



# Reduction in Emergency Room Visits, Hospital Admissions, and Clinical Outcomes After Enrollment in a Medication Access Program

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## Research Objective

To determine change in emergency room visits, hospital admissions, and clinical outcomes for participants in the Cenla Medication Access Program (CMAP) in rural central Louisiana.

## Study Design / Methods

- Participants are enrolled in the CMAP at LSUHSC-HCSD Huey P. Long Medical Center and begin receiving chronic care prescription medications at greatly reduced costs (\$3 per prescription)
- Pre-post longitudinal cohort where outcomes for participants are assessed before and after enrollment to look for change
- Through February 2005, there have been 7615 participants enrolled, with mean age (SD) 49.72 (12.11), 70.27% female, and 44.57% African-American
- Data presented are on subsets of the total population

### Outcomes:

- Emergency Room (ER) Visits and Hospital Admissions
- Chart Abstraction Data: Blood Pressure (Systolic and Diastolic), Blood Glucose, Hemoglobin A1c, and Total Cholesterol

### Analysis:

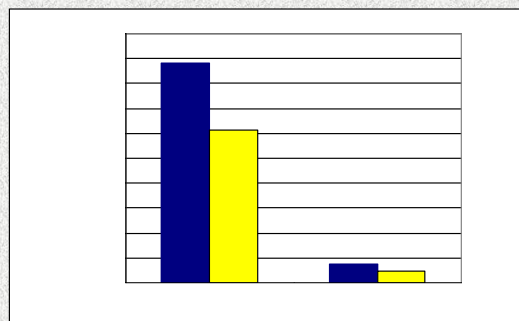
- Generalized Estimating Equations (GEE) were used to analyze change in each of the 5 chart abstraction outcomes from 6 months prior to enrollment compared to the time period after enrollment (adjusting for age, race/gender and disease condition)

## Principal Findings

### Emergency Room Visits and Hospital Admissions

- Unadjusted analysis shows reductions in ER Visits and Hospital Admissions of 31.85% and 46.03%, respectively

Figure 1: Emergency Room Visits and Hospital Admissions for CMAP participants from 6 Months Pre Enrollment to 6 Months Post Enrollment (N=6939)

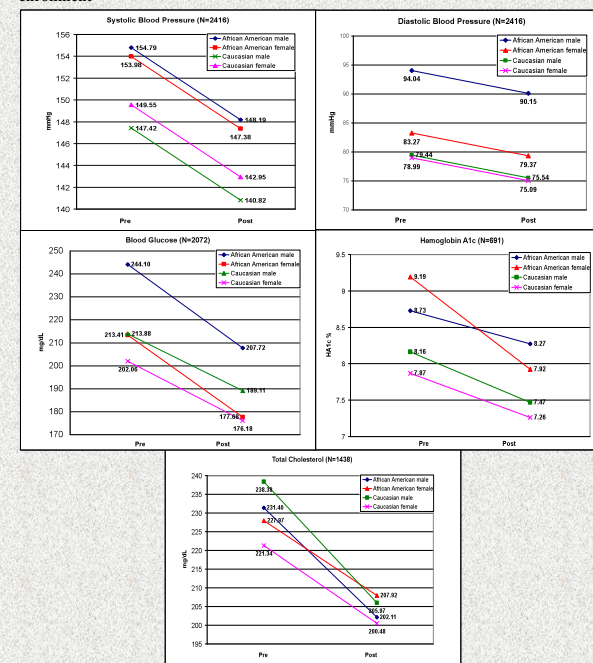


### Chart Abstraction Data

- Race-gender/time interactions were significant for all 5 outcomes ( $p < .05$ )
- Figure 2 shows the adjusted means pre and post enrollment for each outcome by appropriate disease condition

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Figure 2: Adjusted change in Systolic and Diastolic Blood Pressure, Blood Glucose, Hemoglobin A1c, and Total Cholesterol for CMAP participants pre and post enrollment



## Conclusions

In the CMAP there have been significant reductions in emergency room visits and hospital admissions, as well as Blood Pressure, Blood Glucose, Hemoglobin A1c, and Total Cholesterol.