

1 **Impact of Global Budget Payments on Cardiovascular Care in Maryland.**

2 **An Interrupted Time Series Analysis.**

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1 **Abstract:**

2 **Background:** Global Budget Payments (GBP) are considered effective in containing healthcare
3 expenditures, however information on their impact on quality of cardiovascular (CV) care is limited.
4 We aimed to evaluate the effects of GBP on utilization, outcomes, and costs for three major CV
5 conditions.

6 **Methods:** We analyzed claims data of hospital admissions in Maryland from fiscal year (FY) 2013 to
7 2018. Using segmented regression, we evaluated temporal trends in hospitalizations, length of stay
8 (LOS), percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) and coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG)
9 volumes, case mix-adjusted 30-day readmission rates (CARR), risk-standardized mortality rates
10 (RSMR) and hospitalization charges in patients with principal diagnosis of heart failure (CHF), acute
11 ischemic stroke (IS) and acute myocardial infarction (AMI) in relation to GBP implementation.
12 Trends in global CV procedure charges/volumes were also studied.

13 **Results:** Hospitalization rates for CHF and AMI remained unaffected by GBP, while the gradient of
14 IS admissions decreased (-0.54/quarter; 95% CI: -0.7 to -0.4, $p_{\text{trend}} < 0.0001$). LOS slightly increased
15 for CHF patients (+0.04 days/quarter; $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.03$). Inpatient CABG surgeries decreased (-0.28 x
16 1000 admissions/quarter; 95% CI: -0.3 to -0.2, $p_{\text{trend}} < 0.0001$). We observed a significant decrease in
17 CARR in the AMI cohort beyond the pre-policy trend (-0.4%; 95% CI: -0.7% to -0.1%, p_{trend}
18 $= 0.0069$). There were no significant changes in mortality for any of the three conditions.
19 Hospitalization charges increased for IS (+228.04 USD, 95% CI: +163.2 to +292.9, $p_{\text{trend}} < 0.0001$),
20 remained constant for CHF (+142.26 USD, 95% CI: -22.9 to 307.5, $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.1$), and decreased for
21 AMI (-332.47 USD, 95% CI: -490.1 to -174.9, $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.0005$). We observed a significant increase in
22 electrocardiography rate charges (+0.25 Relative Value Units, 95% CI: 0.2 to 0.3, $p_{\text{trend}} < 0.0001$),

1 coincidentally with a reduction in volumes (-1.17 mln procedures; 95% CI: -1.5 to -0.8,
2 $p_{\text{trend}}=0.0003$).

3 **Conclusions:** Introducing GBP in Maryland had no perceivable adverse effects on inpatient
4 outcomes and quality indicators for three major CV conditions. Savings were observed in the AMI
5 cohort, possibly due to reduced unnecessary readmissions, efficiency improvements, or shifts to
6 outpatient care. Reduced CV procedure volumes were counterbalanced by a proportional rise in
7 charges. State-level adoption of GBP with pay-for-performance incentives may be effective for cost
8 containment without adversely impacting quality of CV care.

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10 **Non-standard Abbreviations and Acronyms:**

11 GBP: global budget payments; CV: cardiovascular; FY: fiscal year; LOS: length of stay; PCI:
12 percutaneous coronary intervention; CABG: coronary artery bypass grafting; CARR: casemix-
13 adjusted 30-day readmission rates; RSMR: risk standardized mortality rates; CHF: congestive heart
14 failure; IS: ischemic stroke; AMI: acute myocardial infarction; CMS: Centers for Medicare and
15 Medicaid Services; CVD: cardiovascular diseases; HSCRC: Health Services Cost Review
16 Commission; DRG: Diagnosis Related Groups; GBR: Global Budget Revenue; ICD: International
17 Classification of Diseases; CPT: Current Procedural Terminology; EKG: Maryland revenue center
18 “electrocardiography”; IRC: Maryland revenue center “interventional radiology/cardiology”; RVUs:
19 Relative Value Units; ITS: interrupted time series; USD: U.S. dollars; P4P: pay-for-performance;
20 AQC: Alternative Quality Contract; TPR: Total Patient Revenue; TCOC: Total Cost of Care.

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1 **Introduction**

2 Many healthcare systems strive toward containing of expenditure growth and preserving quality of
3 care. Among few innovative payment models, Global Budget Payments (GBP) are considered
4 effective in cost reduction¹⁻⁴, with a fixed annual budget incentivizing hospitals to maximize efforts
5 toward efficiency and eliminating waste⁵. However, GBP may have unintended consequences which
6 could undermine cost control efforts and adversely impact quality. Among those, changes in
7 patterns of care in favor of less expensive or more profitable services or providers⁶⁻⁸, reducing the
8 availability of necessary healthcare services to the population^{9,10}. Indeed, evidence on the impacts of
9 GBP on healthcare delivery has been mixed. While improvements in quality measures were
10 demonstrated in Massachusetts^{2,4}, studies from Taiwan reported increases in service volume and cost
11 shifting to patients, causing unfair competition among hospitals^{6,11}.

12 In agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Maryland implemented
13 GBP in 2014 introducing the All Payer Model, with the objective of containing cost growth and
14 improving healthcare quality. Early effects of Maryland GBP have shown a reduction in
15 expenditures and inpatient utilization¹²⁻¹⁴ particularly among Medicare patients, with associated
16 savings of \$586 million in its first three years¹³. Yet, limited information exists on the effects of GBP
17 on quality of care for cardiovascular diseases (CVD), the leading cause of death in the U.S.¹⁵ and
18 major contributor to healthcare spending (14% of the national health expenditures in 2015)¹⁶. Given
19 projected rises in treatment costs for CVD in the oncoming decades, policy changes affecting CVD
20 outcomes will have a substantial impact on population's health and healthcare finances. The
21 objective of our study was to analyze the effects of GBP on inpatient utilization, outcomes and costs
22 in patients hospitalized with congestive heart failure (CHF), acute myocardial infarction (AMI) and
23 acute ischemic stroke (IS). We further investigated the relationship between prices and CVD

1 utilization following GBP implementation, with the aim to inform the debate about this policy's
2 potential unintended consequences.

3 **Methods**

4 **Study setting**

5 For decades, Maryland has focused on addressing expenditure growth. In the 1970s, it adopted
6 prospective payments, designating an independent state agency - the Health Services Cost Review
7 Commission (HSCRC)- to set payment rates. Maryland was the first state to adopt *per case* payments
8 through Diagnosis Related Groups (DRGs) in 1976¹⁷, anticipating Medicare's prospective payment
9 system (PPS). Unlike the national model, DRGs in Maryland are integrated within an "all payer"
10 rate-setting mechanism, whereby payments are based on rates classified by unit of service (*e.g.*,
11 operating room hours) adjusted with per case constraints. A waiver granted by the federal
12 government allows charging identical rates to private and public payers. This model, initially
13 effective in reducing cost shifting among payers and containing expenditures¹⁸, was recently
14 associated with escalating hospital volumes¹⁹, then prices, after efforts to control utilization by
15 restoring a previously removed volume adjustment system resulted in progressive increases in cost
16 per admission²⁰. To address these shortcomings, Maryland transitioned to GBP (or GBR: Global
17 Budget Revenue) on January 1st, 2014. Although within an existing framework of regulated rate-
18 setting, the policy represented a shift from reimbursement of individual services to population-based
19 compensation, paired with significant value-based incentives, assessment of preventable conditions,
20 patient safety outcomes and readmission programs¹⁷. With GBP, hospitals are assigned a
21 predetermined budget based on their past activity, while maintaining their spending autonomy.
22 Prices, set by HSCRC per unit of service (unit rates) at the beginning of the fiscal year, are adjusted
23 according to volumes but also other factors such as local population growth, inflation, infrastructure

1 investments, markups for uncompensated care, adherence to quality measures, and remain equal for
2 private or public payers. Since no direct price negotiation is allowed, charges are almost equivalent to
3 payments, excepts for discounts. In order to remain within the designated budget, hospitals have a
4 restricted margin of 5% to adjust rates based on their volumes before incurring in penalties.
5 Hospitals are mandated to transmit their data to HSCRC on a monthly basis to allow close
6 monitoring of unit rate and budget revenue compliance.

7 **Data Source**

8 We obtained anonymized data from all hospital admissions in Maryland from the HSCRC inpatient
9 claims database. The database used in our study is available upon formal request from the HSCRC
10 (<https://hscrc.maryland.gov/Pages/hsp-data-request.aspx>). The study did not require individual
11 patient consent or IRB approval since the database contains deidentified information. The HSCRC
12 database is updated quarterly, and patients' admissions are tracked across hospitals through a unique
13 ID (inpatient revisit file). We collected information on patients' demographics, discharge diagnosis,
14 discharge status and disposition, CV procedures performed, rate charges, and payer from fiscal year
15 (FY) 2013 to 2018.

16 **Study population**

17 We selected hospitalizations of adult (≥ 19 years) Maryland residents admitted with principal
18 diagnosis of CHF, AMI, and IS based on the standard *International Classification of Diseases 9th Revision,*
19 *Clinical Modification (ICD-9)* and *International Classification of Diseases 10th Revision, Clinical Modification*
20 *(ICD-10)* diagnosis codes (see **Supplement**). Cohort selection followed criteria described by CMS
21 for hospital payments and reporting²¹⁻²³. For each condition, we selected readmission and mortality
22 sub-cohorts, with index admissions as denominator for readmissions and mortality rate calculations.
23 For readmissions, we excluded hospitalizations of individuals who left the hospital against medical

1 advice, died during the hospitalization, were transferred to outside hospital, same day or palliative
2 care discharges, patients with advanced CHF receiving a ventricular assist device or heart transplant,
3 and any planned readmission (*i.e.*, recent admission for AMI readmitted for elective revascularization
4 procedure). Readmissions within 30 days from a previous hospitalization were not considered as
5 index admissions. For the mortality sub-cohort, one admission was randomly selected as index
6 admission if the patient experienced more than one admission within 12 months, according to CMS
7 criteria²³.

8 **Outcome measures and risk-adjustment methodology**

9 For each condition and hospital in Maryland, we calculated quarterly admissions, 30-day unplanned
10 readmission rates (crude and risk-standardized), mortality rates (crude and risk-standardized),
11 hospitalization charges, and coronary revascularization procedural volumes for angioplasty (PCI)
12 and coronary bypass graft surgery (CABG). Quarterly admissions were transformed into rates per
13 100,000 residents using the US Census Bureau Maryland population estimates²⁴.

14 We computed procedure volumes from the entire admission cohort by using *ICD-9* and *ICD-10*
15 *Current Procedural Terminology* (CPT) codes for inpatient procedures. Quarterly PCI and CABG
16 procedure volumes were transformed into rates per 1,000 admissions (*i.e.*, dividing the number of
17 procedures by the cumulative number of admissions in each quarter).

