

The Future of Medicare (Advantage)

March 31, 2017 The Future of Medicare Advantage The Health Industry Forum

Tricia Neuman, Sc.D. Director, Program on Medicare Policy Kaiser Family Foundation TNeuman@kff.org | @tricia_neuman

Exhibit 1 Medicare Advantage enrollment has been steadily increasing, even after ACA payment reductions

In millions:



SOURCE: KFF analysis of CMS Medicare Advantage enrollment files, 2008-2016, and MPR, "Tracking Medicare Health and Prescription Drug Plans Monthly Report," 1995-2007. Projected enrollment: CBO, "Medicare Baseline," August 2010.



A growing share of new Medicare beneficiaries are choosing Medicare Advantage



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis in *Health Affairs*, "At Least Half of New Medicare Advantage Enrollees Had Switched From Traditional Medicare During 2006-11," January 2015.



Nearly one-third of Medicare beneficiaries live in counties where at least 40% are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans





SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation, "Medicare Advantage and Traditional Medicare: Is the Balance Tipping?" October 2015.

Less than 5% of traditional Medicare beneficiaries switch to Medicare Advantage each year, and vice versa



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis in *Health Affairs*, "At Least Half of New Medicare Advantage Enrollees Had Switched From Traditional Medicare During 2006-11," January 2015.



The vast majority of Medicare Advantage enrollees do not change plans in a given year

Distribution of Medicare Advantage Enrollees, by Switching Status, 2007-2014:



THE HENRY J. KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation, "Medicare Advantage Plan Switching: Exception or Norm?" September 2016.

As premium rise, more Medicare Advantage enrollees switch to another Advantage plan, but not to traditional Medicare





SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of a 5% sample of claims from the Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse, 2013-2014.

Meet my friend Craig*

- Happily enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan at age 65
- Two years later, after a biking accident, Craig was sent to the ER where doctors discovered a hard-to-reach tumor



- Craig's Medicare Advantage plan had a surgeon who could remove the tumor, but the surgeon had performed this type of surgery only once before
- At his wife's "urging," Craig found a more experienced surgeon, but his plan would not approve the out-of-network provider
- Craig felt more comfortable with the experienced surgeon, so wanted to switch to traditional Medicare where networks were not of concern
- But, felt he couldn't; he was denied Medigap because of his pre-existing condition, and felt too financially exposed without an out-of-pocket limit



Why are Medicare beneficiaries "sticky"? In their own words...

"Because I feel that I did my homework to the hilt initially, that should remain good for me. If it is up and pricey, that's ok." "There are days when I...think about possibly making a change...I've reached the age of 78 and **I'm saying** to myself, 'I'm too goddamn tired to investigate this.'"

"I think **the older** you get, the more resistant you are to change in general...I wouldn't want to keep going from one plan to another."

"At our age, as we get older, we learned that the grass is not really greener on the other side..."



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation, "How are Seniors Choosing and Changing Health Insurance Plans?" May 2014.

Medicare Advantage vs Traditional Medicare

	Medicare Advantage	Traditional Medicare			
Default Initial Enrollment	Νο	Yes			
General Satisfaction	Yes	Yes			
Out-of-Pocket Limit	Yes	No*			
Additional Premiums	\$37/month (MA-PD avg., 2016)	~\$200/month (Medigap) \$38.57/month (PDP avg., 2016)			
Extra Benefits	Some	No*			
One-Stop Plan Shopping	Yes	Νο			
Potential for Care Management	More?	Less?			
Provider Network	Varies	Broad			

* Unless beneficiary has supplemental insurance



Hospital networks vary across Medicare Advantage plans



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation, "Medicare Advantage Hospital Networks: How Much Do They Vary?" June 2016.

