

MAAP-PHC: The Five Types of Urban Family Doctors

DETAILS ON THE STYLE AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF PROVIDENCE HEALTH CARE'S DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

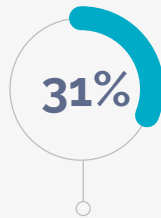
There are approximately 1000 family doctors registered as working in Vancouver (as per CPSBC); however, few details of their practice styles are available. This study provides an estimation of how urban family doctors in Vancouver describe and organize their work.

Community-Based Family Physicians

Community-Based Family Physicians are categorized into three sub groups: Classic, Smaller-Practice & Focused-Practice. All three of these groups provide their patients with continuous community-based primary care. Classic Physicians have a self-reported patient panel-size of >1000; Smaller-Practice Physicians have a self-reported patient panel-size of 500-1000; and Focused-Practice Physicians have a self-reported patient panel-size of <500.

1 CLASSIC

(Self-reported patient panel-size: >1000 patients)



of urban family doctors are categorized as **Classic GPs**



Most Classic GPs are **male** (59%)



Classic GPs are the **least** interested in alternate payment methods



Most Classic GPs practice at a **single location**—almost exclusively at "typical FP" clinics (95%)

1984

The median year of med school graduation is 1984—the **oldest** of all 5 types of urban family doctors

2 SMALLER-PRACTICE

(Self-reported patient panel-size: 500-1000 patients)



of urban family doctors are categorized as **Mixed-Practice**



55% of Smaller-Practice GPs are **female** & 45% are **male**



Similar to Classic GPs, most Smaller-Practice GPs practice at "**typical FP**" clinics (78%)



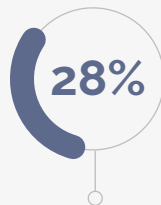
Smaller-Practice GPs have the **highest rate** of home visits/house calls



Smaller-Practice GPs self-reported a high interest in **retiring** in 5 years

3 FOCUSED-PRACTICE

(Self-reported patient panel-size: <500 patients)



of urban family doctors are categorized as **Focused-Practice**



Most Focused-Practice GPs are **female** (58%)



Focused-Practice GPs are the **most** interested in alternate payment methods



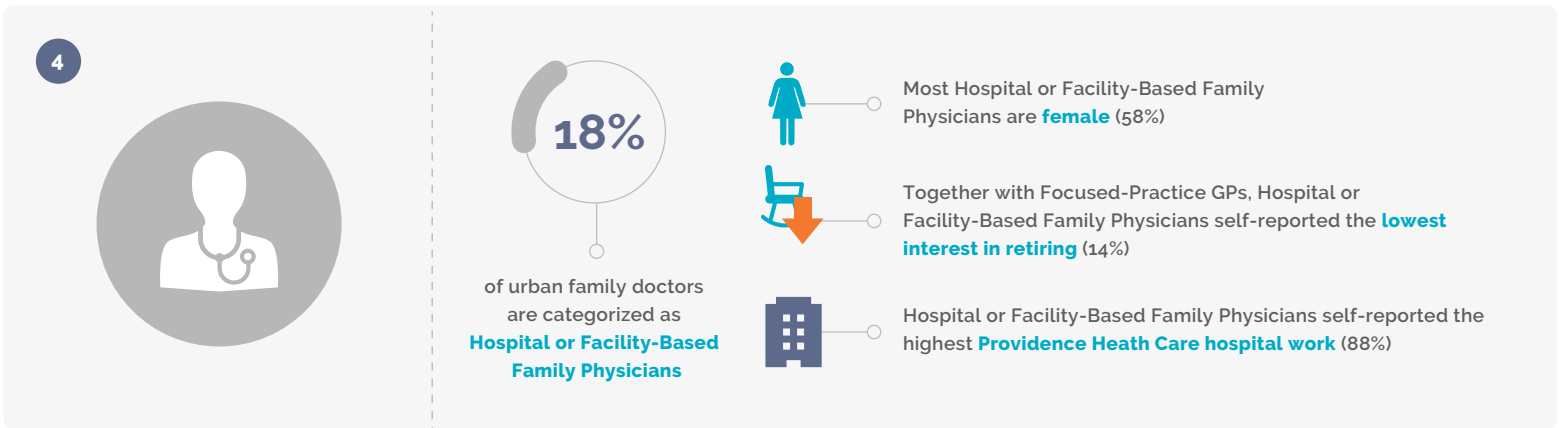
Focused-Practice GPs practice at several different locations with the **highest rate of work** at community health clinics (28%) and specialty clinics (39%)

2000

The median year of med school graduation is 2000—the **youngest** of the Community-Based Family Physicians

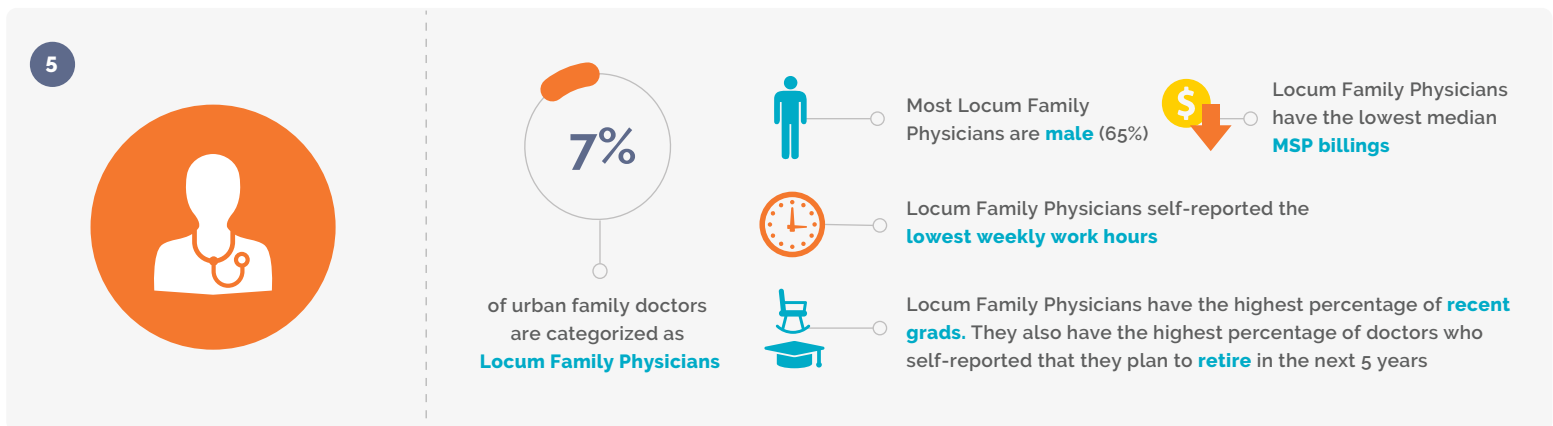
Hospital or Facility Based Family Physicians

This type of family doctor provides care in facilities. He or she does not provide community-based continuous primary care.



Locum Family Physicians

This type of family doctor is defined as only working in temporary locations.



Recent Graduates

This category is defined by individuals 12 years or less away from medical school graduation. These are 26% of Providence Health Care's Department of Family Medicine (PHC-DFM) members who responded to the survey.



About the Survey

In spring 2016, members of PHC-DFM responded to an online survey, which asked about scope and characteristics of their practice. The survey response rate was very high with 254/295 (86%) members completing it. This study was approved by Providence Health Care Research Ethics Board and modeled on a similar study done in Nova Scotia.

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