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## Original Investigation

# The Exnovation of Chronic Care Management Processes by Physician Organizations

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#### **Policy Points**

- The rate of adoption of chronic care management processes (CMPs) by physician organizations has been fairly slow in spite of demonstrated effectiveness of CMPs in improving outcomes of chronic care.
- Exnovation (ie, removal of innovations) by physician organizations largely explains the slow population-level increases in practice use of CMPs over time.
- Expanded health information technology functions may aid practices in retaining CMPs. Low provider reimbursement by Medicaid programs, however, may contribute to disinvestment in CMPs by physician organizations.

**Context:** Exnovation is the process of removal of innovations that are not effective in improving organizational performance, are too disruptive to routine operations, or do not fit well with the existing organizational strategy, incentives, structure, and/or culture. Exnovation may contribute to the low overall adoption of care management processes (CMPs) by US physician organizations over time.

**Methods:** Three national surveys of US physician organizations, which included common questions about organizational characteristics, use of CMPs, and health information technology (HIT) capabilities for practices of all sizes, and Truven Health Insurance Coverage Estimates were integrated to assess organizational and market influences on the exnovation of CMPs in a longitudinal

The Milbank Quarterly, Vol. 94, No. 3, 2016 (pp. 626-653) © 2016 Milbank Memorial Fund. Published by Wiley Periodicals Inc. cohort of 1,048 physician organizations. CMPs included 5 strategies for each of 4 chronic conditions (diabetes, asthma, congestive heart failure, and depression): registry use, nurse care management, patient reminders for preventive and care management services to prevent exacerbations of chronic illness, use of nonphysician clinicians to provide patient education, and quality of care feedback to physicians.

Findings: Over one-third (34.1%) of physician organizations exnovated CMPs on net. Quality of care data feedback to physicians and patient reminders for recommended preventive and chronic care were discontinued by over one-third of exnovators, while nurse care management and registries were largely retained. Greater proportions of baseline Medicaid practice revenue (incidence rate ratio [IRR] = 1.44, p < 0.001) and increasing proportions of revenue from Medicaid (IRR = 1.02, p < 0.05) were associated with greater CMP exnovation by physician organizations on net. Practices with greater expansion of HIT functionality exnovated fewer CMPs (IRR = 0.91, p < 0.001) compared to practices with less expansion of HIT functionality.

**Conclusions:** Exnovation of CMPs is an important reason why the populationlevel adoption of CMPs by physician organizations has remained low. Expanded HIT functions and changes to Medicaid reimbursement and incentives may aid the retention of CMPs by physician organizations.

Keywords: exnovation, de-implementation, Medicaid, chronic care management, organizational change.

**B** XNOVATION IS THE PROCESS OF REMOVAL OF INNOVATIONS that do not improve organizational performance, are too disruptive to routine operations, or do not fit well with the existing organizational strategy, incentives, structure, and/or culture. John Kimberly first coined the term in 1981 to describe the removal process at the tail end of the innovation cycle.<sup>1</sup> To our knowledge, there is no empirical research examining the internal organizational capabilities and external incentives associated with the exnovation of innovations. Even before the rapid increase in innovation adoption research in health care,<sup>2</sup> Kimberly wrote that "the overwhelming emphasis of the innovation literature on adoption is more a reflection of a pro-innovation bias than of a thoughtful consideration of managerial and organizational needs."<sup>1</sup>

Exnovation of innovations in health care delivery organizations may result from strategic organizational response of medical practices to ensure sufficient time and resources or "absorptive capacity"<sup>3</sup> for adopting alternative innovations better aligned with the organizations' internal capabilities and more effective in meeting external demands. Innovations are also removed because they fail to be normalized into practice because the additional demands required of frontline health care workers are not sustainable. For example, structured quality improvement and collaborative learning sometimes fail to improve organizational performance and patient outcomes<sup>4-6</sup> because frontline workers may not have the time or institutional support to integrate innovative care processes. Innovations in health care delivery may also be exnovated because of insufficient external financial incentives for maintaining them once they are adopted. Scholars have argued that given post hoc biases of organizational leaders, distinguishing strategic removal of organizational practices versus abandonment due to implementation failure or other reasons has proven difficult.<sup>1,7</sup> Our examination of exnovation does not distinguish among strategic, operational, or other reasons why innovations are removed and substituted over time. Exnovation is different from "de-implementation,"<sup>8-11</sup> "de-adoption,"<sup>12,13</sup> and "rejection"<sup>14</sup> in that these terms emphasize the strategic and deliberate removal of organizational structures and processes, whereas exnovation focuses on the removal of innovations specifically.