18 Mean quarterly hospitalization charges for each condition were calculated as the ratio of total
19 charges in all hospitals divided by the number of admissions with the same condition. Charges were
20 adjusted for inflation to reflect real-term spending in 2018 using the CPI inflation calculator²⁵.

21 We gathered public data on rate unit charges and budget volumes for the revenue centers
22 "electrocardiography" (EKG) and "interventional radiology/cardiology" (IRC) from FY 2008 to
23 2018²⁶. Unit rates for each cost center are determined by the HSCRC based on direct and indirect

1 expenses required for each service, expressed in “relative value units” (RVUs) for EKG and in
2 procedure minutes for IRC²⁷. Revenue center EKG includes procedures such as electrocardiogram,
3 ambulatory electrocardiographic monitoring, cardioversions, echocardiograms, tilt table testing and
4 pacemaker programming. Revenue center IRC combines interventional radiology and cardiology
5 procedures, including cardiac catheterization and other invasive cardiac procedures.

6 We followed the HSCRC methodology of calculating 30-day casemix-adjusted readmission rates
7 (CARR)²⁸. The numerator represents the number of readmissions from the observed hospital
8 performance given case-mix, and the denominator the number of readmissions expected based on
9 state-level performance given case-mix. For each hospital, this ratio was multiplied by the statewide
10 calendar year 2016 base annual readmission rate, transforming it into a rate for comparisons.

11 Readmission rates from all hospitals were aggregated to obtain the CARR for each quarter. Risk
12 standardized mortality rates (RSMRs) were calculated for each patient cohort and FY according to
13 the CMS methodology²³. RSMR is the ratio of predicted and expected mortality times the national
14 observed mortality rate, accounting for variance in mortality rates within and between hospitals²⁹.

15 For each hospital, the numerator is the number of deaths within 30 days predicted given the
16 hospital’s observed performance with its case mix, calculated by logistic regression of risk factors
17 and hospital-specific intercept on the risk of mortality. The denominator is the number of expected
18 deaths based on average hospital performance given case mix, obtained through logistic regression
19 of the risk factors and a common intercept on the mortality outcome across all hospitals. The ratio
20 of predicted and expected mortality was multiplied by the national rate to calculate the yearly RSMR.
21 Because of differences in available data between Maryland and CMS databases, we adjusted for sex,
22 age groups (*i.e.*, dummy with category intervals every 4 years after age 65), race and comorbidities
23 defined by the Charlson comorbidity index³⁰.

1 **Statistical analysis**

2 To evaluate changes in outcome measures before and after GBP, we adopted an interrupted time
3 series analysis (ITS) according to published methods³¹, with 1st January 2014 as a reference date for
4 policy implementation. Ten rural hospitals (see **Table II, Supplemental material**) that adopted
5 GBP in or before 2010 were excluded. Given available evidence of impact effects of policies similar
6 to GBP³², we considered a gradual effect or trend change as principal model, although immediate
7 implementation effects (*i.e.*, level change) was also evaluated. Details on statistical methods are
8 provided in the **Supplemental material**. We performed single-group segmented regression analysis,
9 estimating the probability of autocorrelation by using ordinary least square regression (Durbin-
10 Watson statistic) with the AUTOREG procedure function. We adjusted for seasonality of quarterly
11 data using a maximum lag of four. First order autocorrelation (lag=1) was adopted by default,
12 adjusting for autocorrelation with Newey-West standard errors. For RSMR, we adopted the
13 Cochran-Armitage test for linear trends, testing the null hypothesis that no significant trend in
14 mortality was present before and after policy implementation. Estimated trend and level changes
15 were expressed with 95% confidence intervals (CI), and statistical significance was assumed at *p*
16 value of 0.05. Sensitivity analysis was performed accounting for all Maryland hospitals. Statistical
17 analyses were performed using SAS software (SAS Institute, Inc., Cary, NC).

18 **Results**

19 Characteristics of the study population are shown in **Table 1**. After excluding 237,242 admissions
20 from 10 rural hospitals (see **Supplemental material**), a total of 1,701,179 Maryland admissions
21 from FY 2013 to FY 2018 were analyzed. While the total number of admissions decreased from
22 310,012 in FY 2013 to 271,154 in FY 2018, the proportion of admissions with selected CV
23 conditions increased across the same period (*i.e.*, CHF: from 4.8% to 5.9%; AMI: from 2.4% to

1 2.6%; IS: from 2.3% to 2.9%). Medicare beneficiaries represented 73.6-75.0% of CHF, 56.7-58.9%
2 of AMI, and 64.6-66.5% of IS admissions, respectively.

3 Findings of the ITS analysis are shown on **Table 2**. After GBP adoption, there were no significant
4 changes in hospitalization trends for CHF and AMI. Although IS admissions continued to rise, a
5 decline in trends by 1.8% per quarter compared to pre-policy was observed (absolute difference -
6 0.54 admissions per 100,000/quarter, 95% CI: -0.7 to -0.4, $p_{\text{trend}} < 0.0001$). Trends in charges
7 increased from -88.5 to +139.5 USD per quarter for IS patients (+228.0/quarter, 95% CI: 163.2 to
8 292.8 USD, $p_{\text{trend}} < 0.0001$), did not change significantly for CHF patients (+142.2 USD/quarter, 95%
9 CI: -22.9 to +307.4, $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.1$), and decreased from +336.1 to +3.6 USD per quarter for AMI
10 patients (-332.4 USD/quarter, 95% CI: -490.0 to -174.8 USD, $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.0005$, **Figures 1a,1b,1c**).

11 CARR for CHF and IS patients remained unaffected by GBP, while an average decrease of 3.2%
12 readmissions per quarter was observed in the AMI cohort (-0.4%/quarter, 95% CI: -0.7 to -0.1,
13 $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.0069$, **Figure 2**). LOS slightly increased in CHF patients (+0.04 days/quarter, 95% CI: 0.005
14 to 0.07, $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.036$), while it was unaffected in the remaining cohorts (see **Figure 3a**). Trends in
15 inpatient PCI procedures remained unchanged, whereas CABG surgeries decreased by 9.3% per
16 quarter after GBP (absolute difference -0.28 procedures x 1,000 admissions/quarter, 95% CI: -0.3 to
17 -0.2, $p_{\text{trend}} < 0.0001$, **Figure 3b**). For all three conditions, we found no changes in yearly trends of
18 RSMRs following GBP adoption (**Figure 4**).

19 Time series data of revenue centers EKG and IRC are shown in **Table 3** and **Figures 5a** and **5b**.
20 Compared to the pre-policy period, EKG rates showed an increase of +0.25 RVU/quarter (95% CI:
21 +0.2 to +0.3, $p_{\text{trend}} < 0.0001$), while EKG volumes decreased by -1.2 mln/quarter (95% CI: -1.5 to -
22 0.8, $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.0003$). IRC rates fell by 89.3% per quarter compared to baseline (-13.8 RVUs/quarter,
23 95% CI: -18.2 to -9.4, $p_{\text{trend}} = 0.0003$), offset by volume growth of 12.5% per quarter (+1.82

1 mln/quarter, 95% CI: +0.9 to + 2.7, $p_{\text{trend}}=0.004$). As shown in **Figure 5b**, most IRC changes
2 occurred before FY 2010, and were therefore unrelated to GBP.

3 **Discussion**

4 Our retrospective cohort study of three CV conditions showed that GBP implementation in
5 Maryland resulted in no significant changes in hospitalizations and risk-adjusted mortality rates. We
6 found a small reduction in risk-standardized 30-day readmissions for AMI patients, but no changes
7 in CHF and IS cohorts. Some of these changes could stem from effective community health
8 initiatives or pay-for-performance (P4P) incentives introduced by Maryland GBP. While trends in
9 hospitalization charges differed among conditions (*i.e.*, upward for IS, unchanged for CHF, and
10 downtrend for AMI), inpatient CABG utilization decreased, possibly due to care shifts to outpatient
11 settings. Following adoption of GBP, unit rates for CV procedures increased, perhaps because of
12 compensatory rate adjustments applied to counteract reductions in volumes, or from hospital efforts
13 to work within the allocated budget.

14 GBP are alternative payment models aimed to contain healthcare spending. Financial constraints
15 induced on providers have been shown to help reducing costs³³, although the effects on quality have
16 been ambiguous, with some concerns expressed about unintended consequences on preservation of
17 healthcare quality^{6, 7, 11}. There have been reports showing that strictly fixed budgets could lead to
18 counterproductive provider behaviors, including increases in service volume, which paradoxically
19 causes prices to fall³⁴, could favor unlevelled playground competition between larger and smaller
20 hospitals⁶, cream skinning³⁵, and discontinuation of unprofitable services. Providers might also
21 restrict access to necessary care in an attempt to lower costs³⁶. The combination of GBP with P4P
22 initiatives and close monitoring of quality metrics is likely to minimize these adverse incentives. In
23 Massachusetts, the significant reduction in spending growth noted with the Alternative Quality

1 Contract (AQC) by Blue Cross Blue Shields was associated with sustained improvement of
2 performance measures (*i.e.*, chronic disease management, adult prevention, and pediatric care), while
3 lower utilization was the main driver of cost reduction of the policy in its later years⁴. Cost
4 containment in the era of value based care is mostly achieved by reducing avoidable utilization and
5 waste³⁷. Although preliminary results of GBP in Maryland demonstrated cost reductions for
6 Medicare patients and improvements in quality measures¹², further analyses did not confirm these
7 effects. The pilot program TPR (Total Patient Revenue) launched in ten rural hospitals in 2010,
8 demonstrated only marginal effects in effective or avoidable utilization³⁸⁻⁴⁰. Similar observations were
9 gathered from studies conducted on statewide GBP. Roberts et al. found no significant changes in
10 hospital (admissions, observation stays, emergency visits, readmissions) or outpatient utilization for
11 the first two years after policy adoption⁴¹. Another report showed that three years post
12 implementation, GBP were associated with reductions in inpatient admissions for Medicare and
13 private insurance carriers but resulted in no significant savings due to increases in charges. Medicare
14 expenditures decreased by \$330 million in FY 2017, likely from reduced costs of emergency visits
15 and outpatient services; however, a consistent effect on avoidable inpatient utilization was not
16 demonstrated¹³.

