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Accessible medical diagnostic equipment in primary care: Assessing its geographic distribution for disability equity

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Key words: disability, accessible medical diagnostic equipment; height adjustable examination tables, accessible weight scales; Medicaid network adequacy

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1 Abstract

2 Background. Height adjustable examination tables, accessible weight scales, and lifts for 3 transferring individuals on/off examination equipment enable delivery of equitable health care to 4 persons with mobility impairment. Because most Medicaid-covered patients must utilize a 5 managed care network, network providers with accessible medical diagnostic equipment (MDE) 6 at proximate locations for travel time and distance are necessary. Network density and 7 distribution of accessible MDE has not been studied. 8 **Objective.** This descriptive research examined geographic network adequacy by comparing the 9 density of persons with mobility impairments and location of Medicaid managed care practices 10 with accessible MDE in Los Angeles County. 11 **Methods.** Medicaid managed care practices with MDE were mapped by ZIP Codes shaded to indicate the number of persons with mobility impairment. Zero-inflated negative binomial 12 13 regression examined ZIP Code population characteristics as potential predictors of accessible 14 MDE presence. Data sources were: (1) 2013-2016 primary care facility audit of Medicaid 15 managed care network providers in LA County, aggregated by ZIP Code, and (2) LA County ZIP 16 Code characteristics from the 2016 American Community Survey. ArcGIS was used for 17 mapping and MPlus for the regression analysis. 18 **Results.** No consistent association between the size of the mobility limited population, 19 demographic characteristics, and presence of accessible MDE was observed or measured by 20 regression. The observed low MDE density suggests network adequacy likely is not achieved in 21 LA County. 22 **Conclusions.** Actions by state and federal agencies are necessary to increase accessible MDE 23 and network adequacy by enforcing existing non-discrimination law and Medicaid regulations. 24 **Key words.** Disability, accessible medical diagnostic equipment, height adjustable examination 25 table, accessible weight scale, Medicaid network adequacy 26

27 Introduction

The importance of accessible medical diagnostic equipment (MDE) for the delivery of quality health care to people with mobility limitations is well documented. ¹ The absence of accessible MDE contributes to lower rates than recommended for mammograms, cervical cancer screening and dental care, and higher rates of delayed care and dissatisfaction. ²⁻⁷ The population of patients who may benefit from accessible MDE is larger than the 8.4 million persons with mobility impairment (13.7% of disabled people) and can include individuals who are weak or frail, of short stature, or limited by arthritis, obesity, or pregnancy. ⁸

The delivery of health care to these patients is facilitated by use of height adjustable examination tables, accessible examination chairs, scales to weigh a seated person, and lifts for transfer from wheelchair to examination table.¹ The equipment facilitates monitoring patient weight and conducting medical examinations with the same thoroughness as that provided other patients. However, only a minority of primary care doctors' offices are equipped with accessible MDE.⁹⁻¹²

41 With Los Angeles County data for primary care practices affiliated with a Medicaid 42 Managed Care Organization (MMCO), this research compared the locations of offices with 43 accessible MDE to the residential locations of persons with mobility impairment. The aim was to 44 assess whether offices with MDE were sufficient in number and spatial location to enable 45 reasonable access to quality care. Understanding the location of accessible MDE is important 46 due to federal Medicaid network adequacy regulations for travel time and distance, for disability 47 non-discrimination, and for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). These 48 concerns link directly to health disparities wherein receipt of health services is affected by 49 systematic barriers that influence access, guality, and equity of care.

50 Accessible health care and discrimination

51 The ADA, Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, and Section 1557 of the Affordable
52 Care Act (ACA) prohibit disability-based discrimination by virtually all health care plans,

services, and programs in the U.S. Health plans and providers can avoid disability-based
discrimination by implementing various accommodations including providing accessible MDE.¹³
ADA and 504 complaints have prevailed against primary care practices and health services
operated by state and local governments with accessible MDE required as part of providing
equitable and effective health care to patients.¹⁴ Despite these laws, most primary care
physician offices are not equipped with accessible MDE.^{10, 15, 16}