Exnovation may contribute to the low rate of adoption of chronic care management processes (CMPs) by physician organizations. Evidence indicates that between 2006 and 2013, the use of CMPs increased only slightly overall, from an average of 3.9 to 4.5 CMPs (out of 20 possible) in spite of the demonstrated effectiveness of CMPs in improving outcomes of chronic care<sup>15</sup> and federal and state initiatives that incentivize the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model and the chronic care model (CCM), both of which promote organized care processes for patients with chronic conditions.<sup>16,17</sup> CMPs are disruptive innovations because implementing chronic care management structures and processes requires a significant departure from standard medical practice.<sup>2,18</sup> Certain CMPs have been more difficult for practices to adopt compared to others. Medical practices increased their use of nonphysician staff for patient education and patient reminders for prevention of and follow-up of chronic conditions, but their use of registries for chronic conditions remained very low (10% of practices) and physician performance feedback on quality of chronic illness care performance was stagnant (18%).<sup>19</sup> These population-level estimates indicate that the diffusion of CMPs

across physician organizations could be slow overall because some CMPs have been exnovated.

Little is known about the exnovation of CMPs and the factors that aid their retention in practice. We analyzed a cohort of 1,048 medical practices to examine the extent to which internal practice capabilities, such as health information technology (HIT) functionality, payfor-performance incentives, and market factors, are associated with the exnovation of CMPs, including chronic disease registries, patient education, nurse care management, quality of care data feedback to physicians, and patient reminders.

### **Conceptual Framework**

Physician organizations may be more likely to exnovate CMPs when their internal capabilities and external incentives are insufficient to retain them and when the strength of the evidence for retaining a CMP is low. Fidelity of implementation<sup>20,21</sup> to CMPs may be low when incentives are insufficiently large to integrate innovations into practice, resulting in a high risk of implementation failure and exnovation.<sup>8,11</sup> Previous research indicates that practices with robust HIT adopt a greater number of CMPs compared to practices with low HIT functionality.<sup>22</sup> HIT capabilities may reduce risk of exnovation of CMPs by facilitating the integration of CMPs within the existing workflow and by reducing the staff burden required to make the change.<sup>18</sup>

*Hypothesis 1:* Physician organizations with relatively high baseline HIT functions and expanded HIT functions over time will be less likely to exnovate CMPs.

The strength of the evidence supporting routine use of CMPs may influence physician organizations' decisions to exnovate CMPs. For example, CMPs with an inconsistent and/or unclear evidence base, such as with physician performance measurement and feedback, may be more likely to be exnovated. Accumulating evidence highlights the low reliability of individual physician performance measurement on clinical quality measures and the fact that most individual physicians have an insufficient number of patients with specific chronic illnesses (eg, asthma, congestive heart failure) to conduct reliable comparisons of individual physicians.<sup>23,24</sup> Perceived low reliability of performance measurement may result in the divestment of individual physician performance feedback.

*Hypothesis 2:* Physician organizations will be more likely to exnovate individual physician performance feedback compared to other CMPs.

External influences, such as the use of global payment for health services, may also influence the exnovation of CMPs by physician organizations. Global payment, in particular, may support the retention of CMPs because returns on CMP investments are more likely to be realized under risk-based payment arrangements. Global payment improves the business case for retaining CMPs and other PCMH capabilities because CMPs, particularly nurse care management and patient education, have high maintenance costs.<sup>25</sup>

*Hypothesis 3:* Practices in markets with relatively lower baseline use of global payment for health care services will be more likely to exnovate CMPs compared to practices in markets with relatively high use of global payment.

## Methods

## Data

Three national surveys of US physician organizations were integrated to assess change in CMP use and other organizational characteristics among a longitudinal cohort of physician organizations. Wave 2 of the National Study of Physician Organizations (NSPO2) (2006) and the National Study of Small and Medium-sized Physician Practices (NSSMPP) (2007-2009) served as the baseline period. The third wave of the National Study of Physician Organizations (NSPO3) (2012-2013) served as the follow-up period. The 3 surveys had common questions about organizational characteristics, CMP use, and HIT capabilities for practices of all sizes. All 3 surveys focused on physician organizations caring for patients with chronic conditions, including asthma, congestive heart failure, depression, and diabetes. Across all 3 surveys, large practices (those with at least 20 physicians) were eligible for inclusion if at least 30% of the physicians were primary care providers (family physicians, general internists, and general practitioners), cardiologists, endocrinologists, and/or pulmonologists as of the follow-up period. Smaller practices (those with fewer than 20 physicians) were eligible if at least 40% of the physicians in the practice were in these specialties. The 30% and 40%primary care cutoffs were established for the survey for large and smalland medium-sized practices, respectively, because the PCMH questions are most relevant to physician organizations caring for adult patients with one or more of the following 4 chronic conditions-asthma, diabetes, depression, and congestive heart failure (CHF). The surveys measured all practice characteristics at the system level for system-owned practices and at the physician organization level for organizations with multiple locations. For single site practices, the surveys assessed practice characteristics particular to a specific site. The NSPO2 had a 60% response rate, the NSSMPP had a 64% response rate, and the NSPO3 had a 50% response rate. Detailed information about the administration of the NSPO2, NSPO3, and NSSMPP surveys is provided elsewhere.<sup>19,26,27</sup> The cohort of 1,048 organizations with baseline (NSPO2 or NSSMPP) and follow-up (NSPO3) responses included NSPO2 (n = 124) and NSSMPP (n = 924) respondents.

