An effective and efficient healthcare system starts with ensuring that patients are seen by the right physicians – clinicians who have the proper training and expertise to treat a patient’s specific condition. When we fail at this vital first step, the entire system starts to break down, incurring massive costs and imposing risk to patients, physicians, and the entire U.S. health system.

7.8% of referrals are considered “clinically inappropriate”

This equals 42 patients per physician per year.

19.7 million inappropriate referrals per year

Resulting in:

- 37% of patients receive care from physicians that are potentially unsuitable to treat their condition
- 63% of patients who are re-referred to a more appropriate physician
- Wasted physician time treating “clinically inappropriate” patients
- Delayed patient care
- Avoidable costs to patients

Billions of dollars lost in avoidable healthcare expenses

One misstep in the referral process can send the entire system toppling down in a spiral of poor patient care and costly inefficiencies.

References:
1 Based on an average of 535 new patient referrals/year/specialist
2 Based on the average copay of $50 combined with the average of $25/hour in earnings and patients needing to take a half day (4 hours) for a physician visit

The data above reflects the findings of Kyruus’ Physician Referral Survey and Report. Kyruus surveyed 100 US-based specialist physicians to measure the accuracy of referrals, sources of misdirection and the consequences of referral inaccuracy. To view the full report visit: http://bit.ly/4vHe9y