59 Accessible medical diagnostic equipment

60 In its 2021 report on MDE, the National Council on Disability reviews the evidence 61 linking accessible medical care facilities to health care utilization and quality of health care for 62 people with mobility limitation.¹ As evidence of the impact on quality, people with mobility 63 difficulties reported they were examined in a chair or their wheelchair and seldom weighed when 64 weight measurement or examination on a table would occur for others.^{4, 16, 17} Patients not 65 weighed were asked to provide their weight, although research has found patient reports often 66 are inaccurate.¹⁸ Failing to obtain a weight measure is a quality of care issue as weight is used 67 for medication dosage and to monitor health status. In some studies providers reported they 68 would examine a patient in their wheelchair if transferring to an examination table was not easy 69 or possible or required too much time, even though some problems might be missed.^{19, 20} 70 Quality and care disparity also may arise when accessible MDE is available in the medical 71 office, but not consistently utilized.¹² By contrast, providers have reported that use of a height 72 adjustable examination table is safer for patients and enables them to examine fragile or 73 mobility-limited patients more thoroughly.²¹

No regular national data collection tracks the presence of accessible MDE in health care
delivery settings, but surveys of physicians and practice administrators suggest that between
10%-40% of practice sites have accessible MDE.^{12, 15, 19} Four studies that directly observed
whether accessible MDE was present found between 10-44% of practices had height adjustable
examination tables and 1-11% had accessible scales.^{9-11, 22} A survey of primary care practice

administrators, who often are responsible for equipment purchase, found that less than half

80 knew accessible MDE existed.¹⁵

81 Network adequacy and travel to accessible health care

82 The location of health care providers and the ability of patients with disability to travel to 83 providers can constitute barriers to care ^{23, 24} Transportation disadvantage and geographic 84 barriers are social determinants of health. They contribute to poor health outcomes or late-stage 85 presentation of medical problems when patients skip, postpone, or miss appointments due to problems with transportation.²⁵ In a 2017 national survey, 5.8 million people reported delaying 86 87 health care for lack of transportation.²⁴ Within this group, people with a functional limitation were 2.6 times more likely to report a transport barrier that caused a delay in care. A 2017 Federal 88 89 Highway Administration survey classified 25.5 million people as having "travel-limiting 90 disabilities."²⁶ Compared to persons without travel-limiting disability, these persons were less 91 likely to use a personal vehicle (74.8% vs. 83.9%) and more often used local public transit 92 (4.3% vs. 2.7%). Even when using a personal vehicle, persons with travel-limiting disability were 93 more likely to be passengers (38.9% vs. 16.1%). Trips for medical care were not the most 94 frequent reason for travel, but persons with travel-limiting disability reported double the number 95 of trips for medical care.

96 Disabled enrollees in a MMCO plan can only seek care from providers approved for that 97 plan's network, making the travel mode, time, and distance to accessible care important. 98 Concerned about MCO's ability to deliver contractual benefits within closed provider networks, 99 the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) spelled out access standards in 100 regulations issued in 2002 and 2016. The Network Adequacy Standards (42 C.F.R. § 438.68) 101 direct states to consider physical accessibility and presence of accessible MDE at the practices 102 within MCO networks, and to develop travel time and distance standards with consideration of 103 geographic locations of network providers and Medicaid enrollees.²⁷ California's 2017 network 104 adequacy standards allowed for alternative access standards when the MCO showed it could

not reasonably meet the federal requirement ²⁸; its 2018 regulations required providers to be
located within 10 miles or 30 minutes from the beneficiary's residence unless unreasonable to
do so. ²⁹ In 2020, California approved nearly 15,000 MCO exception requests³⁰ including
exceptions for travel distances of 41-60 miles in LA County. Other exceptions affected diverse
rural and urban communities, including lower-income communities of color in urban areas where
barriers to accessing health care have been reported. ^{30, 31}

111

....eported. ^{30, 31}

112 Methods

113 Using data from LA County, this descriptive research explored geographic network 114 adequacy by examining the presence of persons with mobility impairments compared to the 115 presence of medical practices with accessible MDE. Four research questions comprised this 116 inquiry: (1) what is the frequency of MCO-affiliated practices with accessible equipment within 117 LA County? (2) does the distribution indicate geographic spread or concentration? (3) are ZIP 118 Codes with larger numbers of persons with mobility impairment served by larger numbers of 119 practices with MDE? and (4) is there an association between the ZIP Code's population 120 characteristics and the presence of accessible MDE? The demographic characteristics are race, 121 ethnicity, age, use of public health insurance, population density of the ZIP Code, and number 122 of persons reporting mobility impairment. We hypothesized that ZIP Codes more densely populated by people with mobility impairments and by older persons would have a greater 123 number of practices with accessible MDE as a response to population need. The other 124 125 demographic characteristics were selected to represent social determinants of health, with the 126 expectation that ZIP Codes more densely populated by persons of color and participants in 127 public health insurance (an indicator of low income) would show fewer practices with accessible 128 MDE. ZIP Code population density/1000 was included because population and geographic 129 sizes of ZIP Codes vary widely. The total number of MMCO-affiliated practices (regardless of 130 MDE presence) was used as a control, expecting that the greater the number of practices the 131 more likely at least one will have MDE.