Truven Health Insurance Coverage Estimates for county-level health maintenance organization (HMO) and preferred provider organization (PPO) enrollment (2008, 2013) and Area Health Resources Files (AHRF) data (2008, 2013) were summarized at the county-FIPS (federal information processing standards) level and linked to the physician organization data (2008 for baseline and 2013 for follow-up) using county-FIPs codes for the counties each organization covered. AHRF measures included county-level proportions of adults living in poverty, unemployment rates, and rates of uninsured adult patients.

#### Outcome Measures

*Exnovation of Chronic Care Management Processes.* For each of 4 chronic conditions (diabetes, asthma, congestive heart failure, and depression), 5 CMPs were assessed: registry use, nurse care management, patient reminders for preventive and care management services to prevent exacerbations of chronic illness, use of nonphysician clinicians to provide patient education, and quality of care data feedback to physicians. A composite measure (range: 0–20) was calculated for the baseline and follow-up periods using the sum of binary responses to the CMP questions. For bivariate analyses, we categorized physician organizations as (1) "net CMP exnovators" if the organization had fewer overall CMPs

in the follow-up period than in the baseline period (n = 357), (2) practices with no net change in overall CMP use (n = 264), and (3) "net CMP adopters" if the organization had more overall CMPs in the follow-up period than in the baseline period (n = 427). For multivariate analyses, we examined a net CMP exnovation measure, which was calculated by taking the difference between follow-up and baseline CMP counts, setting positive values to zero, and then taking the absolute value.

#### Main Independent Variables

HIT Functions. HIT functions included whether a majority of physicians used the electronic health record (EHR) for patient problem lists, progress notes, prompts, reminders not specific to chronic conditions management, and alerts for abnormal test results. The index also comprised other HIT functions, including accessing hospital discharge summaries at the main hospital, sending prescriptions directly to pharmacies, and communicating with patients via email. A count measure of HIT functions ( $\alpha = 0.88$ ) was constructed based on the sum of the 14 dichotomous questions (range: 0–14). The index did not incorporate measures of chronic disease registries or use of patient reminders, which were included in the CMP composite.

*County-Level Global Payment for Health Services.* HMO payments involve physician organization global payment for costs of care. We used Truven Health data to construct county-level measures of the proportion of HMO payments across adult patient revenue sources (Medicaid, Medicare, private, and uninsured patient sources) for each US county as a proxy for global payment penetration.

#### Control Measures

We controlled for practice ownership and practice size (number of physicians) because these characteristics have been found to be associated with CMP use and HIT functionality<sup>4,22,28-32</sup> and may confound the estimated relationship of HIT use and exnovation of CMPs. We also controlled for pay-for-performance participation, measured using a 3-point index assessing receipt of payment for quality of care measures, adoption of information technology, and/or efficient utilization of resources, as such participation may confound the relationships of interest.<sup>33,34</sup> At the market level, we controlled for county-level proportions of adults living in poverty, as high poverty may be associated with greater proportion of Medicaid revenue for physician organizations, higher global payment penetration at the county level, and increased CMP exnovation by physician organizations. We also controlled for the nine regional divisions used by the United States Census Bureau.

### Analyses

First, we examined differences in 2013 physician organization and county-level market characteristics by net CMP change category, ie, net exnovators versus net adopters versus practices with no net change in their CMP count. T-tests were used to assess the extent to which organizational characteristics differed by net CMP change category (p < 0.05), with tests conducted by stratum for categorical organizational variables.

We then calculated the level of adoption and exnovation of each of the 20 individual CMPs and the adoption of 14 individual HIT functionalities by net CMP change category. We estimated unadjusted logistic regression models to compare the level of exnovation of each of the CMPs by the net CMP change category. Bivariate correlations of all study variables were examined to identify potential regression model specification problems ( $r \ge 0.60$ ).

We were interested in the extent of net CMP exnovation as our outcome variable, and most practices did not remove CMPs on net. To account for the high proportion of zero observations in the data, we used zero-inflated negative binomial regression to model net CMP exnovation. This regression model (Model 1) estimated the extent to which baseline and follow-up HIT functions, baseline pay-for-performance participation, and baseline county-level global payment use were associated with net CMP exnovation, controlling for practice ownership, size, percent Medicaid revenue, percent county-level poverty, and geographic region (Pacific, New England, Middle Atlantic, Mountain, East South Central, and East North Central). For the inflation portion of the binomial model, we included practice ownership, size, and geographic region as covariates, considering them to be predictors of physician organizations not exnovating CMPs on net.

