

## Chronic Care: By the Numbers

In 2010, 68% of Medicare beneficiaries had at least two or more chronic conditions. The below figures from 2010 help to explain the story behind this high spending, and provide some insight as to why it is important to the future of Medicare to ensure these individuals have access to high quality care<sup>1</sup>.

### Account for nearly all Medicare spending:

- Beneficiaries with at least 2 or more chronic conditions accounted for *ninety-three* of Medicare spending, or roughly \$487 billion

### Hospitalizations:

- *Four percent* of beneficiaries with 0-1 chronic condition were hospitalized at least once
- *Thirty percent* of beneficiaries with 4-5 chronic conditions were hospitalized at least once
- *Sixty-three percent* of beneficiaries with 6 or more chronic conditions were hospitalized at least once

### Trips to the ER:

- *Fourteen percent* of beneficiaries with 0-1 chronic condition had an ER visit, and only two percent had 3+ visits
- *Forty-one percent* of beneficiaries with 4-5 chronic conditions had an ER visit, and eight percent had 3+ visits
- *Seventy percent* of beneficiaries with 6 or more chronic conditions had an ER visit, and twenty-seven percent had 3+ visits

### Home health:

- *One percent* of beneficiaries with 0-1 chronic condition received at least one home health visit
- *Fourteen percent* of beneficiaries with 4-5 chronic conditions received at least one home health visit, and nine percent received 13+ visits
- *Thirty-six percent* of beneficiaries with 6 or more chronic conditions received at least one home health visit, and twenty-seven percent had 13+ visits

### Readmissions:

- *Ninety-eight* percent of all hospital readmissions involved beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions

### Spending per beneficiary:

- Average spending per Medicare FFS beneficiary was \$9,738
- Average spending per Medicare FFS beneficiary with 4-5 chronic conditions was \$12,174
- Average spending per Medicare FFS beneficiary with 6+ chronic conditions was \$32,658

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<sup>1</sup> All data is from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, "Chronic Conditions Among Medicare Beneficiaries, Chartbook: 2012 Edition," (2013).