



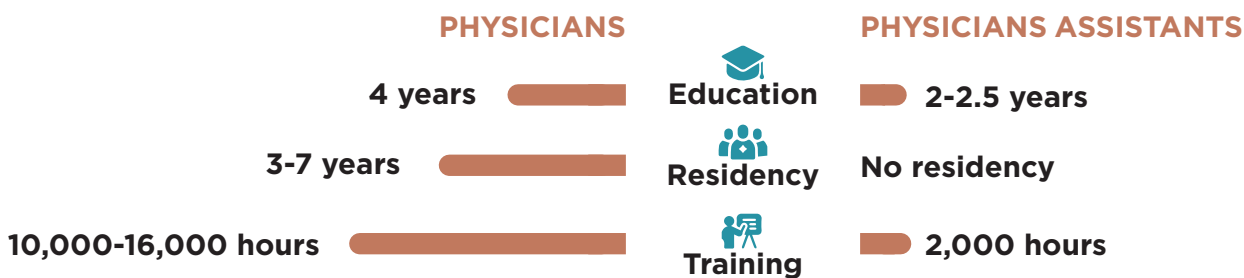
SOUTH DAKOTA
**Coalition for Excellence
in Patient Care**

PROTECT ACCESS TO PHYSICIAN-LED CARE

Patients are concerned about the cost and quality of health care. While there is certainly room for improvement in the health care system, allowing non-physicians, including physician assistants, to diagnose and treat patients without any physician oversight is a step in the wrong direction. The best way to support high-quality care and lower costs is to keep physicians as the leader of the health care team.

SOUTH DAKOTA PHYSICIANS ARE TRAINED TO LEAD

With the highest level of education and clinical training



SOUTH DAKOTA PATIENTS PREFER PHYSICIAN-LED CARE

94% say it's important for a physician to be involved in their diagnosis and treatment

70% say a physician's involvement is very important to their health care

61% have fear of misdiagnosis or delayed diagnosis from an under qualified provider

Health care teams working together - with physicians in the lead - is critical to having the best and safest outcomes for patients.
*(*Results based on a South Dakota Coalition for Excellence in Patient Care survey of 500 South Dakotans in September 2022.)*

SCOPE EXPANSION INCREASES COSTS

X-ray ordering increased **441%** among non-physicians

Non-physicians needed **2x** the number of biopsies to screen for skin cancer

Patients were **15%** more likely to receive an antibiotic from a non-physician

8.4% of physician assistants prescribed opioid to over half of their patients compared to **1.3%** of physicians

According to a leading accountable care organization, patients with non-physician primary care providers had **\$43** higher spending per member per month compared to those who had a physician, which could translate to **\$10.3M** more in annual spending.

MYTH

Allowing non-physicians to practice without physician involvement will increase access to care in rural and underserved areas.

FACT

States that changed laws to allow non-physicians to practice without physician supervision or collaboration have not guaranteed increased access in rural and underserved areas.

All patients, regardless of ZIP code, deserve care led by a physician.

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