To explore the impact of changes in internal capabilities and external incentives on net CMP exnovation, we also specified a negative binomial regression model (Model 2) for which we added variables for changes in practice ownership, in pay-for-performance participation, in Medicaid revenue, in county-level global payment, and in poverty to the baseline variables included in Model 1. The specification of the inflation portion for Model 2 was identical to that for Model 1.

For both models, incidence rate ratios (IRRs) were calculated. We used the clustered sandwich estimator to account for the clustering of physician organizations within counties. The Vuong test was conducted to examine the extent to which the zero-inflated negative binomial models were preferred over the standard negative binomial models. The Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) for Models 1 and 2 were compared to determine the preferred model based on goodness of fit.

All results were weighted to be nationally representative, with additional survey methodology reported elsewhere.<sup>19</sup> Stata 13.0 was used to conduct all statistical analyses.

#### Results

#### Net CMP Change

More than one-third (34.1%) of all physician organizations exnovated CMPs on net, with a mean net exnovation level of 1.3 CMPs (standard deviation [SD] = 2.9) for the full cohort and a mean net exnovation level of 4.3 CMPs (SD = 2.6) among net CMP exnovators. Net CMP exnovators had nearly twice as many CMPs at baseline compared to all organizations (7.1 vs 4.5, p < 0.001) (Table 1). By 2013, net CMP exnovators had removed two-thirds of their CMPs, resulting in relatively low overall CMP use compared to all organizations (3.1 vs 5.6, p < 0.001). In contrast, net CMP adopters increased CMP use to 8.2 CMPs (SD = 4.9) over time, while organizations with no net change had a mean of 2.7 CMPs at baseline and follow-up.

In bivariate analyses (see Table 1), large physician organizations (with 20 or more physicians) were more likely to be net exnovators of CMPs; 21.5% of exnovator organizations were large compared to 15.1% of adopter organizations (p < 0.001). Physician-owned practices were more likely to have no change in the number of CMPs used over time; 85.6% of physician-owned practices had no change compared to 70.1% of net CMP adopters and 74.2% of net CMP exnovators. Net CMP adopters had higher proportions of Medicaid revenue (11.4% vs 10.4%, p = 0.03)

	All Physician	Net CMP	Practices With No Net	Net CMP	
	Organizations	Adopter	CMP Change	Exnovator	p-value
1 (% of organizations)	1,048	427 (40.7%)	264 (25.2%)	357 (34.1%)	
Drganizational Characteristic					
Number of CMPs (range: 0–20)					
Baseline (2006/2008) Mean (SD)	4.5 (4.5)	3.4 (3.7)	2.7 (4.0)	7.1 (4.7)	< 0.001
Follow-up (2012/2013) Mean (SD)	5.6 (5.1)	8.2 (4.9)	2.7 (4.0)	3.1 (3.6)	< 0.001
Practice ownership					
Physician-owned (%)	74.1	70.1	85.6	74.2	0.002
Hospital or health system–owned (%)	18.0	20.5	11.0	17.9	
Community health center (%)	7.9	9.4	3.5	7.9	
Practice size, %					
1–2 physicians	42.5	39.5	56.1	40.2	0.001
3–9 physicians	33.0	36.2	31.8	28.9	
10–19 physicians	8.6	9.2	5.2	9.4	
20+ physicians	16.0	15.1	6.9	21.5	

	All Physician Organizations	Net CMP Adopter	Practices With No Net CMP Change	Net CMP Exnovator	p-value
Revenue from Medicaid (mean % of total. SD)	10.4 (13.0)	11.4 (14.2)	8.5 (11.0)	9.9 (12.0)	0.03
Revenue from uninsured low-income	4.7 (6.1)	3.7 (5.8)	5.2 (6.2)	5.7 (6.2)	< 0.001
patients (mean % of total, SD) Practice involved in pay-for-performance (0-3) (mean, SD)	0.84 (0.97)	0.93 (1.05)	0.66 (0.92)	0.86 (0.87)	0.002
Market Characteristics Global payment (% of payments)					
Overall (%, SD)	26.2 (14.0)	29.1 (15.1)	24.7 (12.4)	23.8 (13.0)	< 0.001
Private (%, SD)	15.6 (12.9)	18.8 (15.4)	14.0 (11.3)	12.9 (12.9)	< 0.001
Medicare (%, SD)	27.0 (14.8)	30.4 (14.6)	22.4 (14.6)	26.2 (14.4)	< 0.001
Medicaid (%, SD)	61.7 (31.8)	60.1 (30.2)	67.1 (31.7)	59.6 (33.3)	0.007
Uninsured (%, SD)	14.6 (7.0)	15.1 (6.2)	15.3 (9.6)	13.6 (5.5)	0.002
Unemployment (%, SD)	7.7 (2.0)	7.7 (2.2)	7.5(1.7)	7.8 (2.0)	0.17
Poverty (%, SD)	15.6 (5.6)	16.3(5.6)	15.0 (6.4)	15.2 (4.9)	0.002

and lower proportions of uninsured low-income patient revenue (3.7%) vs 4.7%, p < 0.001) compared to all organizations. Net CMP adopters and net CMP exnovators participated in pay-for-performance initiatives (p = 0.002) to a greater extent compared to organizations with no net changes in CMP use.

