

# Access to primary health care teams: Who gets them and does it matter?

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# Presentation Overview

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- A. Who Cares?
  - B. Survey Overview: **Canadian Survey of Experiences with Primary Health Care (CSE-PHC)**
  - C. Who gets Access to Primary Health Care Teams
  - D. Does It Matter?
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**Who Cares?**

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- Canadians care:
    - Seen as centre piece of health care system
  - Providers care:
    - Doctors (55%), pharmacists (81%) and nurses (85%) strongly/somewhat support “requiring health professionals to work in teams with other types of health care providers” (Pollara, 2007)
  - Governments want them
    - 50% of Canadians having 24/7 access to multidisciplinary teams by 2011
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# Survey Overview

# CSE-PHC Objectives

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- ❑ To provide a picture of access and utilization of primary health care services;
  - ❑ To collect data on issues relating to patient experiences with primary health care;
  - ❑ To provide information for the development of effective policies and strategies to help improve health care for all Canadians.
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# 2007 Survey

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	2007
Frame	CCHS 3.1 (2005) 18yrs +
Sample	3,800 targeted respondents (national)
Collection Method	Paper/ telephone collection (Ottawa)
Collection Period	January 15 to February 21, 2007 (6 weeks)
Response	Final rate = 58%
Linkage	Permission to link to CCHS

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# Key questionnaire domains:

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- Health Status
  - Primary Health Care Use & Type
  - Experiences with Primary Care Providers
  - Access to ER services
  - Use of Prescription Medication
  - Use of Specialists
  - Allied Health Professionals and Hospitals
  - Chronic Disease Management
  - Patient Activation and Managing Health
  - Confidence
  - Demographic and SES
  - Permission to link
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# ACCESS TO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (PHC) TEAMS:

Who gets them?

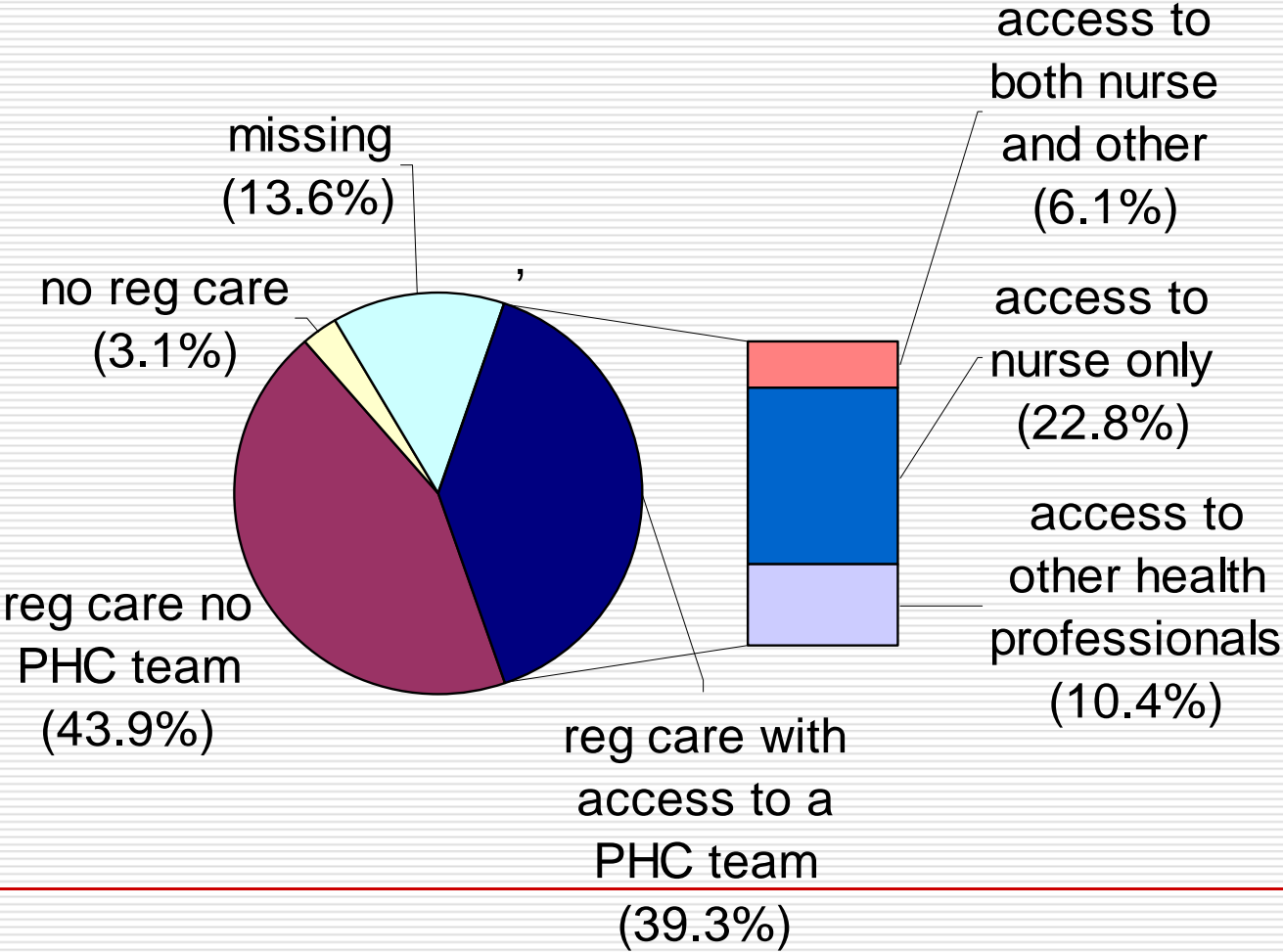
# PHC teams:

