Cardiovascular Disease Fact Sheet from the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey

ABOUT NAMCS
The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) produces statistics that are representative of people in the United States who visit office-based physicians. The survey provides information on office visits by physician practice characteristics, patient characteristics, and visit characteristics.

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE
In 2015–2016, there were an estimated 35 million visits per year to nonfederally employed, office-based providers specializing in cardiovascular disease in the United States.

CONTACT US
Ambulatory and Hospital Care Statistics Branch:
301–458–4600
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/namcs_participant.htm
ambcare@cdc.gov

PROVIDER-ASSESSED MAJOR REASON FOR VISIT

- CHRONIC PROBLEM, ROUTINE: 56.0%
- NEW PROBLEM¹: 16.6%
- PREVENTIVE CARE: 7.3%
- PRESURGERY: 2.8%
- POSTSURGERY: 2.5%

¹Includes workers’ compensation, self-pay, no charge or charity, other sources of payment, unknown, and blank data.

NOTE: Major reason for visit is the broad category of the problem or symptom which, in the physician’s judgment, was most responsible for the patient making this visit.

PATIENTS’ TOP 4 PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR VISIT

- PROGRESS VISIT
- HYPERTENSION
- ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE
- CHEST PAIN AND RELATED SYMPTOMS

NOTE: Principal reason for visit is based on the patient’s primary expressed reason for the visit, which is abstracted from the medical record and later coded into categories using an internal NCHS system.

TOP 4 SERVICES, ORDERED OR PROVIDED

- ELECTROCARDIOGRAM (EKG/ECG)
- DIET/NUTRITION COUNSELING
- ECHOCARDIOGRAM
- LIPID PROFILE

MEDICATIONS WERE PRESCRIBED OR CONTINUED AT 81% OF OFFICE VISITS.

TOP 5 ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

- ASPIRIN
- METOPROLOL
- ATORVASTATIN
- FUROSEMIDE
- CLOPIDOGREL


- UNDER 45: 6.5%
- 45–64: 31.7%
- 65–74: 27.3%
- 75 AND OVER: 34.5%

OTHER¹ 7.4%
MEDICAID OR CHIP/SCHIP² 4.0%
PRIVATE INSURANCE 32.7%
MEDICARE 55.9%

¹Includes workers’ compensation, self-pay, no charge or charity, other sources of payment, unknown, and blank data.
²CHIP is Children’s Health Insurance Program; SCHIP is State CHIP.

© 2019 National Center for Health Statistics
National Center for Health Statistics
National Health Care Surveys
NAMCS data are widely used in research studies appearing in nationally recognized medical journals. Here are a few recent publications using NAMCS data:


A complete list of publications using NAMCS data, which includes articles and reports, can be found at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_products.htm.