High PC countries was lower than that for Low PC countries (Figure 2) [8]. These findings suggest that strong primary care systems and practices can play an important role in the improvement of health outcomes.

![Figure 2: The comparison of health outcomes between the high PC countries and the low PC countries (1970-2000)](image)

**The US-based studies.** In order to study the relationship between primary care and health outcomes, researchers in this paper conducted a third study using data from the U.S. The U.S. degree of concern on primary care was measured using data on the number of primary care physicians/10,000 population, while data on life expectancy were used as a measure of health outcomes. Results showed that the number of primary care physicians/10,000 population was positively associated with life expectancy, which suggests that advancing primary care could be helpful in improving health outcomes (Figure 3) [9].