Health Check
Key Points

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Healthcare in West Michigan – Key Points

As baby-boomer age, the prevalence of lifestyle-related chronic disease is rising, even though self-reported data can appear to show variation up and down in the short term.

Even more than in other parts of the state, physicians are employed by hospital systems, shifting care from the “office” setting to “hospital outpatient,” where facility fees are billed.

West Michigan performs well on most measures of utilization and care coordination compared with other areas of Michigan.
Healthcare in West Michigan – Key Points

West Michigan has lower rates of admission for “ambulatory care sensitive conditions,” lower rates of hospitalization, lower readmission rates, and lower rates of “low tech” imaging services, but higher Emergency Department use rates, and higher use of “high-tech” imaging services.

West Michigan has higher prices for services, resulting in higher risk-adjusted cost per person overall, despite better than average utilization of services. Healthcare costs per person are rising faster than other areas of the state.
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