

**Teaching Hospitals and Academic Physicians:
Major Providers of Care for Medicaid Beneficiaries and
Other Individuals Who Rely on Our Nation's Healthcare Safety Net**

The teaching hospital and physician members of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) provide a disproportionately high level of healthcare services for Medicaid beneficiaries and the uninsured. An integral part of nation's healthcare "safety net," AAMC members include nearly 400 major teaching hospitals that are known as the Council of Teaching Hospitals and Health Systems (COTH), 126 accredited medical schools, over 105,000 faculty in 98 academic and scientific societies, 97,000 residents, and 66,000 medical students. These teaching hospitals and physicians serve as providers of care for Medicaid and uninsured patients, while simultaneously maintaining their core missions of medical education, biomedical research, and innovative patient care.

Caring for a Large Medicaid and Underserved Population*

- Approximately 26 percent of the nation's Medicaid discharges are from COTH members.
- Medicaid accounts for 19 percent of all discharges from COTH hospitals (nearly 1 in 5).

Providing a Significant Amount of the Nation's Charity Care*

- While COTH hospitals represent just 6 percent of the nation's hospitals, they provided \$4.5 billion of charity care or 40 percent of the country's hospital charity care in 2000. A median of \$6.4 million in charity care was provided at COTH hospitals in 2000.
- According to AAMC data estimates, medical school faculty practices provide, on average, approximately \$12 million in charity care annually.

Offering Services Important to Medicaid Beneficiaries*

- COTH hospitals provide 56 percent of all pediatric intensive care beds and 40 percent of all intensive care beds for premature or seriously ill newborns.
- Over three-quarters (88 percent) of COTH members offer emergency psychiatric services (vs. 24 percent of non-teaching hospitals).
- Nearly 9 in 10 COTH hospitals offer services for AIDS patients. (CMS estimates more than one half of AIDS patients are enrolled in Medicaid)
- One-fifth of the nation's newborns are delivered at COTH hospitals.
- Among academic physicians in OB/GYN departments, the care of women during/immediately after childbirth is among the most frequently provided Medicaid services.
- Pediatrics Departments (vs. other academic departments) devote the greatest percent of services to Medicaid patients. In fact, General Pediatrics represents the greatest level of work that academic physicians devote to Medicaid patients.

Contact: Office of Governmental Relations (202) 828-0526

*All data relate to 2001, unless otherwise noted.

Sources: AHA Annual Survey Data Base 2000/2001; UHC/AAMC Faculty Practice Solutions Center