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- Inclusion criteria:
    - Regular medical doctor or place
    - *Is there a nurse working with your primary care provider who is regularly involved in your health care?; and/or*
    - *Are there other health professionals like dieticians and nutritionists working in the same office where you get your regular health care?*
  - Descriptive statistics and adjusted odds ratios
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# Results: How many have them?

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# Who gets access to them?

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- The following individuals were more likely to report access to a team:
    - Those with **two or more chronic conditions** (adjusted odds ratio = **1.49**;  $p < .05$ )
    - Those who report that they have **“fair/poor” health** (adjusted odds ratio = **1.43**;  $p < .10$ )
  - The following individuals were less likely to report access to a team:
    - Those who report that they have a **regular medical doctor** (adjusted odds ratio = **0.56**;  $p < .05$ )
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ACCESS TO PRIMARY  
HEALTH CARE (PHC)  
TEAMS:

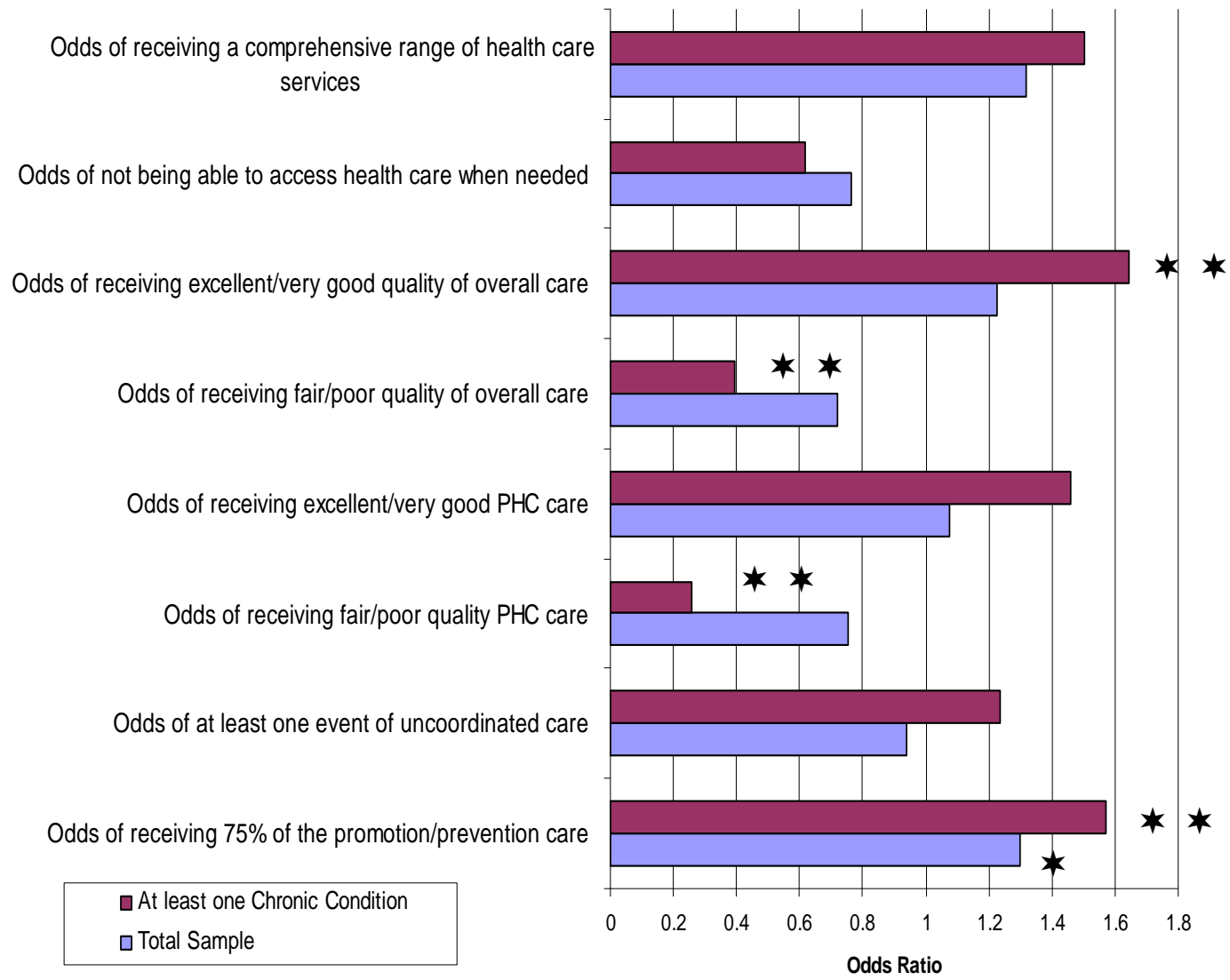
Does It Matter?

# Impact of access to a PHC team on processes of care

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## □ Methods

- Odds ratios; total sample and/or those with at least one chronic condition.
  - Tested 10 models; adjusted for patient demographics, socio-economic status and health status
  - Multivariate logistic regression analyses were conducted
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★ P < 0.10

