

How did the ACA Medicaid eligibility expansion impact new hypertension and diabetes diagnoses in community health centers?



The ACA Medicaid expansion aimed to improve access to healthcare and expand opportunities to identify health conditions for people with low income.

Community Health Centers (CHC):

- Provide care for medically underserved populations
- Well-suited for assessing ACA impact on diagnosis rates for the underserved



Diabetes and hypertension:

- Common conditions that can lead to impairment and death
- Highly prevalent among people with low income
- Timely diagnoses can improve symptom management
- How ACA affects new diagnoses for these diseases is unknown

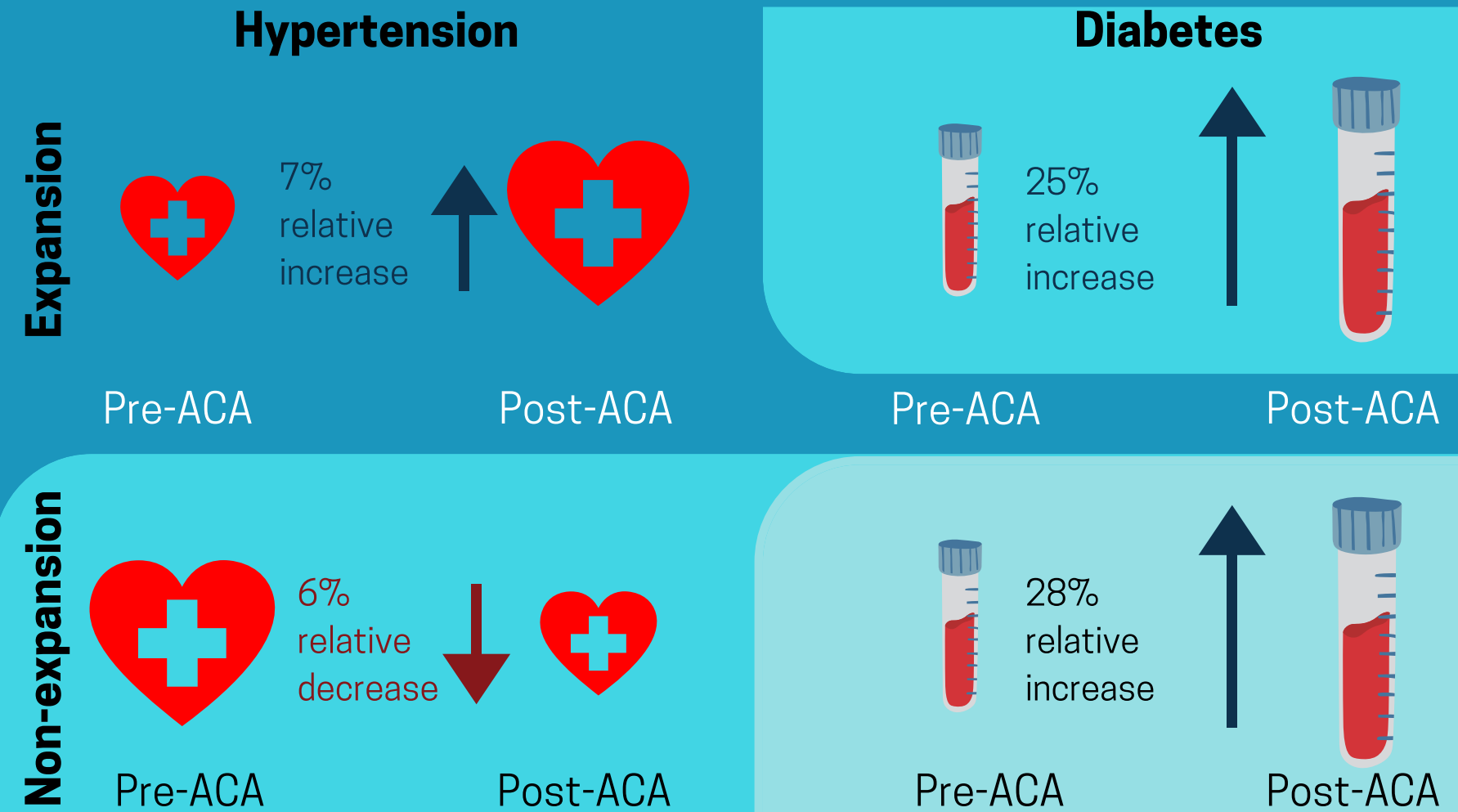


This study assessed whether:

- New hypertension and diabetes diagnoses increased from pre-ACA to post-ACA
- The change was different for states that expanded ACA eligibility vs. states that did not



Pre- and post-ACA diagnosis rates for expansion vs. non-expansion states



- The ACA impacted hypertension & diabetes diagnoses differently:
- New diabetes diagnoses increased substantially following the ACA
 - Changes were similar in both expansion and non-expansion states
 - More patients were diagnosed with hypertension in expansion than non-expansion states following the ACA

