

# Quality Hurdles

The following are statistics from a survey conducted among attendees of the ACC 2008 Annual Scientific Session. Cardiovascular professionals at ACC.08 said in the past 12 months, they had sometimes or often observed the following:

- **91 percent** said patients had difficulty affording out-of-pocket costs.
- **79 percent** said patients' medical records or other clinical information was not available.
- **67 percent** said patients' care was compromised due to conflicting information from different health professionals.
- **63 percent** said tests or procedures were repeated because findings were unavailable or inadequate.
- **60 percent** said patients had positive results and did not have a proper follow-up.

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