17 Evidence on CV utilization with GBP is limited. Song et al showed that expenditures for CV
18 services in the Massachusetts AQC cohort of beneficiaries decreased by 7.4% within the first two
19 years, and that reduced expenditure growth for CV services was linked to lower prices⁸. In our study,
20 we found a 1.4% increase in hospitalization charges in the IS cohort but no significant increases for
21 the CHF cohort, despite a small increase in LOS. One could hypothesize that past efforts directed at
22 reducing CHF hospital stays had already achieved their maximum beneficial effect, beyond which
23 further reductions would result in worse patient outcomes and higher readmission rates. We noted a
24 1.5% reduction in charges for AMI patients which may have been due to reduced avoidable

1 utilization, efficiency gains, or care shifts towards outpatient services, as documented by the
2 reduction of inpatient CABG surgeries. This hypothesis should be verified by integrating our
3 analysis with outpatient and observation data. There was no evidence of reduced costs of CV
4 procedures; for example, a reduction of 5.4% in EKG volumes after GBP was counterbalanced by a
5 7.7% increase in rates. IRC data appears inconclusive since it combines CV activity with other
6 services, and most changes occurred before GBP implementation. Because Maryland GBP allows
7 only minimal price adjustments, cost savings are more likely to result from reduced volume of
8 services and improvements in potentially avoidable utilization rather than price reductions. Whether
9 this was the case with Maryland GBP will need to be studied in further detail. Although we did not
10 identify unequivocal evidence of cost containment, our findings show that statewide GBP
11 implementation in Maryland - combined with tailored policy incentives and performance targets- did
12 not negatively affect the quality of in-hospital CV care.

13 Recent research has emphasized the issue of shifting care or costs outside the global budget. Pines et
14 al found a significant drop in hospital admissions and outpatient care in TPR areas compared to
15 controls, offset by higher admissions in hospitals outside TPR. While shifting care may improve
16 hospital profit margins, transferring care outside the capitation model could dampen potential
17 benefits of expenditure control¹⁴ and negatively affect healthcare quality⁴². Attenuated effects of
18 GBP have also been attributed to misaligned incentives between hospitals and physician, since most
19 providers in Maryland are not employed by hospitals^{39, 43}. Considering these limitations, Maryland -
20 in partnership with CMS - introduced the Total Cost of Care (TCOC) model in 2019, extending its
21 waiver until 2023⁴⁴. Under TCOC, Maryland finances each beneficiary entire *continuum* of care,
22 facilitating collaborations between hospitals, outpatient services, physicians and state agencies,
23 setting specific quality and financial goals, promoting primary care services, and tracking
24 performance targets⁴⁵.

1 **Limitations**

2 Our study has several limitations. First, information was obtained from claims data and therefore
3 relied upon good coding practices, particularly concerning crosswalk of disease classification
4 versions. Although coding mismatch and misclassification cannot be fully discounted, good
5 concordance between CV codes has been demonstrated⁴⁶, and we adopted the same methods
6 employed by CMS to assess reimbursement claims. Second, we studied the effects of GBP on
7 inpatient cohorts across hospitals in Maryland. Because our analysis was limited to inpatients, we
8 were unable to capture possible spillover effects to surrounding states, or care/cost shifts to
9 unregulated portions of global budgets; moreover, we were not able to evaluate the “global” effects
10 of GBP on CV utilization (*e.g.*, the relationship between inpatient and outpatient revascularization
11 procedures) and outcomes in outpatient populations, observation units or emergency visits.
12 Nonetheless, our study provides important evidence on the impact of GBP on inpatient care
13 services, which represent approximately half of hospital revenues⁴⁷. Additionally, we were able to
14 show effects of GBP on hospitals’ healthcare quality for acute CV conditions, and its implications
15 on inpatient utilization. Finally, the absence of a comparison group makes the study susceptible to
16 pre-existing trends and coincidental events. While a randomized controlled study was not feasible
17 given statewide policy implementation, we adopted a quasi-experimental study design (ITS) that
18 accounts for secular trends, assuming that observed changes are due to the adoption of GBP. This
19 method has been widely used to evaluate the impact of healthcare interventions and policies⁴⁸.

20 **Conclusions**

21 Adoption of GBP in Maryland had no detrimental effects on inpatient quality of care for three
22 major CV conditions. While RSMR remained unchanged by the policy, CARR for AMI patients
23 decreased significantly with associated cost savings. We found a reduction in CV utilization, which

1 was offset by a proportional increase in charges. This suggests that GBP may be successful in
2 reducing healthcare expenditures without nurturing concerns of adverse effects on quality. The
3 transition to a comprehensive population-based strategy with TCOC, promoting coordination
4 between hospital and outpatient services, is likely to provide additional benefits for cost containment
5 and quality of care. Rigorous monitoring of outcomes, performance targets, and multi-dimensional
6 assessments will be required to weigh its efficacy and to guide future policy directions.

7

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14 **Supplemental Materials:**

15 Supplemental Methods

16 Supplemental Tables I-IV

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Table 1. Study population and demographics.

	Fiscal year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total admissions							
	All	310,012	293,696	281,148	271,731	273,438	271,154
	CHF	15,087	14,898	15,513	15,674	15,676	16,009
	AMI	7502	7306	7619	7446	7503	7128
	IS	7273	7674	7672	7604	7672	7868
Male sex, n (%)							
	CHF	7552 (50.06)	7630 (51.21)	7766 (50.06)	7985 (50.94)	8038 (51.28)	8286 (51.76)
	AMI	4437 (59.14)	4344 (59.46)	4548 (59.69)	4436 (59.58)	4478 (59.68)	4261 (59.78)
	IS	3428 (47.13)	3608 (47.02)	3691 (48.11)	3613 (47.51)	3653 (47.61)	3805 (48.36)
Race, n (%)							
	CHF						
	White	7284 (48.46)	6075 (49.05)	6615 (48.90)	7678 (49.26)	7646 (49.02)	7469 (46.97)
	African American	7158 (47.62)	5799 (46.82)	6285 (46.46)	7248 (46.5)	7194 (46.12)	7671 (48.24)
	Asian	179 (1.19)	160 (1.29)	216 (1.6)	205 (1.32)	271 (1.74)	246 (1.55)
	Other	340 (2.26)	280 (2.26)	294 (2.17)	344 (2.21)	401 (2.57)	457 (2.87)
	AMI						
	White	4810 (65.53)	3980 (65.74)	4345 (65.39)	4702 (63.96)	4607 (61.96)	4213 (60.05)
	African American	1988 (27.08)	1606 (26.53)	1822 (27.42)	2162 (29.41)	2252 (30.29)	2179 (31.06)
	Asian	172 (2.34)	174 (2.87)	180 (2.71)	184 (2.5)	220 (2.96)	228 (3.25)
	Other	316 (4.31)	250 (4.13)	231 (3.48)	215 (2.92)	278 (3.74)	349 (4.97)
	IS						
	White	3871 (53.49)	3548 (52.99)	3639 (52.52)	3978 (52.83)	3989 (52.27)	3941 (50.52)
	African American	2914 (40.27)	2733 (40.82)	2853 (41.17)	3067 (40.73)	3145 (41.21)	3307 (42.39)
	Asian	168 (2.32)	179 (2.67)	179 (2.58)	215 (2.86)	192 (2.52)	216 (2.77)
	Other	238 (3.29)	187 (2.79)	180 (2.6)	196 (2.6)	246 (3.22)	290 (3.72)
Age group (years), n (%)							
	CHF						
	19-65	5077 (33.65)	5042 (33.84)	4974 (32.06)	5143 (32.81)	4957 (31.62)	5241 (32.74)
	65-69	1551 (10.28)	1449 (9.73)	1683 (10.85)	1763 (11.25)	1789 (11.41)	1831 (11.44)
	70-74	1681 (11.14)	1657 (11.12)	1768 (11.39)	1780 (11.36)	1863 (11.88)	1826 (11.41)
	75-79	1691 (11.21)	1756 (11.79)	1798 (11.59)	1888 (12.05)	1811 (11.55)	1958 (12.23)

	80-84	1830 (12.13)	1896 (12.73)	1926 (12.42)	1905 (12.15)	1927 (12.29)	1867 (11.66)
	85 or older	3257 (21.59)	3098 (20.79)	3364 (21.69)	3195 (20.38)	3329 (21.24)	3286 (20.53)
AMI							
	19-65	3270 (43.59)	3246 (44.43)	3340 (43.84)	3400 (45.66)	3344 (44.57)	3201 (44.91)
	65-69	875 (11.66)	891 (12.2)	962 (12.63)	927 (12.45)	965 (12.86)	971 (13.62)
	70-74	870 (11.6)	848 (11.61)	900 (11.81)	850 (11.42)	936 (12.48)	885 (12.42)
	75-79	707 (9.42)	698 (9.55)	731 (9.59)	749 (10.06)	711 (9.48)	688 (9.65)
	80-84	745 (9.93)	669 (9.16)	675 (8.86)	619 (8.31)	670 (8.93)	594 (8.33)
	85 or older	1035 (13.80)	954 (13.06)	1011 (13.27)	901 (12.1)	877 (11.69)	789 (11.07)
IS							
	19-65	2632 (36.19)	2821 (36.76)	2672 (34.83)	2658 (34.96)	2684 (34.98)	2703 (34.35)
	65-69	782 (10.75)	888 (11.57)	934 (12.17)	939 (12.35)	935 (12.19)	991 (12.6)
	70-74	817 (11.23)	825 (10.75)	865 (11.27)	831 (10.93)	891 (11.61)	951 (12.09)
	75-79	767 (10.55)	843 (10.99)	860 (11.21)	930 (12.23)	871 (11.35)	960 (12.2)
	80-84	857 (11.78)	847 (11.04)	883 (11.51)	868 (11.42)	874 (11.39)	879 (11.17)
	85 or older	1418 (19.5)	1450 (18.89)	1458 (19.0)	1378 (18.12)	1417 (18.47)	1384 (17.59)
Payer, n (%)							
CHF							
	Commercial	1930 (12.89)	1869 (12.66)	1850 (12.04)	1944 (12.56)	1994 (12.88)	1905 (12.04)
	Medicaid	1531 (10.23)	1660 (11.24)	1836 (11.95)	1777 (11.48)	1731 (11.18)	2061 (13.02)
	Medicare	11030(73.69)	10869(73.62)	11503(74.85)	11579(74.82)	11615(75.03)	11688(73.85)
	Self-pay	477 (3.19)	366 (2.48)	180 (1.17)	176 (1.14)	140 (0.9)	172 (1.09)
AMI							
	Commercial	2080 (28.11)	2074 (28.82)	2142 (28.59)	2156 (29.49)	2066 (28.02)	2006 (28.67)
	Medicaid	553 (7.47)	733 (10.18)	885 (11.81)	852 (11.65)	944 (12.81)	856 (12.24)
	Medicare	4304 (58.9)	4108 (57.08)	4310 (57.54)	4152 (56.79)	4224 (57.3)	4021 (57.48)
	Self-pay	462 (6.24)	282 (3.92)	154 (2.06)	151 (2.07)	138 (1.87)	113 (1.62)
IS							
	Commercial	1560 (21.69)	1507 (19.9)	1530 (20.15)	1538 (20.52)	1564 (20.69)	1585 (20.38)
	Medicaid	646 (8.98)	891 (11.77)	892 (11.75)	883 (11.78)	903 (11.94)	929 (11.95)
	Medicare	4648 (64.62)	4891 (64.6)	5051 (66.53)	4960 (66.17)	4977 (65.82)	5141 (66.11)
	Self-pay	339 (4.71)	282 (3.72)	119 (1.57)	115 (1.53)	117 (1.55)	122 (1.57)

Table 2. Changes in study outcomes after implementation of global budgets.

