

Table 1. Characteristics of emergency department visits by rural- and urban-residing children with medical complexity and associated standardized differences

	ED visits by rural-residing CMC N=19,315	ED visits by urban-residing CMC N=265,059	Standardized Difference
<i>Sociodemographic & Clinical Characteristics</i>			
Age, n (%): ¹			
<2yrs	3,208(16.6%)	44,968(17%)	-0.010
2-5yrs	4,956(25.7%)	70,323(26.5%)	-0.020
6-11yrs	4,747(24.6%)	68,580(25.9%)	-0.030
12-15yrs	4,325(22.4%)	58,245(22%)	0.010
16-17yrs	2,079(10.8%)	22,943(8.7%)	0.071
Gender, n (%): ¹			
Male	10,377(53.7%)	147,766(55.7%)	-0.041
Female	8,877(46%)	116,879(44.1%)	0.037
Unknown/Other	61(0.3%)	414(0.2%)	0.033
Medicaid Primary Payor, n (%): ¹ :	16,582(85.9%)	217,069(81.9%)	0.108
Number of Body Systems with Chronic Condition Diagnoses, n (%) ¹			
0-2	14,744 (76.3%)	195,836 (73.9%)	0.057
3+	4,571 (23.7%)	69,223 (26.1%)	-0.057
Progressive condition, n (%) ¹	6,585(34.1%)	90,447(34.1%)	-0.001
Co-occurring disability, n (%) ¹	7,223 (37.4%)	106,103 (40.0%)	-0.054
Technology assistance, n (%) ¹	2,786(14.4%)	37,567(14.2%)	0.007
Travel time to presenting ED in minutes, n (%):			
Less than 30 minutes	14,298 (74.0%)	216,968 (81.9%)	-0.190
30-60 minutes	3,387 (17.5%)	36,398 (13.7%)	0.105
More than 60 minutes	1,630 (8.4%)	11,693 (4.4%)	0.165
State, n (%):			
Colorado	9,183(47.5%)	86,769(32.7%)	0.306
Massachusetts	3,397(17.6%)	168,807(63.7%)	-1.063
New Hampshire	6,735(34.9%)	9,483(3.6%)	0.865
<i>Primary Diagnosis Type</i>			
Mental health diagnosis, n (%) ²	1,035(5.4%)	19,507(7.4%)	-0.082
Injury diagnosis, n (%)	4,710(24.4%)	55,425(20.9%)	0.083
Respiratory illness diagnosis, n (%)	4,094(21.2%)	58,490(22.1%)	-0.021
Gastrointestinal illness diagnosis, n (%)	4,287(22.2%)	62,335(23.5%)	-0.031
Fever/viral infection diagnosis, n (%)	2,207(11.4%)	32,146(12.1%)	-0.022
Chronic condition diagnosis, n (%) ³	3,155 (16.3%)	58,117 (21.9%)	-0.143
<i>Process and Outcome Measures</i>			
Bypass, n (%)	5,189 (26.9%)	115,820 (43.7%)	-0.358
ED Outcomes:			
Admission at index hospital, n (%)	874 (4.5%)	19,603 (7.4%)	-0.121
Transfer to another facility, n (%)	923 (4.8%)	14,677 (5.5%)	-0.034
Mortality, n (n per 1000)	19 (1.0)	215 (0.8)	0.006

¹ Characteristic measured at the date of ED visit

² Determined by applying the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Disorders Classification System to the primary diagnosis

³ Determined by applying the Pediatric Medical Complexity Algorithm and Complex Chronic Condition Classification System to the primary diagnosis