132 <u>Sources of Data</u>

Two sources of data were used: (1) a 2013-2016 facility site review of primary care
offices participating in Medicaid Managed Care networks serving LA County and (2)
demographic characteristics data for LA County ZIP Codes from the 2016 wave of the American
Community Survey. This research was IRB exempt because data had no human subjects.

137 Physical Accessibility Review Survey (PARS). Primary care practices that join MMCO 138 plans in California are triennially audited using the state's Physical Accessibility Review Survey 139 to rate accessibility for individuals with disability. ³² Trained reviewers observe architectural and 140 equipment features using a survey based on the U.S. Access Board's 2010 ADA Accessibility 141 Guidelines. ³³ This research used three dichotomous guestions about the presence of height 142 adjustable examination tables, lift equipment, and accessible weight scales (Table 1). The 143 examination table question conforms to the standard issued by the Access Board in the 2017 MDE accessibility standards. ³⁴ The PARS data cover 2096 MMCO-affiliated LA County 144 145 practices audited during 2013-2016, aggregated into their ZIP Codes. Practices not affiliated 146 with a MMCO are not in the dataset; included practices also may treat patients with private 147 insurance or Medicare. Appendix A has more detail about the survey instrument and data 148 collection.

American Community Survey (ACS). The demographic data from the 2016 American 149 150 Community Survey for LA County includes ZIP Code population density, race, ethnicity, age, 151 use of public health insurance, and the number of individuals reporting mobility impairment.³⁵ 152 Mobility impairment, not disability more broadly, was used as accessible MDE is likely most 153 needed by these individuals (wording in Table 1). Age was coded as the percent of the 154 population age 65 or older. Race and ethnicity were coded as separate dichotomous variables. 155 The public health insurance variable includes Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP (Children's Health 156 Insurance Program), Veterans Administration health care, and individual state insurance. ³⁶ The 157 ACS ZIP Code data did not offer a separate variable for Medicaid.

158 Data Analysis

159 ZIP Codes are the unit of analysis. The number of practices within the ZIP Code with 160 each piece of accessible MDE are outcome variables. MMCO affiliated practices were observed 161 in 233 of the county's 290 ZIP Codes. ArcGIS ArcMap Version 10.7 was used for mapping. For 162 Figure 1 ZIP Codes were colored from lightest to darkest (shades of blue) to indicate the

number of practices in the ZIP Code with each type of equipment. Diagonal lines (grey) indicateno MMCO participating practices.

165 The PARS and 2016 ACS datasets were used together to map accessible equipment by 166 population of individuals with mobility impairments. ZIP Codes were shaded to indicate the 167 density of the population with mobility impairment: 0-2000 people (lightest, in beige), 2001-4000 168 people (darker, in orange), and 4001 or more people (darkest, in brown). Some ZIP Codes 169 belong to an organization (e.g. university) that internally distributes mail. These, indicated by 170 dots, have no ACS population data. The circled number overlaid in each ZIP Code indicates the 171 number of practices with an accessible MDE equipment item. The placement of the number 172 within the ZIP Code does not indicate the exact location of the practices.

Mplus 8 was used to analyze the relationship between MDE and other demographic characteristics as potential predictors of the presence of accessible MDE using zero-inflated negative binomial regression models. Since outcome variables were count variables both with excessive values of zero and with variances larger than means, zero-inflated negative binomial regression was used.

178 Study Setting

179 LA County is the study site because PARS data were available from all county-180 designated MMCOs for 2013-2016. Thus, all MMCO-affiliated primary care practices likely are 181 represented. LA County extends nearly 70 miles east to west and 100 miles from south to 182 north.³⁷ The ZIP Codes in the south and southwest areas of the county include the Los Angeles 183 Metropolitan Area, highly urban and crisscrossed by freeways with bus and rail transit. ZIP 184 Code sizes are 3-10 square miles with approximately 24,000 persons per square mile. In the 185 northern border of the county 13 ZIP Codes are 50-250 square miles with population density 186 approximately 300-700 per square mile. This area includes arid terrain, high desert, and forests. 187 The road network is not dense, with fewer transportation options. There are two centrally 188 located adjoining cities of 150,000.