Cohort	Outcome	Baseline value	Pre-intervention slope (95% CI)	Post-intervention slope (95% CI)	Absolute difference (95% CI)	p value (level)	p value (trend)
CHF							
	Hospitalizations*	63.83	-0.37(-1.97 to 1.21)	0.16(-0.21 to 0.55)	0.54(-1.10 to 2.19)	0.42	0.52
	Casemix adjusted readmission rate, %	25.1	-0.3(-0.5 to -0.06)	-0.11(-0.1 to -0.04)	0.2 (-0.05 to 0.4)	0.92	0.13
	Risk Standardized Mortality Rate [†] , %	11.6	NC	NC	NC	NC	0.99 [†]
	Length of stay, <i>days</i>	5.05	-0.03(-0.06 to 0)	0.008 (-0.005 to 0.02)	0.04 (0.005 to 0.07)	0.001	0.036
	Mean inflation-adjusted charges, \$	14198.01	-75.05 (-238.57 to 88.45)	67.20 (27.16 to 107.25)	142.26 (-22.97 to 307.49)	0.10	0.10
AMI							
	Hospitalizations*	32.65	-0.41(-0.84 to 0.01)	-0.12(-0.25 to 0.01)	0.29(-0.16 to 0.74)	0.03	0.22
	Casemix adjusted readmission rate, %	12.2	0.3 (0.07 to 0.6)	-0.09 (-0.18 to 0.002)	-0.4 (-0.7 to -0.1)	0.10	0.0069
	Risk Standardized Mortality Rate [†] , %	12.7	NC	NC	NC	NC	0.99 [†]
	Length of stay, <i>days</i>	4.18	0(-0.04 to 0.06)	-0.006 (-0.02 to 0.005)	-0.016 (-0.07 to 0.04)	0.57	0.57
	Mean inflation-adjusted charges, \$	21708.18	336.12 (198.65 to 473.60)	3.64 (-74.10 to 81.39)	-332.47 (-490.07 to -174.89)	0.06	0.0005
Ischemic stroke							
	Hospitalizations*	29.50	0.60 (0.45 to 0.76)	0.05 (0.01 to 0.1)	-0.54(-0.71 to -0.37)	0.0003	<0.0001
	Casemix adjusted readmission rate, %	9.8	0.1 (-0.2 to 0.4)	-0.03 (-0.09 to 0.01)	-0.1 (-0.4 to 0.2)	0.91	0.42
	Risk Standardized Mortality Rate [†] , %	14.6	NC	NC	NC	NC	0.99 [†]
	Length of stay, <i>days</i>	5.10	-0.02(-0.05 to 0.002)	-0.01 (-0.02 to 0.002)	0.014 (-0.01 to 0.04)	0.77	0.42
	Mean inflation-adjusted charges, \$	15812.86	-88.53 (-131.12 to -45.96)	139.50 (86.93 to 192.07)	228.04 (163.20 to 292.88)	0.90	<0.0001
Procedure volumes[‡]							
	PCI	13.90	0.13 (-0.06 to 0.33)	-0.02 (-0.07 to 0.01)	-0.15 (-0.36 to 0.04)	0.88	0.14
	CABG	2.99	0.26 (0.23 to 0.30)	-0.02 (-0.06 to 0.01)	-0.28 (-0.34 to -0.23)	0.62	<0.0001

*Hospitalization rates indicated as *n* of admissions per 100,000 residents. [†]Risk Standardized Mortality Rate was calculated yearly, Cochran-Armitage test for trend was used instead of ITS. [‡]Procedure volumes indicated as *n* of procedures per 1,000 admissions (see Table 1). p-value represents the significance of the test for the change in the slope (trend change), or the absolute change difference (level change) being equal to zero. NC: not calculated.

Table 3: Segmented regression analysis of rates and budget volumes for cardiovascular procedures in Maryland before and after GBP.

Revenue center	Outcome measure	Baseline value	Pre-intervention slope (95% CI)	Post-intervention slope (95% CI)	Absolute difference (95% CI)	p value (level)	p value (trend)
EKG							
	Rates, <i>RVUs</i>	3.21	0.06 (0.01 to 0.10)	0.32 (0.29 to 0.34)	0.25 (0.20 to 0.31)	0.001	<0.0001
	Budget volume, <i>n</i> x100,000	217.37	2.41 (0.61 to 4.2)	-9.33 (-13.09 to -5.5)	-11.75 (-15.5 to -7.9)	0.92	0.0003
IRC							
	Rates, <i>RVUs</i>	15.47	10.18 (6.46 to 13.90)	-3.65(-5.26 to -2.04)	-13.83(-18.23 to -9.43)	0.73	0.0003
	Budget volume, <i>n</i> x100,000	144.39	-17.03 (-25.72 to -8.34)	1.13 (0.29 to 1.96)	18.16 (9.25 to 27.07)	0.13	0.004

EKG: “electrocardiography”. IRC: interventional cardiology/radiology. RVU: relative value units.

Figure 1a: AMI hospitalization rates and charges.

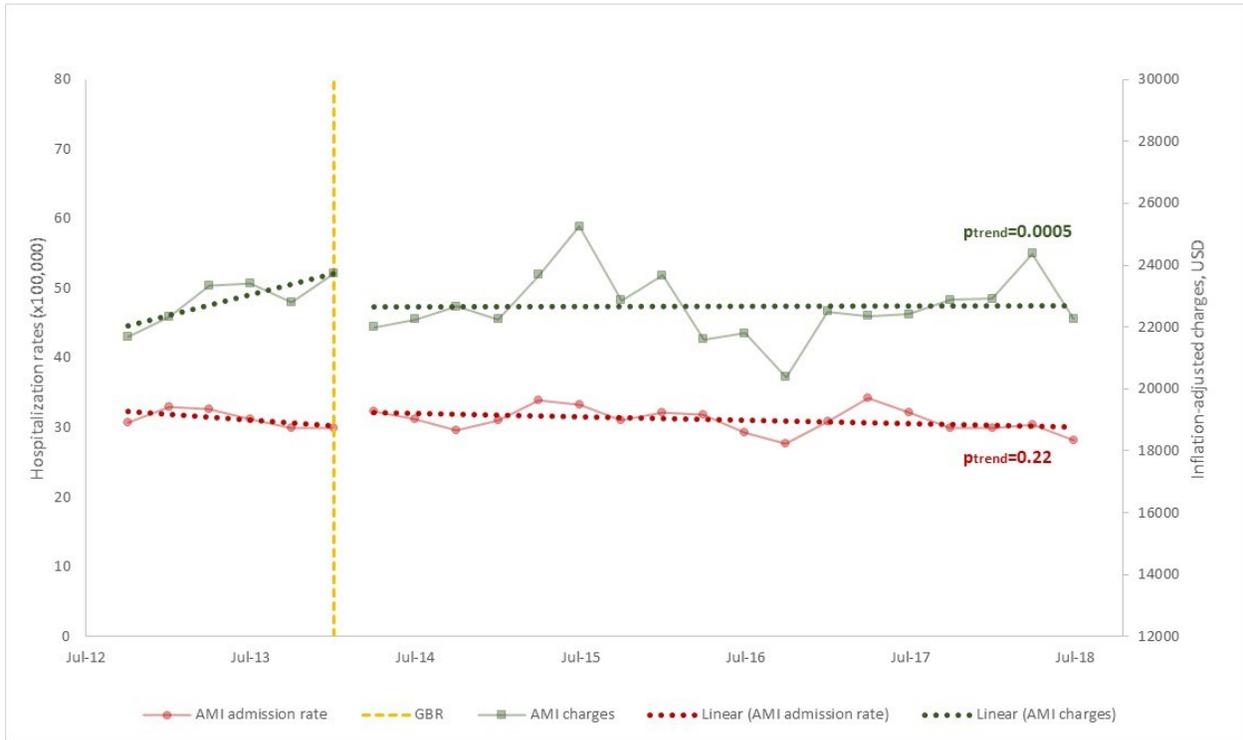


Figure 1b: IS hospitalization rates and charges.

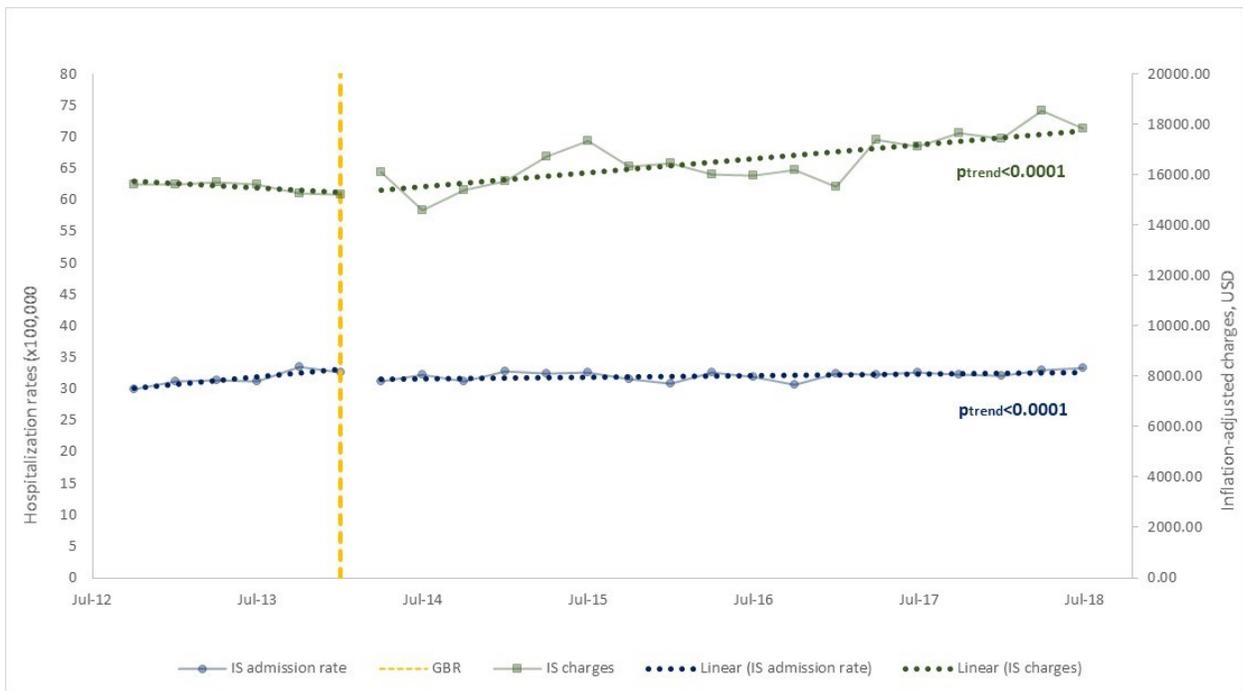


Figure 1c: CHF hospitalization rates and charges.