All market characteristics assessed, with the exception of unemployment rate, differed for organizations across net CMP change categories (see Table 1). Organizations with no net change in CMP use were more likely to operate in counties with proportionally higher global payment for Medicaid compared to net CMP adopters (67.1% vs 60.1%) and net CMP exnovators (67.1% vs 59.6%). County-level poverty (16.3% vs 15.6% overall) was slightly higher in counties where net CMP adopters operated.

## Exnovation and Adoption of Individual CMPs

Individual CMPs were differentially adopted and exnovated across the 3 CMP change categories (p < 0.001 for each of the 20 individual CMPs). Of the 5 CMPs for each of the 4 chronic conditions, quality of care data feedback to physicians and patient reminders for recommended preventive and chronic care were exnovated by approximately one-third of net exnovators, ranging from 32.3% to 39.9% (Table 2). Nevertheless, quality of care data feedback to physicians and patient reminders were just as likely to be adopted by net CMP adopters as other CMPs; 20.2%–37.1% and 27.3%–42.1%, respectively.

Net CMP exnovators had low adoption across all 20 CMPs (range: 0.0%–10.6% of organizations adopting), while net CMP adopters had low levels of exnovation across all 20 CMPs (range: 0.0%–6.1% of organizations exnovating). Nurse care management was the CMP maintained by most organizations over time, with only 4.2%–11.8% exnovation among net CMP exnovators. Similarly, registries were generally maintained once put into place.

## HIT Functionality

HIT functionalities expanded over time across all 3 net CMP change categories. Net adopters of CMPs had relatively higher HIT functionality at baseline (5.1 of 14 capabilities, p < 0.001) and at follow-up (8.3 capabilities, p < 0.001) compared to other organizations (Table 3). Of the HIT functionalities, the most commonly adopted

	All PI	hysician			Practices v	with No Net		
	Organ	uzations	Net CMI	P Adopter	CMP	Change	Net CMP	Exnovator
1 (% of organizations)	1,	048	427 (	40.7%)	264 (	25.2%)	357 (	34.1%)
-	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
	Adopting	Exnovating	Adopting	Exnovating	Adopting	Exnovating	Bundopt	Exnovating
legistries								
Diabetes	14.0	5.8	32.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	16.4
Asthma	14.7	2.8	30.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	3.2	10.7
Congestive heart failure	9.3	4.8	21.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	13.3
Depression	7.7	5.5	16.8	3.1	2.8	0.0	0.1	12.2
Quality of Care Data Fe	edback to P	hysicians						
Diabetes	16.8	15.6	37.1	5.5	0.0	5.0	4.7	35.3
Asthma	15.2	15.2	33.5	1.1	0.0	7.1	4.2	38.1
Congestive heart failure	15.3	17.9	34.4	4.5	0.0	9.9	3.4	39.9
Depression	8.6	15.3	20.2	2.4	0.0	9.7	10.6	35.0
atient Reminders								
Diabetes	19.4	13.5	42.1	0.5	2.9	1.6	4.5	37.9
Asthma	12.5	13.8	28.5	4.8	2.8	3.2	0.0	32.3
Congestive heart failure	13.6	14.6	32.8	1.6	0.0	3.4	0.0	38.4
Jepression	11.2	13.9	27.3	4.7	0.0	3.1	0.0	32.7

	rganiza	ations	Net CMI	P Adopter	Practices 1 CMP	with No Net Change	Net CMP	Exnovator
(% of organizations)	1,04	8	427 (	40.7%)	264 (	25.2%)	357 (	34.1%)
Adoptin	l gu	% Exnovating	% Adopting	% Exnovating	% Adopting	% Exnovating	% Adopting	% Exnovating
atient Education								
hiabetes 19.0		12.1	37.2	6.1	5.4	4.5	7.3	24.9
sthma 16.5		12.4	36.4	4.7	5.4	4.5	0.1	27.6
ongestive heart failure 18.0		11.0	38.5	0.8	8.1	4.6	0.1	27.7
Pepression 18.4		8.5	36.1	1.2	7.3	4.3	5.3	20.2
lurse Care Management								
11.5 11.5		4.7	19.8	1.6	7.2	0.2	4.6	11.8
sthma 9.0		3.8	19.3	2.1	4.4	0.2	0.2	8.5
ongestive heart failure 10.6		2.7	20.5	1.1	5.1	0.0	2.8	6.5
Pepression 5.0		1.9	9.2	1.2	4.3	0.0	0.4	4.2