Provider network information is not searchable on Medicare.gov; it's available but challenging to use

SPREADSHEETS Microsoft Excel Microsoft	ONLINE SEARCHES	
A B C D E F C Medical Groups	Find a Doctor Search Criteria - Google Chrome https://www.anthem.com/health-insurance/provider-directory/searchcriteria?&brands Shop For Insurance Health & Wellness Resources	PDFs
Cos Angeles Arcada Methodi:Hospital of Southern Califurs Valley Medical Chrinter- Community Campus Los Angeles ElMonte Greater El Monte Community	All fields are	
S Hospital Los Angeles Glendale Adventist Medical Center 6 Center 1 Los Angeles 7 Centale Memorial Hospital/Health Center 7 Centale 8 USC Verdugo Hills Hospital 8 Glendor 9 Glendor 9 Glendor	I want to search this plan/network: Blue Cross Senior Secure Plan I (HMO) Change plan (I'm looking for a: Hospitals and Facilities * Enter name	2015 Provider DIRECTORY
9 Lakewoo takewood Regional Medical a Center H<	Who specializes in: General/Acute Care Hospital Show specially details Located near: Within a distance of:	AARP® MedicareComplete® SecureHorizons® Essential (HMO) AARP® MedicareComplete® SecureHorizons® Plan 1 (HMO) AARP® MedicareComplete® SecureHorizons® Plan 2 (HMO) AARP® MedicareComplete® SecureHorizons® Plan 3 (HMO) CALIFORNIA Los Angeles County
	Located hear: within a distance of: Enter location 20 miles Show more options Search	
	4	For more information, please contact UnitedHealthcare Customer Service at Toll-Free 1-800-950-9355, TTY 711 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. local time, 7 days a week



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation, "Medicare Advantage Hospital Networks: How Much Do They Vary?" June 2016.

Provider directories are not infrequently out-of-date, missing basic information and inaccurate

		an Region_H5928.pdf - Adobe Acro	bat Pro	(iew)	<u>W</u> indow <u>H</u> elp			
	indow Help			e -	🖻 🗎 🖨 🖂	🍦 🦻 🔛 💊		
603 /	Pi ← □ ← ○ 786 Image & (*)		Tools Comment Sh	6 /	313 💽 🖑 😑 (75% - H	F	Tools Comme
005 /			Tools Comment Sik					
		LOS ANGELES COUNT	Y		1			Access IPA (MH85)
		HOSPITALS			BRAND NEW DAY	 Foothill Presbyterian Hospital 	 Providence Hth System, So Ca DBA 	Internal Medicine Chan, Michelle MD
	LAKEWOOD	LOS ANGELES	PACIFIC ALLIANCE MEDICAL CENTER		HOSPITALS	 Garfield Medical Center 	Providence Holy Cross Medical Center	Provider # 617 320 W Valley Blvd
S	LAKEWOOD REGIONAL MEDICAL	CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL MEDICAL	531 W College St Los Angeles, 91755		Los Angeles County	 Glendale Adventist Medical Center 	 San Antonio Community Hospital 	Alhambra, CA 91803 (626) 943-0780
HOSPITALS	CENTER 3700 E South St	CENTER 1401 S Grand Ave	(213) 624-8411		Alhambra Hospital	Glendale Memorial Medical Center	 San Dimas Community San Gorgonio 	Chan, Robert W MD Provider # 619
3	Lakewood, 91755	Los Angeles, 91755	SILVER LAKE MEDICAL CENTER 1711 W Temple St		 Antelope Valley Hospital 	Hi Desert Medical Center	Memorial Hospital • Sherman Oaks	1234 S Garfield Ave #103
	(562) 531-2550	(213) 748-2411 EAST LOS ANGELES DOCTORS	Los Angeles, 91755 (213) 989-6100		 Avanti Hospitals - East Los Angeles Doctors 	Hollywood Community	Hospital	(626) 576-7871
	LANCASTER	HOSPITAL 4060 E Whittier Blvd	ST VINCENT MEDICAL CENTER		Hospital	Hospital / Alta Hollywood Hospitals	 Silverlake Medical Center 	FIDVIDEL # SIV30
	ANTELOPE VALLEY HOSPITAL 1600 W Ave J	Los Angeles, 91755	2131 W 3Rd St Los Angeles, 91755		 Avanti Hospitals - East Los Angeles Plaza 	 Lakewood Regional Medical Center 	 St Mary Medical Center 	333 S. Garfield Ave.Ste #A Alhambra, CA 91801
	Lancaster, 91755 (661) 949-5000	(323) 268-5514 Good Samaritan Hospital	(213) 484-7111		 Avanti Hospitals - Memorial H 	 Long Beach Memorial 	 Temple Community 	(626) 289-7333
	LONG BEACH	1225 Wilshire Blvd	235 N Hoover St		Gardena • Avanti Hosp			cine
			Los Angeles, 91755 (213) 382-7252		Memorial H Huntington		SPITA	T MD
		ρίται 🚩	USC KENNETH NORRIS CANCER		Bellflower I Center			#104 92703
	(56		HOSPITAL 1441 Eastlake Ave		 Beverly Con Hospital As 	ADDR	RESSES	84
			Los Angeles, 91755 (323) 865-3108		DBA Beverly Brotman Me			
	CLOS		USC UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL KECK		Center		UDED	na MD
			HOSPITAL 1500 San Pablo St		 Centinela H Medical Cer 	INCL		i #1
	st 20	14	Los Angeles, 91755 (323) 442-8500		 Citrus Valle Center 	Community Hospital	PHYSICIANS	2805
	Lor (56		WHITE MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER		 Citrus Valley Medical Center - Queen Of The 	Northrige Medical	Los Angeles	El Monte
		(323) 226-2622	1720 E Cesar E Chavez Ave Los Angeles, 91755		Valley Campus College Medical 	Center Norwalk Community	COUNTY	Family Medicine
	LOS ALAMITOS	OLYMPIA MEDICAL CENTER 5900 W Olympic Blvd	(323) 260-5711		Center	 Hospital Orthopaedic Hospital 	Alhambra Family Practice	Perez, Omar MD Provider # OMPE
	LOS ALAMITOS MEDICAL CENTER 3751 Katella Ave	Los Angeles, 91755 (310) 657-5900			 Community Hospital Of Long Beach 	 Pacifica Hospital Of The Valley 	Nguyen, Van T MD	10728 E. Ramona Blvd. # A El Monte, CA 91731 (626) 442, 9429
	Los Alamitos, 91755 (562) 598-1311	(0.0) 000 0000			 Doctors Hospital West Covina 	Pacific Alliance	Provider # VANG4 600 W Main St, #104 Albombro, CA 01901	(626) 442-9430 Pediatrics
					 Easy Valley Medical Center 	Medical Center, Inc. • Presbyterian	Alhambra, CA 91801 (626) 284-3284	Chen, Crispina MD
	For more information, please call C	ustomer Service at 1-800-544-0088, (f	or the hearing impaired, 711). Customer h February 14, except Thanksgiving and		 Encino Hospital Medical Center 	Intercommunity Hospital		10802 Ramona Blvd El Monte, CA 91731
			through September 30, except holidays.		mouroar ventor	 Promise Hospital 		(818) 443-8918