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190 **Results**

191 In the 233 studied ZIP Codes, the Black and the Hispanic populations averaged 9.17% 192 and 40.33%. Roughly 33% of the population participated in public health insurance. The 193 average for the population over age 65 was almost 14% and for mobility impairment 6%. The 194 mean number of practices per ZIP Code was 8.9 and mean population 36,010 (Appendix B). 195 Figure 1 displays the presence of practices with a height adjustable examination table, 196 an accessible weight scale, and a patient lift in separate maps; the darker colors indicate 197 greater presence of that type of equipment. Map A shows that in 37.8% of ZIP Codes there was 198 no MMCO participating practice with height adjustable examination tables and in 28.3% of ZIP 199 Codes there was one practice. Map B displays even fewer ZIP Codes with practices equipped 200 with an accessible weight scale; 57.1% of ZIP Codes did not have a MMCO practice with an 201 accessible weight scale and 22.7% had only one practice with an accessible scale. Lift 202 equipment was the least present (Map C) with 74.2% of ZIP Codes without a MMCO practice 203 with lift equipment and 21% of ZIP Codes with only one practice. The ZIP Codes in darkest 204 shade show that only or one two ZIP Codes contained 6-10 practices with accessible MDE. 205 Maps B and C also indicated that for scales and lifts there was sparse presence in both the 206 southern and northern parts of the county. The two darkest shaded ZIP Codes in the 207 northeastern part of the county show 2-5 practices with accessible equipment served a mid-208 sized city and a large sparsely populated surrounding area.

Figure 2 shows the geographic match of practices with a height adjustable examination table to the population potentially in need of such equipment. The numerical distribution of practices with a height adjustable examination table is below the map. Regardless of the size of the population of individuals with mobility limitations, the map indicated no observable pattern, with most ZIP Codes containing zero or one practice with a height adjustable examination table. A single ZIP code, on the eastern border of Los Angeles County, was an outlier with 10 practices with height adjustable examination tables. Noteworthy was how few practices had an

216 accessible examination table across the many square miles of the northern part of the county 217 despite the indication of a sizeable number of people for whom such equipment would be of 218 benefit. Numerous ZIP Codes in the dense southern part of the county had few to no practices 219 with accessible equipment, although the smaller distance between ZIP Codes could provide 220 greater potential to meet the network adequacy standard. By observation, there were few 221 differences between the number of practices with accessible tables in ZIP Codes estimated to 222 have 4,000 persons with mobility impairments compared to ZIP Codes where the population 223 size was 0-2,000 persons.

224 The Figure 3 map shows that over half of the ZIP Codes did not have a single practice 225 with an accessible weight scale. The observed geographic distribution showed greater presence 226 of accessible scales near the center of the City of Los Angeles, with one ZIP Code containing 227 10 practices and another 5 practices with an accessible weight scale. Moving north on the map, 228 the presence of accessible scales appeared to decrease. The areas containing larger numbers 229 of persons with mobility impairments (darkest shade) showed little difference in the number of 230 practices with accessible weight scales compared to the ZIP Codes where those numbers were 231 smaller.

232 Figure 4 shows that the presence of lifts was extremely small and spread over a wide 233 area. Nearly three guarters of ZIP Codes had zero MMCO-affiliated practices with lift 234 equipment. In the northern part of the county only one ZIP Code contained practices with lift 235 equipment. Even in the central and southern regions of the county there was often only one ZIP 236 Code with a practice with lift equipment. Out of 233 ZIP Codes, only eleven contained more 237 than one medical practice with a lift. The map shading does not suggest that lift equipment was 238 especially located in the ZIP Codes with larger numbers of residents with mobility impairments. 239 The statistical summary of the ZIP Code profile data (Appendix B) found the average 240 number of practices with accessible examination tables, accessible scales, and lift equipment

was 1.34 (*SD* = 1.64), 0.77 (*SD*= 1.21), 0.33 (*SD* = 0.69) respectively, confirming the skewed
distributions displayed in Figures 2,3,4, with standard deviations larger than the means.

