkansas Medicaid between \$575,000 and \$882,000 annually.

### How can Nurse Practitioners save Arkansas money?

- Academic research suggests that between 4.8% and 18.1% more of many common procedures could be performed by Nurse Practitioners.<sup>1</sup>
- Last year roughly 90% of new and established patient office visits were performed by physicians at a total cost of about \$61.4 million.
- If Nurse Practitioners performed 5% of these common office visits that are currently being billed by physicians, Arkansas Medicaid would save **\$575,925 annually**<sup>2</sup>.
- If Nurse Practitioners performed 5% of the work on the 10 most common procedures currently billable by both MDs and NPs Arkansas Medicaid would save **\$881,954 annually**<sup>3</sup>.
- Academic research shows Nurse Practitioners provide comparable primary care to physicians. Primary care catches problems before they get big.

1. A. Mehrotra, M.C. Wang, J.R. Lave, et al., *Retail Clinics, Primary Care Physicians, and Emergency Departments: A Comparison of Patients' Visits*. *Health Aff (Millwood)*, 2008. 27(5): p. 1272-82. D.K. Cherry, E. Hing, D.A. Woodwell, et al., *National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2006 Summary*. *Natl Health Stat. Report*, 2008(3): p. 1-39.

2. Data was provided by DHS

3. Procedures in ArKids which is part of CHIP (Child Insurance Health Program) are partially funded by the federal government. The number of those procedures was unavailable. Some patients are dual eligible for Medicaid and Medicare. Some costs for dual eligible patients are covered by the federal government. In 2016 the federal government paid about 70% of Medicaid program related costs and about 50% of Medicaid administrative costs. (<https://www.medicaid.state.ar.us/Download/general/MOBSFY2016.pdf>)

For a complete analysis, visit  
[www.uca.edu/acre](http://www.uca.edu/acre)



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