★ ★ P < 0.05

# Whole Person Care sample questions ~ summary score

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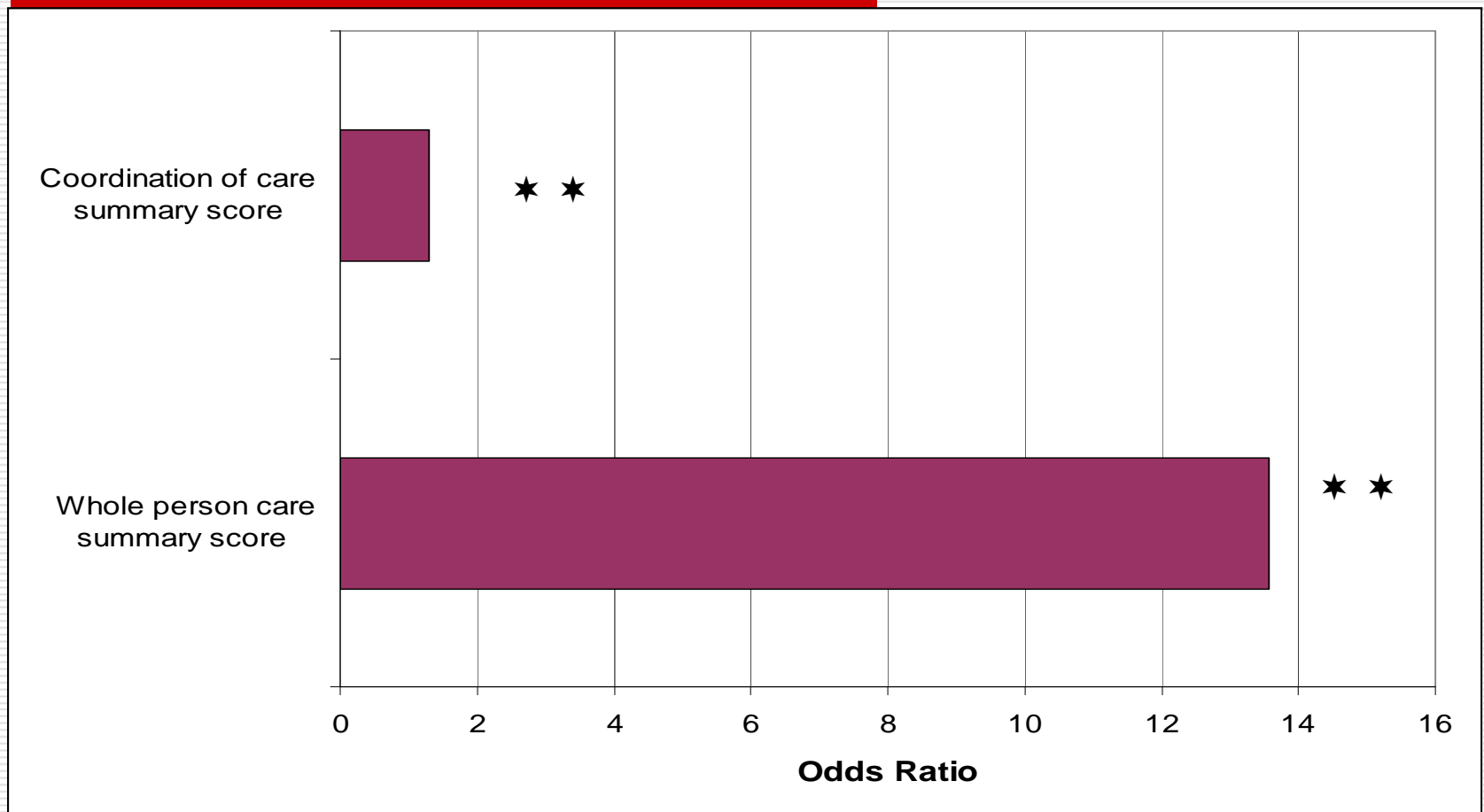
- Were you asked how your chronic condition(s) affects your life?
  - Were you asked to talk about your goals in caring for your chronic condition(s)?
  - Were you helped to set specific goals to improve your eating or exercise?
  - Were you shown that what you did to take care of yourself influenced your chronic condition(s)?
  - Were you given a written list of things you should do to improve your health?
  - Were you helped to plan ahead so you could take care of your chronic condition
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# Coordination of Care ~ summary score

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- Were you encouraged to go to a specific group or class such as an educational seminar to help cope with your chronic condition?
  - Were you encouraged to attend programs in the community such as support groups or exercise classes that could help you?
  - Were you referred to a dietician, health educator, or counselor?
  - Were you told how your visits with other types of doctors (e.g. specialists or surgeon) helped your treatment?
  - Were you asked how your visits with other medical doctors were going?
  - Were you contacted after a visit with your primary care providers to see how things were going?
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# For those with at least one chronic condition



\*\*\* P < 0.05

# PHC teams: Who gets them and does it matter?

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In conclusion, for all those who said they cared:

- ❑ First Ministers who have invested in improving access to primary health care teams
  - ❑ Health care professionals who have worked to create primary health care teams
  - ❑ And Canadians who have said teams would be structured to emphasize wellness and prevention
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# Team-based care may matter ~ for some

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The results, though limited, suggest:

- that those who could most benefit from team-based care, those with chronic conditions are more likely to access it;
  - they are more likely to feel their overall care is excellent or very good
  - And overall, Canadians with access to team-based care are more likely to report a higher degree of health promotion focused care
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# 2007/2008 CSE-PHC Sponsors

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- Health Council of Canada (2007/08)
  - Canadian Institute of Health Information (2008)
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**Questions?**