n (% of organizations)		Net CMP Adopter	Practices with No Net CMP Change	Net CMP Exnovator	p-value
	1,048	427 (40.7%)	264 (25.2%)	357 (34.1%)	
Number of HIT Functions (range: $0-14$ )					
Baseline (2006/2008) Mean (SD) 4.	.7 (3.4)	5.1 (3.6)	3.9 (2.7)	4.9 (3.4)	* *
Follow-up (2012/2013) Mean (SD) 7.	.3 (3.9)	8.3 (4.1)	6.0(3.4)	7.0 (3.6)	** *
HIT Function Adopted (% adopting) Electronic documentation					
EHR use for listing patient medications	27.3	34.1	16.7	27.2	***
EHR use for listing patient problems	26.5	30.3	19.5	27.0	*
EHR use for making progress notes	24.2	29.8	15.6	23.8	* * *
Clinical decision support PUD	22 2	366	20 S	1 70	* * *
ELIK USE FOR IGENLITYING POTENTIAL OFUG interactions	0.00	0.06	0.00	70.1	
EHR use for generating prompts and reminders	22.6	33.0	12.2	17.8	** *
EHR use for generating alerts on abnormal test results	24.9	35.1	13.2	21.3	* * *

	All Physician Organizations	Net CMP Adopter	Practices with No Net CMP Change	Net CMP Exnovator	p-value
Quality measurement EHR use for collecting data for clinical quality measures	28.6	38.7	21.4	21.9	* * *
<i>Physician order entry</i> Transmission of prescriptions electronically to pharmacy	46.1	53.8	44.3	38.3	* * *
Electronic access to clinical data Clinical information on patient ER visits at main	11.0	8.5	18.4	8.6	* * *
nospital Hospital discharge summaries at main hospital	11.9	11.0	13.7	11.7	*
Laboratory results from main lab	8.1	6.9	6.2	10.9	*
Pharmacy record of prescriptions filled by patients	31.2	38.6	25.7	26.4	* * *
Electronic connectivity for patients Patient ability to view medical record online	18.1	28.2	8.7	13.0	* * *
Physician communication with patients via email	11.7	18.2	0.0	12.1	* * *

functions were transmission of prescriptions electronically to the pharmacy (46.1% adoption), which was adopted at high levels across all CMP change categories (range: 38.3%-53.8%), and EHR use to assess potential drug interactions (33.5% adoption), adopted at similar levels across organizations (range: 26.1%-38.5%). Net CMP adopters were more likely than other organizations to adopt electronic connectivity functionalities that allow patients to view their medical records online (28.2% vs 18.1% for all organizations) and physicians to communicate with patients via email (18.2% vs 11.7% for all organizations).

#### Multivariate Analyses

Vuong test results (z = 3.42; p < 0.001) indicated that the zero-inflated negative binomial models were preferred over standard negative binomial models, so we present the zero-inflated Model 1 and Model 2 results in Table 4. Model 1, which included baseline predictors and change in HIT functions only, and Model 2, which added other change predictors, had similar findings. Goodness of fit for Model 2, however, was better based on AIC and BIC statistics. Model 2 results indicated that larger increases in HIT functionality were linked to less exnovation of CMPs (IRR = 0.91, p < 0.01) compared to practices with smaller increases in HIT functionality. Net CMP exnovation did not differ by practice ownership. Greater proportions of baseline Medicaid practice revenue (IRR = 1.44, p < 0.001) and increasing proportions of revenue from Medicaid (IRR = 1.02, p < 0.05) were associated with more CMP exnovation by physician organizations on net. In terms of market characteristics, practices in counties with greater baseline proportions of residents living in poverty (IRR = 0.79, p < 0.05) had significantly less CMP exnovation.

#### Discussion

Exnovation of CMPs by physician organizations largely explains the slow population-level increases in CMP use over time. More than one-third (34.1%) of physician organizations exnovated CMPs on net, while 25.2% had no net change in CMP use. Early adopter physician organizations appear to be moving away from CMPs in general, although certain CMPs were retained at higher levels than others. Systematic reviews have examined the strength of the evidence supporting CMPs for asthma,<sup>35</sup>