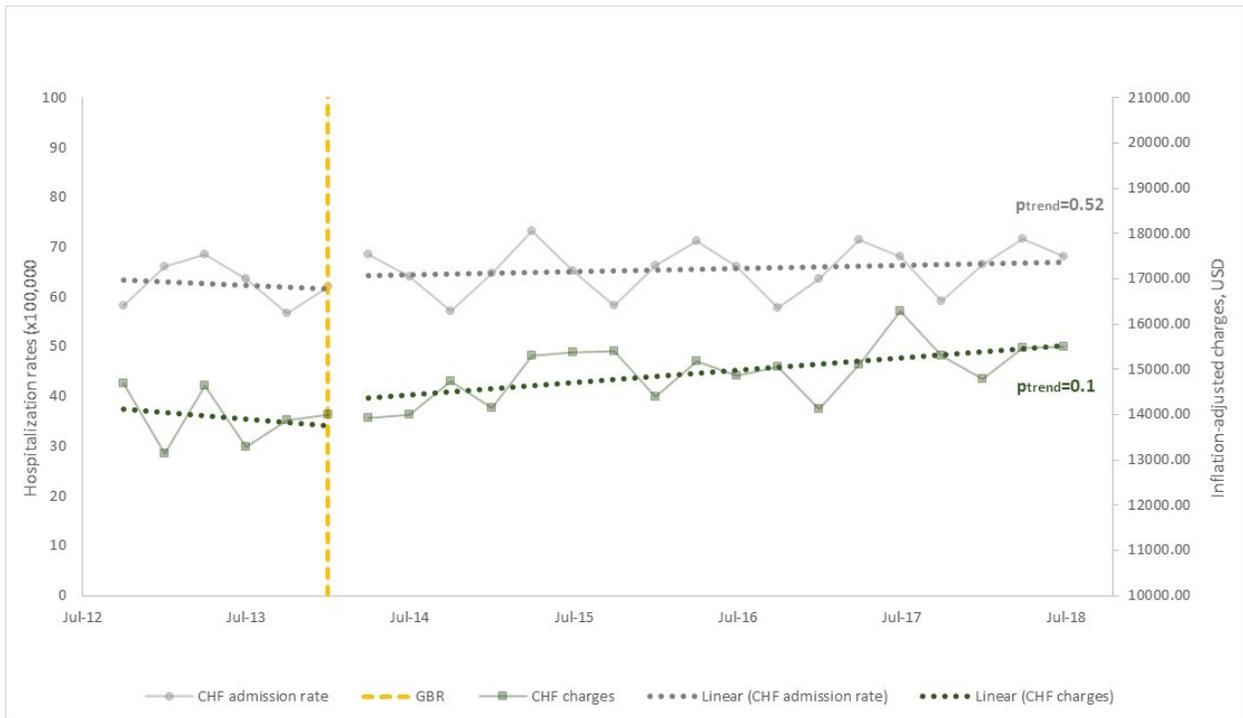


Figure 2: Risk-adjusted readmission rates by condition.

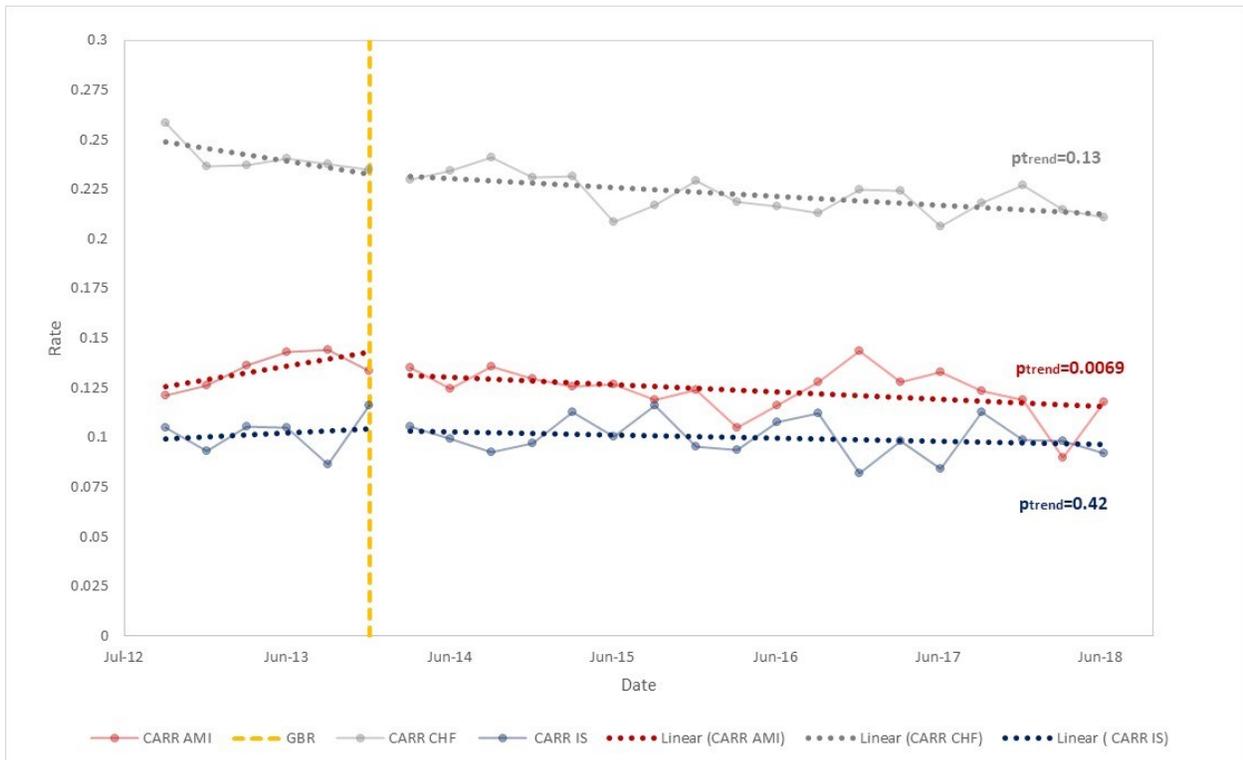


Figure 3a: Length of stay

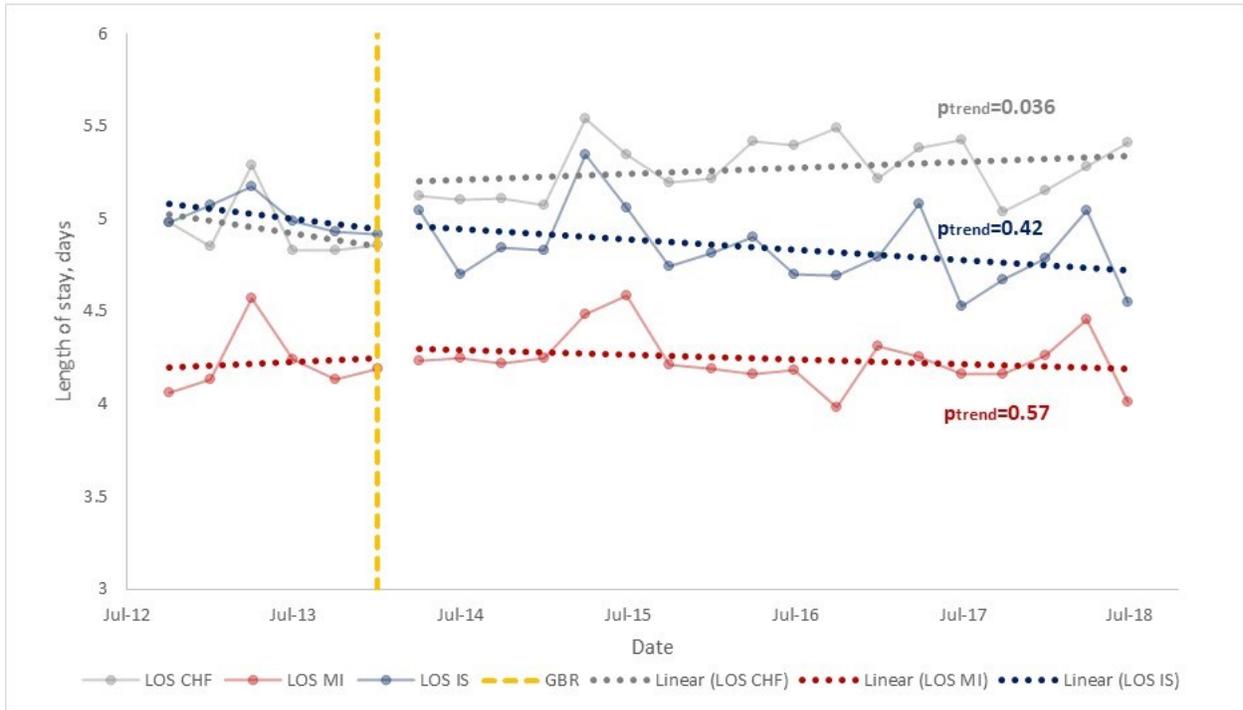


Figure 3b: Procedure volumes

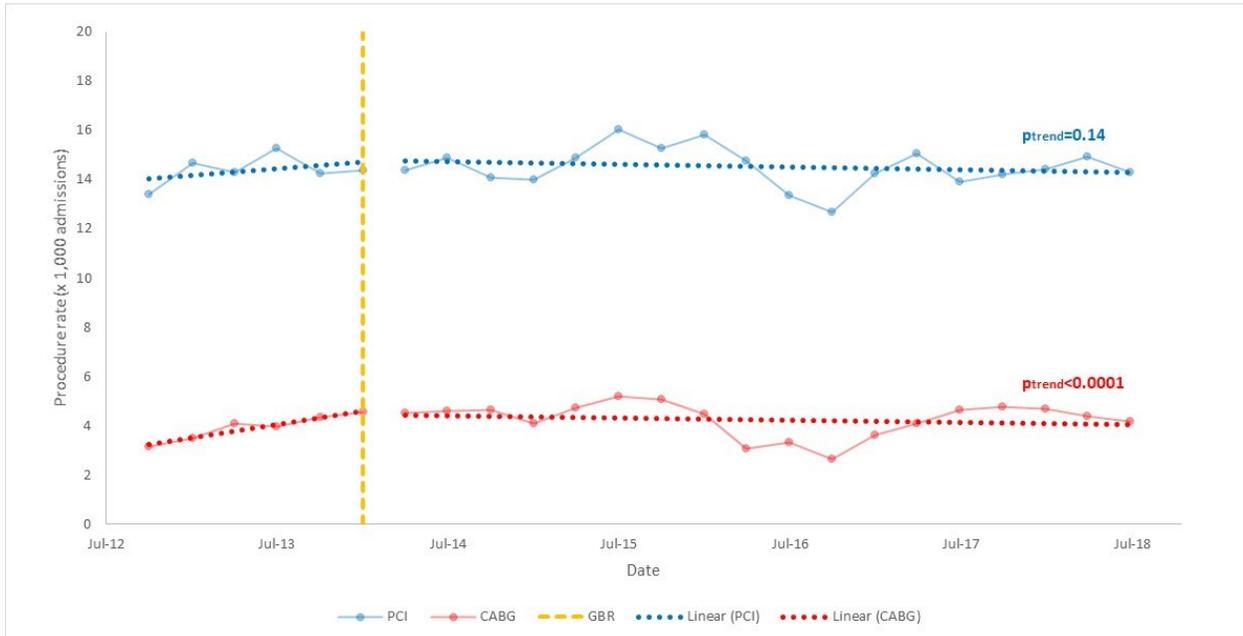


Figure 4: Yearly Risk Standardized Mortality Rates.

