

## **A Comprehensive Assessment of Medicaid Purchased Health Care in Rural Ohio**

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Christopher Simpson-Principal Investigator, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Research Content:** The purpose of this study is to develop baseline measures of performance that Medicaid may use to monitor and evaluate future health care purchasing and delivery systems in rural Ohio. These measures will define indicators of quality, access and acceptability for rural populations, with a focus on primary care. The study will assess selected available objective measures of primary care use, availability, outcomes, and consumer perspectives regarding quality and access and possibly changes to improve quality of care and access. The three main objectives are; 1) To select or create key evidence-based clinical measures of the delivery and quality of Medicaid-purchased health care; including managed care alternatives, in rural areas; 2) To distill the most important social factors governing perceptions of quality and access from the experiences and perspectives of rural residents, especially Medicaid enrollees and eligibles; 3) To identify access, service use, and acceptability measures that have the greatest relationship with outcomes and perceptions of quality.

**Status:** *started in 6/98*