

Locum Tenens Physician Satisfaction Report

Executive Summary

In a period where much has been published regarding physician discontent, physicians practicing medicine on a locum tenens basis indicate they are not as negatively affected by the same factors that are contributing to discontent among physicians practicing medicine on a permanent full-time basis. These factors include rising malpractice insurance rates, Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement and administrative responsibility issues.

CompHealth is pleased to present this summary of results from a national brushfire survey of locum tenens physicians. The Marketing Research Group of CompHealth conducted this study in May 2002.

Key Summary Points

This study illustrates the level of satisfaction of physicians practicing medicine on a locum tenens basis. The key findings of this study indicate:

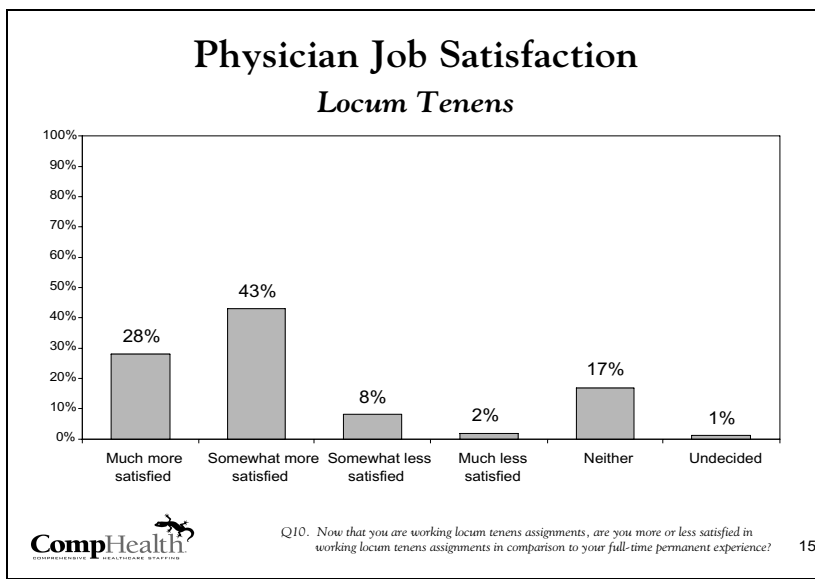
- Physicians working locum tenens assignments experience a higher level of satisfaction overall in their professional careers.
- Physicians working locum tenens assignments are less affected by the issues that contribute to discontent.
- Physicians working locum tenens assignments recommend it as a viable way to practice medicine and indicate that their perception of locum tenens has improved greatly.
- Physicians that are working permanent full-time positions and looking for more job satisfaction should consider working locum tenens assignments.

Detailed Research Report Findings

The following section provides a more detailed view of the findings derived from this study.

Overall Locum Tenens Physician Job Satisfaction

Of physicians who have worked a permanent full-time position and locum tenens assignments, seven out of ten (72%) indicate that they are at least somewhat more satisfied in working locum tenens assignments in comparison to their permanent full-time position.



Physician Discontent: The Locum Tenens Perspective

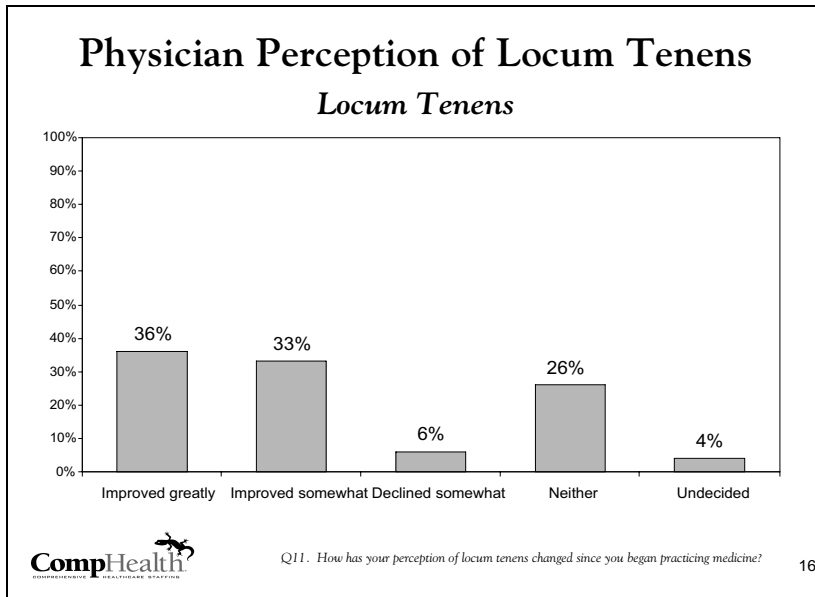
As previously mentioned, some of the issues that contribute to physician discontent include: managed care, rising malpractice insurance rates, Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements, and administrative responsibilities.

The findings of this study illustrate that physicians practicing medicine on a locum tenens basis are significantly less affected by the factors that contribute to discontent among physicians practicing medicine on a permanent full-time basis.

- Eight out of ten (81%) locum tenens physicians do not deal with *malpractice insurance issues*. Only 1% indicates that it is always a problem and 7% indicate that it is an occasional problem.
- Three out of four (76%) locum tenens physicians do not deal with *Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement issues*. Only 1% indicates that it is always a problem and 12% indicate that it is an occasional problem.
- More than six out of ten (63%) locum tenens physicians do not deal with *administrative responsibilities issues*. Only 2% indicate that it is always a problem and 32% indicate that it is an occasional problem.
- Almost one-half (42%) of locum tenens physicians do not deal with *managed care issues*. Only 9% indicate that it is always a problem and 45% indicate that it is an occasional problem.