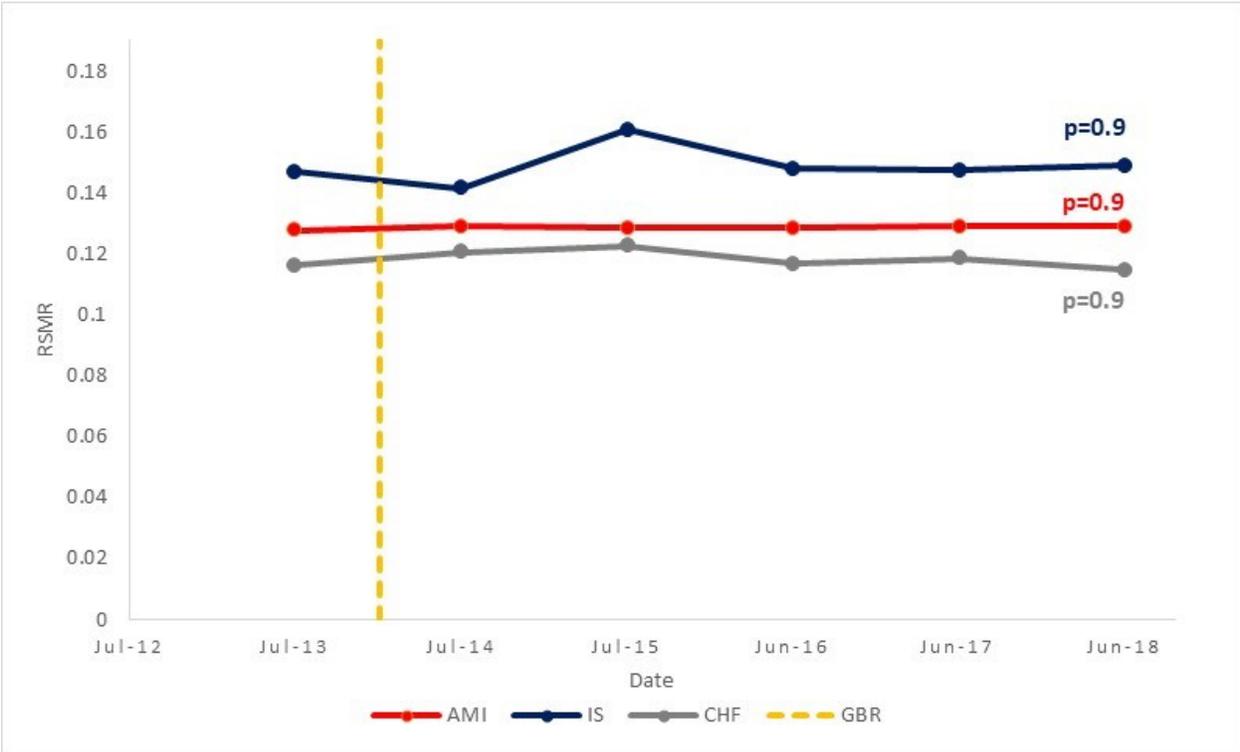


Figure 5a: EKG rates and volumes.

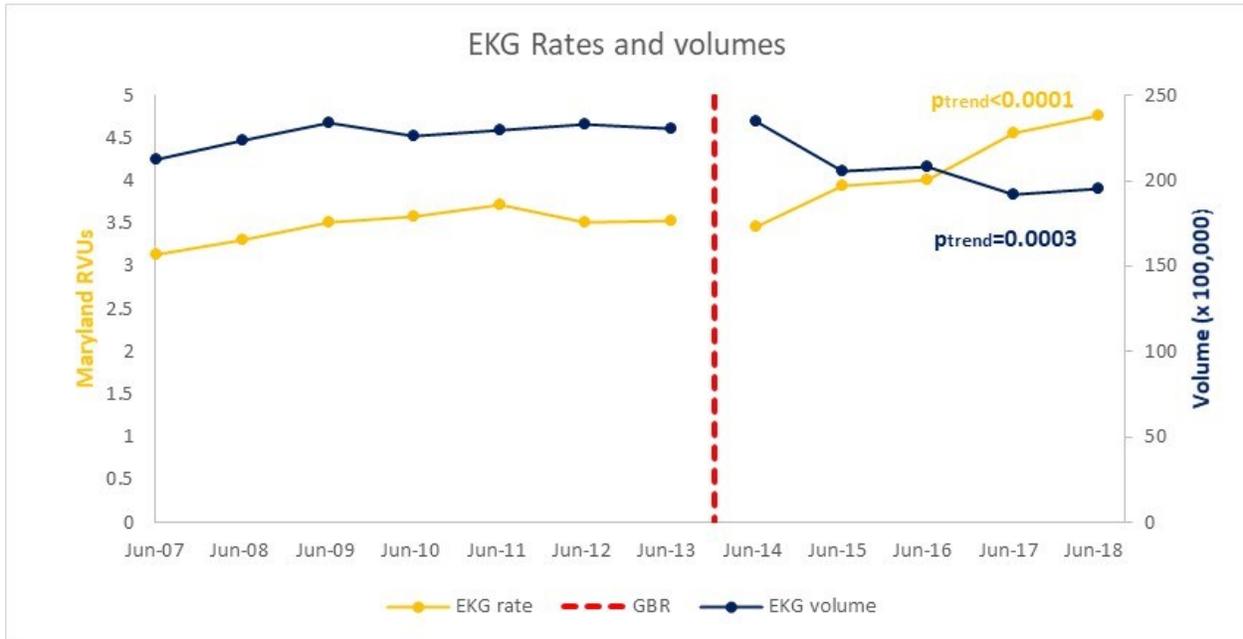


Figure 5b: IRC rates and volumes

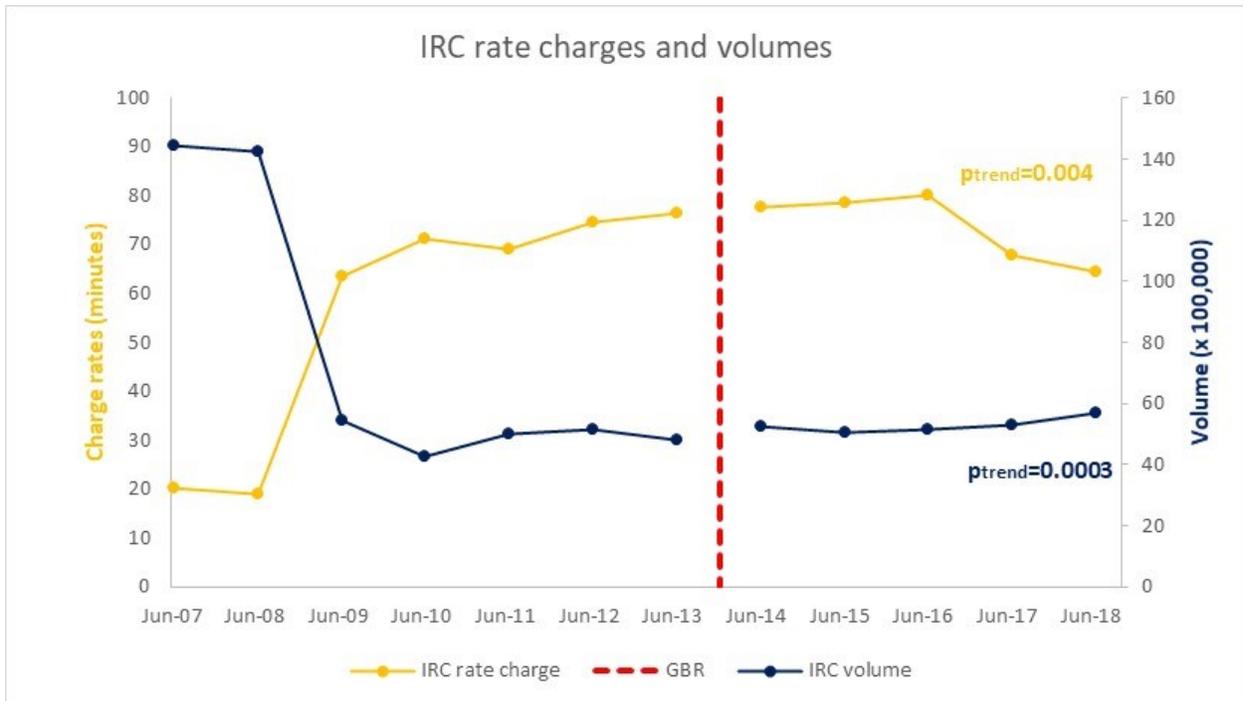


Figure Legends

Figure 1: Hospitalization rates and charges before and after implementation of global budgets in three cardiovascular conditions. Figure 1a: acute myocardial infarction (AMI) hospitalization and charges. Figure 1b: ischemic stroke (IS) hospitalization and charges. Figure 1c: congestive heart failure (CHF) hospitalization and charges. Circles represent hospitalizations and squares represent inflation adjusted charges. Yellow dashed line represents time of adoption of Global Budget Revenue (GBR). Dotted lines indicate linear trend. P value indicates p for trend.

Figure 2: Risk adjusted readmission rates by condition before and after implementation of global budgets. Circles represent casemix-adjusted readmission rates (CARR). Red: acute myocardial infarction (AMI). Dark blue: ischemic stroke (IS). Grey: congestive heart failure (CHF). Yellow dashed line represents time of adoption of Global Budget Revenue (GBR). Dotted lines indicate linear trend. P value indicates p for trend.

Figure 3a: Length of stay (days) in three cardiovascular conditions before and after implementation of global budgets. Red: acute myocardial infarction (AMI). Dark blue: ischemic stroke (IS). Grey: congestive heart failure (CHF). Yellow dashed line: time of adoption of Global Budget Revenue (GBR). Dotted lines indicate linear trend. P value indicates p for trend.

Figure 3b: Inpatient procedure volumes before and after implementation of global budgets. Blue: PCI. Red: coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG) procedures. Yellow dashed line represents time of adoption of Global Budget Revenue (GBR). Dotted lines indicate linear trend. P value indicates p for trend.