Table 4. Multivariate Analyses: Organization	al and Marke	et Influences on tl	he Net Exnov	ation of Cl	hronic CMPs	
			Exnovation	of CMPs		
		Model 1			Model 2	
	IRR	95% CI	p-value	IRR	95% CI	p-value
Organizational Characteristics						
Practice ownership						
Physician-owned (reference)						
System-owned	0.87	0.42 to 1.81		0.79	0.40 to 1.54	
Community health center	0.85	0.40 to 1.82		0.87	0.42 to 1.80	
Ownership change				1.16	0.79 to 1.71	
Practice size						
1-2 physicians (reference)						
3–9 physicians	1.13	0.83 to 1.52		1.10	0.83 to 1.45	
10–19 physicians	1.18	0.64 to 2.19		1.11	0.65 to 1.87	
20+ physicians	0.94	0.58 to 1.57		0.90	0.52  to  1.55	
Medicaid revenue at baseline (% of total)	1.34	1.19 to 1.51	***	1.44	1.22 to 1.70	***
Change in % of Medicaid revenue				1.02	1.00 to 1.03	*
Organizational Capabilities						
HIT functionality at baseline	0.98	0.93 to 1.02		0.99	0.95 to 1.03	
Change in HIT functionality	0.92	0.87 to 0.97	* *	0.91	0.86 to 0.96	*
						Continued

			Exnovation	of CMPs		
		Model 1			Model 2	
	IRR	95% CI	p-value	IRR	95% CI	p-value
Pay-for-performance at baseline	1.21	1.03 to 1.41	*	1.22	0.98 to 1.51	
Change in pay-for-performance				0.98	0.83 to 1.17	
Market Characteristics						
Global payment (%), 2008	1.11	0.93 to 1.33		1.08	0.90 to 1.27	
Change in % of global payment, 2008-2013				0.98	0.83 to 1.17	
Poverty (%), 2008	0.81	0.67  to  0.97	*	0.79	0.64 to 0.96	*
Change in % of poverty, 2008-2013				0.86	0.73 to $1.01$	
Constant	5.86	3.90 to 8.80	* *	5.38	3.72 to 7.78	* * *
Inflation Portion						
Practice ownership						
Physician-owned (reference)						
System-owned	0.40	-1.03 to $1.82$		0.38	-1.08 to 1.83	
Community health center/other	0.47	-1.47 to 2.41		0.52	-1.33 to $2.37$	
Practice size						
1–2 physicians (reference)						

Table 4. Continued						
			Exnovation	of CMPs		
		Model 1			Model 2	
	IRR	95% CI	p-value	IRR	95% CI	p-value
3-9 physicians 10–19 physicians 20+ physicians Constant AIC BIC CMP = care management process; IRR = incidence rat criterion; BIC = Bayesian Information Criterion. *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p < 0.001. Geographic region dummy variables are also controlled	-0.40 1.26 -0.93 0.30 te ratio; CI = co	-1.25 to 1.82 -0.12 to 2.65 -1.96 to 0.10 -0.50 to 1.11 132,447.6 132,620.3 ifidence interval; HIT	= health inform	-0.43 1.26 -0.86 0.28 1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1 binomial re	-1.08 to 1.83 -0.15 to 2.67 -1.91 to 0.19 -0.55 to 1.11 29,394.8 29,590.7 alogy; AIC = Akaik	: Information tels 1 and 2).

diabetes,<sup>36</sup> depression,<sup>37</sup> and CHF.<sup>38</sup> The evidence base is strongest for diabetes and depression, and physician organizations adopt CMPs for diabetes at much higher levels than depression. In spite of the strong evidence base, CMPs are least adopted for depression of the 4 conditions assessed. Asthma CMPs and CHF CMPs have been less extensively examined. When we compared CMP exnovation by chronic condition, exnovation levels were no different by disease. Important differences in exnovation levels by the type of CMP, however, were observed.

Nurse care management and registries were relatively robust CMPs, as they were retained by most physician organizations once adopted. Consistent with Hypothesis 2, CMPs for quality of care data feedback were the CMPs most often removed, exnovated by more than one-third (35.0%–39.9%) of net CMP exnovators. Physician performance feedback may have been removed more relative to other CMPs because of the concern about unreliable measurement based in part on an inadequate number of patients per physician to produce reliable measures. Patient reminder systems may have been removed because HIT advancements can generate patient lists to aid patient identification and performance assessment. For example, some EHRs are able to stratify patients based on their clinical outcomes for interventions as well as provide clinicians with a real-time sense of their level of performance on the quality indicators. Thus, some exnovation of CMPs may be partially due to advancements in HIT, as these innovations may replace or outdate the use of certain CMPs.

There were no individual CMPs that were systematically adopted at higher levels by net CMP exnovators. Moreover, no individual CMPs were exnovated at higher levels by net CMP adopters. Instead, the patterns of adoption and exnovation suggest that net adopter and net exnovator organizations are at different stages of a similar innovation diffusion process and cycle.<sup>39,40</sup> Physician organizations that exnovate CMPs on net are a subset of "early adopters" of CMPs, while CMP adopters represent a combination of the "early majority" and early adopters that continue to expand their use of CMPs. Diffusion research indicates that early and late majorities tend to be organizations that are more likely to be influenced by legitimacy and reputational pressures to adopt innovations. Organizational scholars have observed that the early majority will adopt innovations even when the new practices are not effective in improving organizational performance.<sup>41</sup> This may be one reason why physician organizations adopting CMPs on net took up quality

of care data feedback to physicians, a CMP that net exnovators often removed.