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation, "Medicare Advantage Hospital Networks: How Much Do They Vary?" June 2016.



Still more to learn...

- **Costs:** Variations in cost-sharing for Medicare-covered services, other than the very basics, like out-of-pocket limits or drug deductibles (both have been increasing)
- **Benefits:** Scope of extra benefits offered and provided, which clearly helps to attract new enrollment (e.g., dental)
- **Care Management:** Better information now available, but not so much on how plans are managing care for high-need, really sick patients
- **Networks:** Accurate information regarding provider networks to facilitate plan choices (for beneficiaries) and analysis (for researchers)



A few concluding thoughts

- Absent a significant change in policy, Medicare Advantage is here to stay, and will likely grow in numbers and as a share of the Medicare population
 - Bipartisan support
 - Favorable payment environment
 - Appeal to beneficiaries (low premiums, catastrophic protection, extra benefits, one-stop shopping)
 - In many states, beneficiaries are essentially locked into Medicare Advantage because they cannot purchase Medigap (no guarantee issue)
- The impact of proposals whose success depends on seniors actively and annually engaging in health insurance choices is unclear
- As the role of Medicare Advantage grows, and becomes more firmly entrenched, it seems useful think about the implications for traditional Medicare – and why that may matter



Medicare Resources on KFF.org

the henry J. KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION

- ✓ At Least Half of New Medicare Advantage Enrollees Had Switched From Traditional Medicare During 2006-11 (in *Health Affairs*)
- Medicare Advantage and Traditional Medicare: Is the Balance Tipping?
- ✓ How are Seniors Choosing and Changing Health Insurance Plans?
- ✓ Medicare Advantage Hospital Networks: How Much Do They Vary?"
- ✓ Medicare Advantage Plan Switching: Exception or Norm?
- Medicare Advantage Plans in 2017: Short-term Outlook is Stable
- Medicare Advantage 2016 Spotlight: Enrollment Market Update

For more information, visit kff.org/medicare

