## Lower healthcare costs, better outcomes with global payment | MassDevice.com On Call

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Massachusetts' pilot healthcare payment program cuts costs without cutting quality, Harvard study shows.



MASSDEVICE ON CALL — A global healthcare payment model piloted in Massachusetts, largely considered a bellwether for national health system reform, was able to lower healthcare costs without sacrificing quality, according to a new study.

Called the Alternative Quality Contract, the alternative to the fee-for-service system is similar to the Affordable Care Act's Accountable Care Organizations, <u>Kaiser Health</u> <u>News</u> [1] reported.

Researchers at Harvard Medical School found that health services providers who participated in the program spent an average of 3.3% less than non-participants, with significant savings from participants which were previously under a fee-for-service model.

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[1] http://capsules.kaiserhealthnews.org/index.php/2012/07/study-mass-global-payment-approach-lowers-costs-improves-care/