

## HEALTH TRACKING

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## MARKETWATCH

# Patients And Profits: The Relationship Between HMO Financial Performance And Quality Of Care

[Patricia H. Born](#) and [Carol J. Simon](#)PUBLISHED: MARCH/APRIL 2001 No Access <https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.20.2.167>

## Abstract

This paper matches health plans' financial performance, measured by 1997 Health Plan Employer Data, with quality scores to address three policy questions: (1) Is the quality of care related to a plan's financial performance? (2) Do for-profit plans have higher quality scores? What other factors are associated with variations in quality? Profitable plans achieve higher quality scores in subsequent years. Profits may enable a plan to pursue higher quality of care and invest in better management systems. Second, there is little systematic evidence that for-profit plans have different HEDIS scores than not-for-profits have.

## TOPICS

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