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The Ecology of Medical Care Revisited

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June 28, 2001

N Engl J Med 2001; 344:2021-2025

DOI: 10.1056/NEJM200106283442611

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Since its publication in the *Journal* in 1961, “The Ecology of Medical Care,” by White et al.,¹ has provided a framework for thinking about the organization of health care, medical education, and research (Figure 1). This conceptualization, inspired in part by careful reporting on the part of British general practitioners,² suggested that in a population of 1000 adults, in an average month, 750 reported an illness, 250 consulted a physician, 9 were hospitalized, 5 were referred to another physician, and 1 was referred to a university medical center. These data have been used repeatedly by investigators, authors of textbooks, task . . .

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Funding and Disclosures



Supported by the Robert Graham Center, the Olmsted Medical Center, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

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