Figure 4: Yearly Inpatient Risk Standardized Mortality Rates before and after implementation of global budget. Red: acute myocardial infarction (AMI). Dark blue: ischemic stroke (IS). Grey: congestive heart failure (CHF). Yellow dashed line represents time of adoption of Global Budget Revenue (GBR). P value indicates trend by Cochran Armitage statistic.

Figure 5a: Revenue center “electrocardiography” (“EKG”) rates and volumes before and after implementation of global budgets. Yellow: EKG rates. Blue: EKG volumes. Red dashed line: time of adoption of Global Budget Revenue (GBR). P value indicates p for trend.

Figure 5b: Revenue center “interventional radiology/cardiology” (“IRC”) rates and volumes before and after implementation of global budgets. Yellow: IRC rates. Blue: IRC volumes. Red dashed line: time of adoption of Global Budget Revenue (GBR). P value indicates p for trend.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

Supplemental Methods

International disease classification codes defining discharge diagnoses

Congestive Heart Failure:

ICD-9: '402.01', '402.11', '402.91', '404.01', '404.03', '404.11', '404.13', '404.91', '414.93', '428.xx' (i.e., '428.0', '428.1', '428.20', '428.21', '428.22', '428.23', '428.30', '428.31', '428.32', '428.33', '428.40', '428.41', '428.42', '428.43', or '428.9')

ICD-10:

'I11.0', 'I13.0', 'I13.2', 'I5.01', 'I50.20', 'I50.21', 'I50.22', 'I50.23', 'I50.30', 'I50.31', 'I50.32', 'I50.33', 'I50.40', 'I50.41', 'I50.42', 'I50.43', 'I50.9'

Ischemic stroke:

ICD-9: '433.01', '433.11', '433.21', '433.31', '433.81', '433.91', '434.01', '434.11', '434.91', '436'.

ICD-10:

'I63.00', 'I63.011', 'I63.012', 'I63.019', 'I63.02', 'I63.031', 'I63.032', 'I63.039', 'I63.09', 'I63.10', 'I63.111', 'I63.112', 'I63.119', 'I63.12', 'I63.131', 'I63.132', 'I63.139', 'I63.19', 'I63.20', 'I63.211', 'I63.212', 'I63.219', 'I63.22', 'I63.231', 'I63.232', 'I63.239', 'I63.29', 'I63.30', 'I63.311', 'I63.312', 'I63.319', 'I63.321', 'I63.322', 'I63.329', 'I63.331', 'I63.332', 'I63.339', 'I63.341', 'I63.342', 'I63.349', 'I63.39', 'I63.40', 'I63.411', 'I63.412', 'I63.419', 'I63.421', 'I63.422', 'I63.429', 'I63.431', 'I63.432', 'I63.439', 'I63.441', 'I63.442', 'I63.449', 'I63.49', 'I63.50', 'I63.511', 'I63.512', 'I63.519', 'I63.521', 'I63.522', 'I63.529', 'I63.531', 'I63.532', 'I63.539', 'I63.541', 'I63.542', 'I63.549', 'I63.59', 'I63.6', 'I63.8', 'I63.9', 'I67.89';

Acute myocardial infarction:

ICD-9: '410.00', '410.01', '410.10', '410.11', '410.20', '410.21', '410.30', '410.31', '410.40', '410.41', '410.50', '410.51', '410.60', '410.61', '410.70', '410.71', '410.80', '410.81', '410.90', '410.91';

ICD-10: 'I21.01', 'I21.02', 'I21.09', 'I21.11', 'I21.19', 'I21.21', 'I21.29', 'I21.3', 'I21.4', 'I21.9'

Procedural codes used to identify percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI):

ICD-9: '00.66', '36.09', '17.55', '36.06', '36.07'

ICD-10: '0270346', '027034Z', '02703D6', '02703DZ', '02703T6', '02703TZ', '02703Z6', '02703ZZ', '0270446', '027044Z', '02704D6', '02704DZ', '02704T6', '02704TZ', '02704Z6', '02704ZZ', '0271346', '027134Z', '02713D6', '02713DZ', '02713T6', '02713TZ', '02713Z6', '02713ZZ', '0271446', '027144Z', '02714D6', '02714DZ', '02714T6', '02714TZ', '02714Z6', '02714ZZ', '0272346', '027234Z', '02723D6', '02723DZ', '02723T6', '02723TZ', '02723Z6', '02723ZZ', '0272446', '027244Z', '02724D6', '02724DZ', '02724T6', '02724TZ', '02724Z6', '02724ZZ', '0273346', '027334Z', '02733D6', '02733DZ', '02733T6', '02733TZ', '02733Z6', '02733ZZ', '0273446', '027344Z',

'02734D6', '02734DZ', '02734T6', '02734TZ', '02734Z6', '02734ZZ', /*ADDED IN RY2019*/ '0270356', '027035Z', '0270366', '027036Z', '0270376', '027037Z', '02703E6', '02703EZ', '02703F6', '02703FZ', '02703G6', '02703GZ', '0270456', '027045Z', '0270466', '027046Z', '0270476', '027047Z', '02704E6', '02704EZ', '02704F6', '02704FZ', '02704G6', '02704GZ', '0271356', '027135Z', '0271366', '027136Z', '0271376', '027137Z', '02713E6', '02713EZ', '02713F6', '02713FZ', '02713G6', '02713GZ', '0271456', '027145Z', '0271466', '027146Z', '0271476', '027147Z', '02714E6', '02714EZ', '02714F6', '02714FZ', '02714G6', '02714GZ', '0272356', '027235Z', '0272366', '027236Z', '0272376', '027237Z', '02723E6', '02723EZ', '02723F6', '02723FZ', '02723G6', '02723GZ', '0272456', '027245Z', '0272466', '027246Z', '0272476', '027247Z', '02724E6', '02724EZ', '02724F6', '02724FZ', '02724G6', '02724GZ', '0273356', '027335Z', '0273366', '027336Z', '0273376', '027337Z', '02733E6', '02733EZ', '02733F6', '02733FZ', '02733G6', '02733GZ', '0273456', '027345Z', '0273466', '027346Z', '0273476', '027347Z', '02734E6', '02734EZ', '02734F6', '02734FZ', '02734G6', '02734GZ', '02C03Z6', '02C03ZZ', '02C04Z6', '02C04ZZ', '02C13Z6', '02C13ZZ', '02C14Z6', '02C14ZZ', '02C23Z6', '02C23ZZ', '02C24Z6', '02C24ZZ', '02C33Z6', '02C33ZZ', '02C34Z6', '02C34ZZ'

ICD CM codes used to identify coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) surgery:

ICD-9: 36.10, 36.11, 36.12, 36.13, 36.14, 36.15, 36.16, 36.17, 36.18, 36.19.

ICD-10: '0210093', '02100A3', '02100J3', '02100K3', '02100Z3', '0210493', '02104A3', '02104J3', '02104K3', '02104Z3', '021009W', '02100AW', '02100JW', '02100KW', '021049W', '02104AW', '02104JW', '02104KW', '021109W', '02110AW', '02110JW', '02110KW', '021149W', '02114AW', '02114JW', '02114KW', '021209W', '02120AW', '02120JW', '02120KW', '021249W', '02124AW', '02124JW', '02124KW', '021309W', '02130AW', '02130JW', '02130KW', '021349W', '02134AW', '02134JW', '02134KW', '0210098', '0210099', '021009C', '02100A8', '02100A9', '02100AC', '02100J8', '02100J9', '02100JC', '02100K8', '02100K9', '02100KC', '02100Z8', '02100Z9', '02100ZC', '0210498', '0210499', '021049C', '02104A8', '02104A9', '02104AC', '02104J8', '02104J9', '02104JC', '02104K8', '02104K9', '02104KC', '02104Z8', '02104Z9', '02104ZC', '0211098', '0211099', '021109C', '02110A8', '02110A9', '02110AC', '02110J8', '02110J9', '02110JC', '02110K8', '02110K9', '02110KC', '02110Z8', '02110Z9', '02110ZC', '0211498', '0211499', '021149C', '02114A8', '02114A9', '02114AC', '02114J8', '02114J9', '02114JC', '02114K8', '02114K9', '02114KC', '02114Z8', '02114Z9', '02114ZC', '0212098', '0212099', '021209C', '02120A8', '02120A9', '02120AC', '02120J8', '02120J9', '02120JC', '02120K8', '02120K9', '02120KC', '02120Z8', '02120Z9', '02120ZC', '0212498', '0212499', '021249C', '02124A8', '02124A9', '02124AC', '02124J8', '02124J9', '02124JC', '02124K8', '02124K9', '02124KC', '02124Z8', '02124Z9', '02124ZC', '0213098', '0213099', '021309C', '02130A8', '02130A9', '02130AC', '02130J8', '02130J9', '02130JC', '02130K8', '02130K9', '02130KC', '02130Z8', '02130Z9', '02130ZC', '0213498', '0213499', '021349C', '02134A8', '02134A9', '02134AC', '02134J8', '02134J9', '02134JC', '02134K8', '02134K9', '02134KC', '02134Z8', '02134Z9', '02134ZC', '0210083', '0210088', '0210089', '0210483', '0210488', '0210489', '0211083', '0211088', '0211089', '0211093', '0211483', '0211488', '0211489', '0211493', '0212083', '0212088', '0212089', '0212093', '0212483', '0212488', '0212489', '0212493', '0213083', '0213088', '0213089', '0213093', '0213483', '0213488', '0213489', '0213493', '021008C', '021008F', '021008W', '021009F', '02100AF', '02100JF', '02100KF', '02100ZF', '021048C', '021048F', '021048W', '021049F', '02104AF', '02104JF', '02104KF', '02104ZF', '021108C', '021108F', '021108W', '021109F', '02110A3', '02110AF', '02110J3', '02110JF', '02110K3', '02110KF', '02110Z3', '02110ZF',

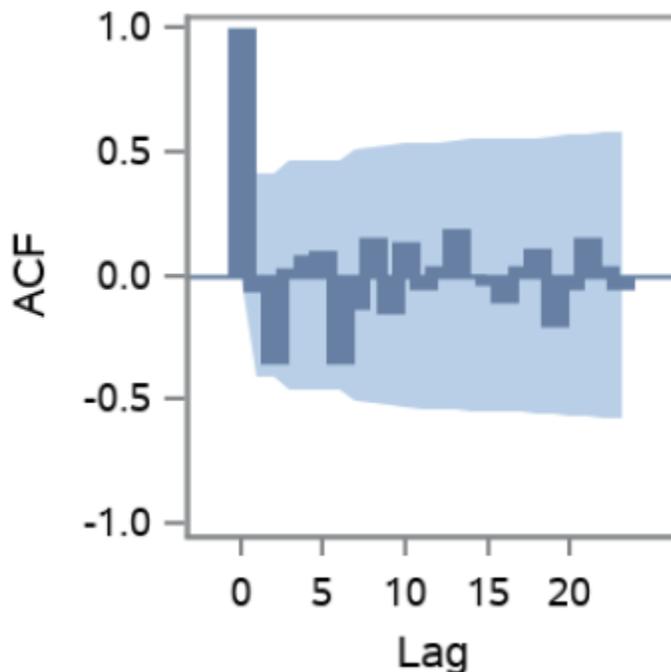
'021148C', '021148F', '021148W', '021149F', '02114A3', '02114AF', '02114J3', '02114JF', '02114K3',
'02114KF', '02114Z3', '02114ZF', '021208C', '021208F', '021208W', '021209F', '02120A3', '02120AF',
'02120J3', '02120JF', '02120K3', '02120KF', '02120Z3', '02120ZF', '021248C', '021248F', '021248W',
'021249F', '02124A3', '02124AF', '02124J3', '02124JF', '02124K3', '02124KF', '02124Z3', '02124ZF',
'021308C', '021308F', '021308W', '021309F', '02130A3', '02130AF', '02130J3', '02130JF', '02130K3',
'02130KF', '02130Z3', '02130ZF', '021348C', '021348F', '021348W', '021349F', '02134A3', '02134AF',
'02134J3', '02134JF', '02134K3', '02134KF', '02134Z3', '02134ZF'