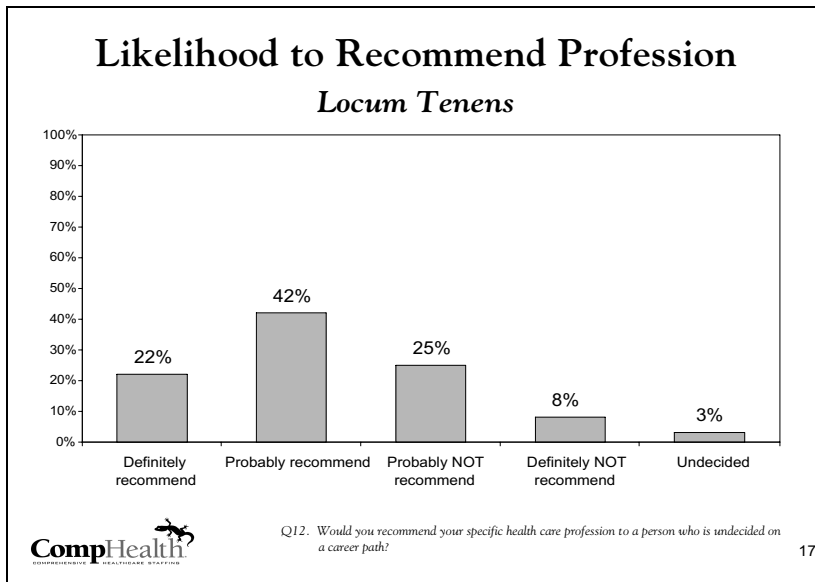
Perception of Locum Tenens Among Physicians

Sixty-six percent (66%) of physicians working locum tenens assignments indicate that their perception of locum tenens has improved since they began practicing medicine. More specifically, 36% mention that their perception of locum tenens has improved greatly. A mere 6% indicate that their perception of locum tenens had somewhat declined.



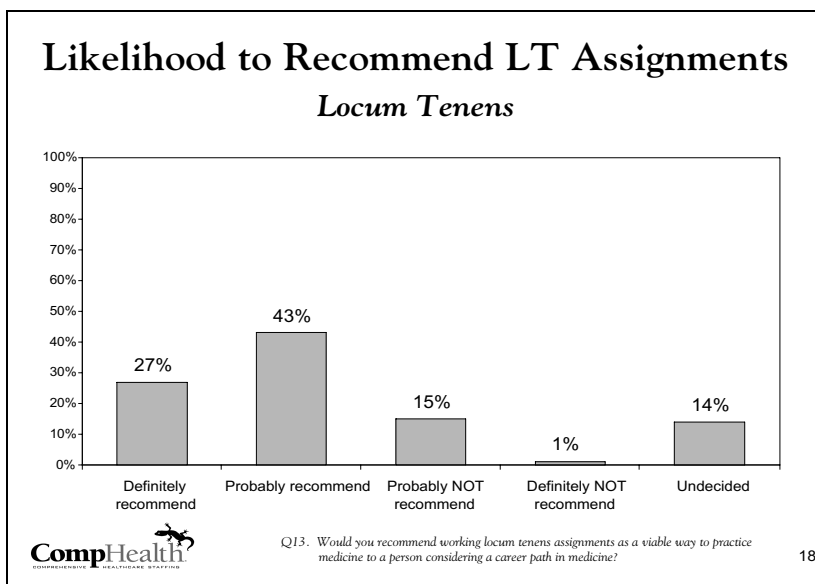
Locum Tenens Physicians Likelihood to Recommend Profession

Nearly two thirds (64%) of physicians working locum tenens assignments say that they would recommend their specific healthcare profession to a person who is undecided on a career path.



Locum Tenens Physicians Likelihood to Recommend LT Assignments

Seven out of ten (70%) physicians working locum tenens say that they would recommend working locum tenens assignments as a viable way to practice medicine to someone considering a career path in medicine.



Methodology

CompHealth e-mailed an online survey to a total of 412 locum tenens physicians that have worked locum tenens assignments with CompHealth over the past year. The survey link was active from May 25, 2002 through June 5, 2002. The number of completed surveys, without duplicate submissions, was N=105. The margin of error for this study is $\pm 9.6\%$ in 95 out of 100 cases.

Of the completed interviews:

- Nearly seven out of ten (68%) respondents are male, 29% female, and 3% did not indicate gender.

The break down for physician specialties is the following:

- 29% are family practice
- 19% are emergency medicine
- 14% are internal medicine
- 14% are radiology
- 10% are pediatrics
- 4% are med/peds
- 3% neonatology
- 7% includes the combined total of geriatric medicine, hospitalist, nephrology, ophthalmology, radiation oncology, and urology

CompHealth

CompHealth is one of the nation's largest providers of healthcare recruiting and staffing services. Founded in 1979, the company provides a comprehensive service offering that includes temporary and permanent placement of physicians, allied health professionals, pharmacists, nurses and managers working in healthcare.

The company is the largest provider of temporary physician staffing services (also known as "locum tenens") and permanent physician placements in the U.S.

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