243 Table 2 displays zero-inflated negative binomial regression model results, with the 244 population characteristics as predictors for examination tables, weight scales, and lifts. The 245 number of practices providing exam tables was negatively associated with the percentage of the 246 population over 65 and population density while positively associated with the total number of 247 practices in the ZIP Code. The number of practices providing lifts was only positively associated 248 with the total number of practices. The number of practices providing scales was positively 249 associated with the percentage using public insurance and the total number of practices. The percent of the Black and Hispanic populations, and the percent with mobility impairment, were 250 251 not significantly associated with the numbers of practices providing examination tables, lifts, or 252 scales.

254 Discussion

255 This study mapped the geographical locations of accessible examination tables, weight 256 scales, and patient lifts in LA County and quantitatively explored potential population predictors. 257 The maps illustrated a very low presence of accessible MDE in MMCO-affiliated practices with 258 many ZIP Codes having no practices with accessible equipment of any kind. Although low, more 259 practices had height adjustable examination tables than accessible weight scales and lift 260 equipment. These findings are consistent with previous studies. ^{9, 15} Lack of accessible MDE 261 may pose a greater challenge in northern LA County than in the southern areas because people 262 there may face the need to travel longer distances to reach a facility with accessible MDE. The 263 need to travel more than 30 minutes for primary care, even if this meets a network adequacy 264 exception, likely results in delayed or postponed care for some people. ^{24, 26} Persons who cannot drive themselves will need to rely on another's availability, a scheduled medical 265 266 transport, paratransit, or where feasible, public transit. Each option may pose time or schedule 267 limitations that present a barrier to medical care.

268 The maps and quantitative findings revealed that even when accessible equipment was 269 present, its geographic placement did not appear to be an intentional response to federal or 270 state policy, population need, patient demographics, travel time or distance considerations, or 271 other concerns for disabled Medicaid participants. Areas with larger population density, older 272 populations, and populations with mobility impairment were not afforded greater consistent 273 access to accessible MDE. However, a larger number of MMCO practices increased the likely 274 presence of MDE in at least one practice in a ZIP Code. Some MMCOs have purchased 275 accessible MDE for some of their affiliated medical practices, and this may explain the high 276 outliers and positive association of scales with public health insurance. ³⁸ The non-significant 277 findings on association between Black and Hispanic populations with numbers of practices with 278 accessible MDE raises concerns about equitable access to health care services for some racial 279 groups. The 2015 Los Angeles County Health Survey reports the Black population had the

highest percentage of adults with disability (33.5%) compared to other racial/ethnic groups ³⁹.
The findings suggest deeper examination of the intersection of Black population disability rates

and provider disability accessibility is needed.

283 The maps offer a visual assessment of probable compliance with the required travel time and distance network standards per Medicaid and ADA non-discrimination mandates. 27, 30 284 285 Network adequacy standards create an expectation that a reasonable number of primary care 286 providers in a network will have accessible MDE. The minor role of population density as a 287 predictor of MDE tests this assumption, with Figures 2, 3, and 4 further suggesting that LA 288 County may not be meeting the state's network adequacy standards. With the granted 289 exceptions the standards may fail to achieve their intent. Patients may face a significant 290 challenge to find and utilize a medical practice with accessible MDE.

291 <u>Study Limitations</u>

292 One study limitation is that the PARS data obtained from MMCOs did not include 293 practices' addresses, sizes, patient capacities, or number of pieces of accessible MDE within 294 each practice. This limited our ability to assess other factors that could influence the presence of 295 accessible MDE. The audit instrument and process were developed by MMCOs for their needs 296 without testing for data reliability and quality; this is a limitation for research application. The 297 data cover only MMCO-affiliated practices, not all primary care practices in LA County. Because 298 of state variation, we cannot generalize about equipment presence to MMCO practices in other 299 states with other policies. However, this mandatory auditing methodology is generalizable and 300 offers a model for developing a national database. Our data are older than 6 years; the current 301 equipment rate might be greater. However, the increase between a 2006-2009 measurement 302 and this dataset was just under 10%.⁹ To our knowledge, no other large observation-based 303 dataset exists.

304 Policy recommendations

305 These findings suggest policy actions that may advance healthcare equity for people 306 with disability. First, the findings highlight a disconnect between data collected by MMCOs and 307 resulting action. MMCOs are not required to use the accessible equipment data as an indicator 308 of disability non-discrimination in health care services or to inform network adequacy. Thus, 309 well-established disability rights law and policy are disregarded, and the purpose and 310 effectiveness of network adequacy standards is undermined. States should require that MMCOs 311 collect, use, and submit to the state data on the presence of accessible equipment in network 312 adequacy determinations.