Consistent with Hypothesis 1, expanded HIT functions appear to support CMP retention. In multivariate analyses, increases in HIT functionality over time were associated with less exnovation of CMPs. Electronic access to patient hospital discharge summaries and to clinical information on patient ER visits and electronic connectivity for patients support care management structures and processes, as patient outreach and education can be more targeted and efficient when organizations have these data to inform the implementation of CMPs. EHRs with functionality to detect potential drug interactions and to generate alerts on abnormal test results, and to prompt and remind users of recommended chronic care measures, also support the work of chronic care managers and patient educators.

We posited that county-level global payment for health services and pay-for-performance would foster business model alignment with CMP adoption and retention. Contrary to our hypothesis (Hypothesis 3), lower county-level global payment and physician organization participation in pay-for-performance were not associated with greater CMP exnovation in multivariate analyses. These findings suggest that external incentives may be more effective in influencing initial adoption of CMPs,<sup>42</sup> but not their retention. In contrast, internal capabilities such as HIT functionality reduce exnovation risk by supporting the retention of CMPs. The overall use of global payment is still relatively low in most markets and may be insufficient to support the retention of chronic care management for physician organizations. This could explain why greater county-level global payment was not associated with CMP retention.

Several other important results emerged from our analyses. Physician organizations with a relatively high and increasing proportion of revenue from Medicaid removed significantly more CMPs over time. Our post hoc explanation is that Medicaid provider reimbursement may not sufficiently incentivize the retention of CMPs and that high and increasing dependence on Medicaid reimbursement results in exnovation of CMPs by early adopting organizations. We also found that physician organizations serving patients in counties with greater proportions of residents living in poverty exnovated fewer CMPs. Highly impoverished counties tend to care for patients with greater likelihood and severity of exacerbations of chronic illnesses.<sup>43</sup> It may be that even when practices are relatively more dependent on Medicaid revenue and have low reimbursement rates, the high clinical and social needs of the populations they serve contribute to the retention of CMPs.

Our results should be considered in light of important limitations. First, due to measurement challenges and post hoc biases, we do not distinguish the reasons why physician organizations exnovated CMPs. Important differences in the organizational determinants of strategic exnovation, implementation failure, leadership turnover, and costcutting measures could clarify the patterns of CMP removal we observed. These distinct causes of exnovation may be one reason why we identified few statistically significant predictors of exnovation in multivariate models. Measurement advances are needed to distinguish the multiple determinants of exnovation and to examine the strategic exnovation of structures and processes when organizations need to accommodate new innovations. Second, we used 2 different baseline surveys for different populations of practices and these surveys were fielded sequentially (in 2006 and 2008) rather than in tandem. We were unable to account for the 2-year baseline measurement difference analytically because practice size was perfectly correlated with the baseline survey years. To reduce bias resulting from different surveys, our analyses relied on measures that were comparable across surveys. Third, the NSPO2 and NSSMPP surveys did not assess whether or not practices were PCMH certified by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), so we were unable to specifically examine the association of PCMH certification with exnovation of CMPs. Similarly, we did not have a practice-level measure of global payment. Future research should examine the extent to which PCMH certification by NCQA and practice use of global payment influence the retention of CMPs. Finally, we restricted the analytic sample to organizations with responses to the baseline and follow-up surveys. This could limit the generalizability of the findings; for example, nonrespondent organizations may behave differently. Limiting the respondents, however, improved internal validity since differences observed over time could not be attributed to having had different respondents in each sample. We also accounted for nonresponse through weighted analyses.

Our study reveals that there is a high level of net CMP exnovation among physician organizations and that enhanced HIT functionality and other practice capabilities may reduce the exnovation of CMPs. Some exnovation of CMPs may be needed to increase absorptive capacity for organizations to integrate new innovations with better fit and effectiveness. Existing theories of innovation implementation rarely discuss the need to exnovate; most implicitly assume that continuous improvement is key to the "normalization" of innovations into practice.<sup>5,44</sup> For example, continuous improvement and stakeholder engagement are central to change management theories,<sup>45-47</sup> as rapid-cycle testing of organizational changes, measurement, and refinement of innovations aid integration.<sup>5,44</sup> The fast pace of technological and service innovation in health care, however, can create "change fatigue" among frontline implementers of innovations. Strategic exnovation may aid in preventing such fatigue among organizations undergoing transformative change. Distinguishing strategic de-implementation from failed implementation and other reasons for exnovation can provide insight as to why the overall adoption of many innovations in health services delivery organizations remains low. Future research is needed to clarify the conditions under which the exnovation of innovations improves rather than harms organizational performance, including patient care experiences, quality of care, and costs of care.

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