

## Supplementary Material

**Supplementary Table S1** Comparison of variables between the surveys in 2011 and 2016 (%)

Variable	2011 (n=4586)	2016 (n=4260)
Trust in physicians	3.83±0.74	3.83±0.80
Strongly disagree	1.0	0.7
Disagree	8.0	14.1
Neither agree nor disagree	7.6	20.5
Agree	74.2	61.4
Strongly agree	9.2	3.4
Self-identified social class	4.14±1.79	4.83±1.92
Range	1-10	1-10
Self-reported health status		
Poor	11.9	2.1
Fair	36.1	29
Good	21.3	7.4
Very good	23.2	35.6
Excellent	7.4	25.9
Self-rated happiness		
Very unhappy	1.9	0.9
Quite unhappy	6.8	3.1
Neither unhappiness nor happiness	11.0	13.0
Quite happy	60.0	59.4
Very happy	20.3	23.5
Frequency of doctor visits		
Never	18.4	34.5
Seldom	38.4	46.7
Sometimes	27.7	12.5
Often	13.6	6.1
Very often	1.9	0.3
Satisfaction with the last treatment		
Completely dissatisfied	0.9	0.6
Very dissatisfied	2.6	2.1
Fairly dissatisfied	8.4	12.7
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	12.7	29.2
Fairly satisfied	62.5	46.9
Very satisfied	10.4	4.4
Completely satisfied	2.6	4.1

The descriptions of each variable were non-weighted, and original from the two surveys. Plus-minus values are mean ±SD.

**Supplementary Table S2** Ordinal logistic regression for public trust in China's physicians ( $n=8846$ )

	Coefficient	Standard error	<i>P</i>	95% confidence interval
Year (2016/2011)	-0.746	0.067	<0.001	-0.879 to -0.614
Satisfaction with most recent treatment experience	0.585	0.023	<0.001	0.540 to 0.631
Self-rated happiness	0.213	0.030	<0.001	0.155 to 0.271
Frequency of doctor visits	0.034	0.026	0.196	-0.018 to 0.086
Self-reported health status	0.069	0.021	0.001	0.027 to 0.111
Self-identified social class	0.052	0.013	<0.001	0.027 to 0.078
Sex	0.041	0.048	0.388	-0.052 to 0.135
Age	0.007	0.002	<0.001	0.003 to 0.010
Marital status	-0.116	0.055	0.035	-0.223 to -0.008
Urban or rural dwelling	-0.066	0.053	0.216	-0.170 to 0.039
GDP per capita in each province	-0.014	0.010	0.161	-0.034 to 0.006
Elementary school and below	0.226	0.090	0.013	0.048 to 0.403
Junior high school	-0.052	0.072	0.466	-0.193 to 0.088
High school and professional school	-0.273	0.066	<0.001	-0.403 to -0.143
College and above	Reference	.	.	
No health insurance	-0.035	0.076	0.641	-0.184 to 0.113
Private health insurance	0.044	0.097	0.648	-0.146 to 0.235
Public health insurance	Reference	.	.	

The logistic regression did not use the method of weight. Pseudo  $R^2$  of the model (Nagelkerke) was 0.166, and  $P<0.001$ .