How Many Neurologists Do We Need?

In 2012, there were 16,366 neurologists in the United States. The demand at that time was estimated at 18,180 neurologists, suggesting an 11-percent shortfall based on factors such as long wait times for appointment and difficulty hiring new neurologists.

**Exhibit 1.** The demand for neurologists already exceeded the supply in most states in 2012.

By 2025, the estimated number of neurologists will increase to 18,060 but the demand will increase to 21,440 neurologists. This is mainly due to the higher prevalence of neurologic conditions, the aging of the US population, and a greater number of patients gaining access to the health care coverage. These factors will increase the shortfall of neurologists to 19 percent by 2025.

**Exhibit 2.** The estimated supply and demand for neurologists in 2025.
The American Academy of Neurology, the world's largest professional association of neurologists, promotes the highest quality patient-centered neurologic care.

In 2013, the Academy completed a comprehensive study forecasting the supply and demand for neurologists in the United States. The results show that the current demand for neurologic services already exceeds the supply of neurologists and that the shortfall will increase substantially over the next decade. The findings were published in two peer-reviewed articles:


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