Statistical Methods

We conducted a single series interrupted time series (ITS) analysis using segmental regression with autoregressive error modeling, accounting for sequential correlation of data across timepoints (autocorrelation). The analysis was conducted using the SAS software PROC AUTOREG, which tests for data correlation and provides estimates of autoregressive parameters (Penfold, et al. Use of interrupted time series analysis in evaluating health care quality improvements. *Acad Pediatr* 2013. doi: 10.1016/j.acap.2013.08.002). To fit the model, we used maximum likelihood testing up to 4 lags accounting for quarterly seasonal trends. A Durbin-Watson test was used to test for the presence of autocorrelation. Finally, the log likelihood for the overall model was produced to assess the overall quality of the model. An example is outlined below:

```
PROC AUTOREG DATA=work.ChargesIS_Autoreg OUTEST=ChargesIS_Autoreg_parmest;  
MODEL mean_tot_chg = t x tx/  
METHOD=ml NLAG=4 BACKSTEP DWPROB LOGLIKL;  
OUTPUT out=ITS_infl_chg_IS_AR p=pvar r=rvar;  
RUN;
```

We identified the optimal order of autocorrelation by computing the autocorrelation function (ACF) up to a specified lag of 4, considering seasonality of quarterly data. The highest lag order with significance was chosen as the prespecified lag order. Based on ACF patterns, we adopted a default lag of 1, adjusting for autocorrelation with Newey-West standard errors. A visual example of ACF pattern is shown below:



To adjust for the presence of autocorrelation, we adopted the previously described SAS macro SITSA_VARS with Bartlett kernel, which provides autocorrelation-adjusted standard errors

according to Newey-West (Caswell, <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/interrupted-time-series-analysis-single-comparative-designs-caswell-1/>), as outlined in the following example:

```
proc model data=sitsa_vars;
  parms b0 b1 b2 b3;
  &outcome = b0+(b1*t)+(b2*x)+(b3*tx);
  fit &outcome / covb gmm kernel=(bart,&lagl,0) vardef=n;
  test b1+b3;
run; quit;
```

where &lagl is lag+1.

We adopted a different methodology to assess trends of Risk Standardized Mortality Rates (RSMR) over time. Since RSMR were calculated yearly by FY, given the scarcity of datapoints, we adopted the Cochran-Armitage trend test to evaluate the null hypothesis that no significant mortality trend was present between FY 2013 (before policy implementation) and 2018 (after policy implementation). We designed a 2-way table for the binomial proportion over time, and used the SAS command PROC FREQ to compute the 2-sided p value (https://support.sas.com/documentation/cdl/en/statug/63033/HTML/default/viewer.htm#statug_freq_a0000000645.htm) (as seen in the example):

```
proc freq data=HF_RSMR;
  tables FY*RSMR / trend measures cl ;
  test smdrc;
  weight Count;
  title 'Cochran-Armitage Test for HF RSMR';
run;
```

Table I.

The following Maryland hospitals introduced GBP on January 1st, 2014 and were included in the main analysis:

HOSP ID	Acute Hospitals
210002	University of Maryland
210003	Prince George's
210004	Holy Cross Hospital
210005	Frederick Memorial
210006	Harford Memorial Hospital
210008	Mercy Medical Center
210009	Johns Hopkins
210011	St. Agnes Hospital
210012	Lifebridge Sinai Hospital
210013	Bon Secours
210015	MedStar Franklin Square
210016	Washington Adventist
210018	MedStar Montgomery General
210019	Peninsula Regional
210022	Suburban Hospital
210023	Anne Arundel Medical Center
210024	MedStar Union Memorial
210028	MedStar Saint Mary's Hospital
210029	Johns Hopkins Bayview (acute)
210034	MedStar Harbor Hospital
210035	UM Charles Regional Medical Center (Formerly Civista)
210038	UMM Center Midtown Campus (acute) (Formerly Maryland General)
210040	Lifebridge Northwest Hospital
210043	UM Baltimore Washington Medical Center
210044	Greater Baltimore Medical Center
210048	Howard General Hospital
210049	Upper Chesapeake Medical Center
210051	Doctors Community Hospital
210055	Greater Laurel
210056	MedStar Good Samaritan
210057	Shady Grove Adventist
210058	UM Rehab & Orthopaedic Institute (acute) (Formerly Kernan)
210060	Fort Washington
210061	Atlantic General
210062	MedStar Southern Maryland (Formerly 210054)
210063	UM Saint Joseph (Formerly 210007)

Table II.

The following Maryland hospitals were excluded from the main analysis since they had enrolled in global budget prior to FY 2014:

Hospital	HOSPID
Calvert Memorial Hospital	210039
Carroll Hospital Center	210033
Chester River Hospital Center	210030
Dorchester General Hospital	210010
Edward W. McCready Hospital	210045
Garrett County Memorial Hospital	210017
Memorial Hospital at Easton	210037
Meritus Medical Center	210001
Union Hospital of Cecil County	210032
Western Maryland Regional Medical Center	210027

Table III. Sensitivity analysis including all Maryland hospitals (all admissions). Changes in study outcomes after implementation of global budgets.

Cohort	Outcome	Baseline value	Pre-intervention slope (95% CI)	Post-intervention slope (95% CI)	Absolute difference (95% CI)	p value (level)§	p value (trend)§
CHF							
	Hospitalizations*	71.98	-0.45(-2.32 to 1.41)	0.1(-0.3 to 0.52)	0.56(-1.35 to 2.48)	0.30	0.57
	Casemix adjusted readmission rate, %	24.8	-0.2(-0.5 to -0.02)	-0.1(-0.1 to -0.05)	0.1 (-0.09 to 0.4)	0.74	0.22
	Risk Standardized Mortality Rate, %	11.5	NC	NC	NC	NC	0.99†
	Length of stay, <i>days</i>	4.94	-0.02(-0.05 to 0.01)	0.01 (-0.002 to 0.02)	0.03 (-0.003 to 0.06)	0.002	0.08
	Mean inflation-adjusted charges, \$	13895.86	-34.02 (-176.01 to 107.97)	61.29 (26.75 to 95.85)	95.31 (-48.48 to 239.11)	0.16	0.20
AMI							
	Hospitalizations*	36.96	-0.46(-0.94 to 0.02)	-0.14(-0.30 to 0.01)	0.31(-0.18 to 0.82)q	0.03	0.23
	Casemix adjusted readmission rate, %	12.3	0.3 (0.03 to 0.5)	-0.08 (-0.16 to 0.003)	-0.3 (-0.6 to -0.1)	0.07	0.01
	Risk Standardized Mortality Rate, %	12.8	NC	NC	NC	NC	0.99†
	Length of stay, <i>days</i>	4.10	0(-0.04 to 0.04)	-0.004 (-0.01 to 0.005)	-0.005 (-0.05 to 0.04)	0.41	0.83
	Mean inflation-adjusted charges, \$	21223.29	299.70 (191.52 to 407.89)	4.61 (-61.73 to 70.95)	-295.09 (-419.92 to -177.26)	0.08	0.0002
Ischemic stroke							
	Hospitalizations*	33.52	0.68 (0.51 to 0.86)	0.09 (0.05 to 0.13)	-0.59(-0.78 to -0.4)	0.0002	<0.0001
	Casemix adjusted readmission rate, %	10.0	0.06 (-0.2 to 0.3)	-0.03 (-0.09 to 0.03)	-0.09 (-0.3 to 0.2)	0.78	0.53
	Risk Standardized Mortality Rate, %	14.7	NC	NC	NC	NC	0.98†
	Length of stay, <i>days</i>	4.98	-0.03(-0.06 to 0.003)	-0.01 (-0.02 to 0.004)	0.019 (-0.01 to 0.05)	0.81	0.31
	Mean inflation-adjusted charges, \$	15546.29	-77.86 (-138.86 to -16.86)	121.38 (72.87 to 169.90)	199.24 (127.40 to 271.09)	0.94	<0.0001
Procedure volumes†							
	PCI	13.19	0.13 (-0.05 to 0.32)	0.009 (-0.03 to 0.05)	-0.12 (-0.32 to 0.07)	0.98	0.23
	CABG	2.88	0.20 (0.18 to 0.22)	-0.02 (-0.06 to 0.01)	-0.22 (-0.27 to -0.18)	0.77	<0.0001

*Hospitalization rates indicated as *n* of admissions per 100,000 residents. †Procedure volumes indicated as *n* of procedures per 1,000 admissions (see Table 1). ‡Cochrane-Armitage test for trend. §p-value represents the significance of the test for the change in the slope (trend change), or the absolute change difference (level change) being equal to zero. NC: not calculated.

Table IV: Sensitivity analysis including all Maryland hospitals. Segmented regression analysis of rates and budget volumes for cardiovascular procedures in Maryland before and after GBP.

Revenue center	Outcome measure	Baseline value	Pre-intervention slope (95% CI)	Post-intervention slope (95% CI)	Absolute difference (95% CI)	p value (level)	p value (trend)
EKG							
	Rates, <i>RVUs</i>	3.07	0.10 (0.08 to 0.13)	0.21 (0.15 to 0.27)	0.10 (0.03 to 0.17)	0.04	0.02
	Budget volume, <i>n</i> x100,000	253.83	1.16 (0.24 to 2.08)	-19.17 (-25.6 to -12.7)	-20.33 (-26.8 to -13.7)	0.03	0.0003
IRC							
	Rates, <i>RVUs</i>	11.75	10.67 (7.71 to 13.62)	-3.63(-5.24 to -2.02)	-14.30(-17.97 to -10.62)	0.95	<0.0001
	Budget volume, <i>n</i> x100,000	155.92	-18.69 (-28.19 to -9.2)	-0.08 (-0.82 to 0.65)	18.61 (9.08 to 28.14)	0.10	0.005

EKG: “electrocardiography”. IRC: interventional cardiology/radiology. RVU: relative value units.