Second, to address the paucity of primary care offices with accessible MDE, DOJ and 313 314 HHS should revise their ADA regulations and require health care providers subject to their 315 jurisdiction to acquire accessible equipment that meets the Access Board's MDE Standards. ³⁴ 316 Regulations should spell out how many of each type of accessible equipment are required 317 based on practice and patient characteristics. The regulations could induce MMCOs to tie 318 provider reimbursements to benchmarks for accessible MDE. Further, MMCOs could leverage 319 their purchasing power to lower provider equipment costs or offer grants for acquisition of 320 accessible MDE. Another strategy is to increase provider knowledge about accessible MDE and 321 its importance when treating patients with disability. Other studies have identified lack of knowledge as a key factor. ^{12, 19} The Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education 322 323 (ACGME) should require all federally funded medical residency programs to include disability 324 competency training that addresses the use of accessible MDE as integral to equitable health 325 care.

Finally, all MMCOs should be required to conduct *on-site* accessibility reviews using a nationally standardized and tested survey instrument that notes accessible MDE and practice address and characteristics. This would improve the utility of the data for compliance and

- 329 facilitate further research on the intersection of accessible MDE with local disability,
- 330 demographic, and transportation characteristics.

331 Conclusions

332 This is the first study to analyze the presence of accessible MDE from a geographical 333 perspective and link findings to Medicaid MCO network adequacy for patients with disability. 334 There was no evidence of intentional geographic placement of accessible MDE as a response 335 to the patient population. The geographical locations of accessible MDE revealed a substantial 336 need to increase its presence in MMCO-affiliated practices in urban and non-urban areas and 337 especially in areas with higher numbers of people with mobility impairment. A stronger match 338 between the residential locations of people with mobility limitation and location of accessible 339 MDE will increase the receipt of equitable primary and preventive care.

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446 **Figure legends**

- 447 Figure 1. Presence of accessible equipment in MMCO-affiliated primary care practices by ZIP 448 Code
- 449
- 450 Figure 2. Height adjustable examination tables and individuals with mobility limitations by ZIP 451 Code
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- 453 Figure 3. Accessible weight scales and individuals with mobility limitations by ZIP Code
- 455 Figure 4. Patient lifts and individuals with mobility limitations by ZIP Code
- r Is by ZIF

Table 1. Wording of survey questions identifying medical diagnostic equipment and mobility impairment

Physical Accessibility Review Survey Exam Equipment Questions (N=2096)				
Q 81	Is there a height adjustable exam table that lowers between 17 inches and 19 inches from the floor to the top of the cushion?	14.9%		
Q 84	Is a lift available to assist staff with transfers (portable, overhead, or ceiling mounted)?	3.6%		
Q 86	Is a weight scale available within the medical office with a platform to accommodate a wheelchair or scooter and the patient?	8.6%		
American Community Survey 2016 Mobility Impairment Question Used for Maps		Yes- LA		
		County		
Q 17b	Does this person have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?	5.9%		
Note: All questions are answered Yes or No.				

	Exam	Scales	Lifts
	tables	b (SE)	b (SE)
	b (SE)		
Percent of the Black Population	-0.001	-0.008	-0.008
	(0.007)	(0.009)	(0.014)
Percent of the Hispanic Population	-0.001	0.004	-0.005
	(0.004)	(0.006)	(0.008)
Percent of the Population with Public Health	0.001	0.037*	0.033
Insurance	(0.011)	(0.015)	(0.021)
Percent of the Population over the age of 65	-0.061*	-0.039	-0.016
	(0.024)	(0.049)	(0.042)
Percent of the Population with mobility	-0.021 [′]	-0.051	-0.029
impairment	(0.052)	(0.074)	(0.098)
Population density/1000	-0.026**	-0.005	0.006
, <u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>	(0.010)	(0.011)	(0.015)
Total number of practices per ZIP Code	Ò.066***	0.049* ^{**}	0.063* ^{**} *
· · ·	(0.006)	(0.008)	(0.011)

Table 2. Zero-inflated negative binomial regression of predictors for accessible medical diagnostic equipment, Los Angeles County

*p<.05 **p<.01 ***p<.001







