Chronic Disease

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“The lives of far too many people in the world are being blighted and cut short by non-communicable chronic diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, chronic respiratory disease and diabetes. This is no longer only happening in high income countries... Globally, of the 58 million deaths in 2005, approximately 35 million will be as a result of non-communicable chronic diseases. They are currently the major cause of death among adults in almost all countries.”

-Former Director General of WHO, Lee Jong-wook
In 2000, **125** million Americans had one or more chronic conditions.

Between 2000 and 2030, the number of Americans with chronic conditions will increase by **46** million people.

One In Four Americans Has Multiple Chronic Conditions

Number of Chronic Conditions

Percent of All Americans

- 1 chronic condition: 23%
- 2 chronic conditions: 12%
- 3 chronic conditions: 6%
- 4 chronic conditions: 4%
- 5+ chronic conditions: 4%
Children with Chronic Conditions Generally Have a Single Condition

Most Adults With A Chronic Condition Have More Than One Condition

Seniors With A Chronic Condition Rarely Have A Single Condition

People With Chronic Conditions Accounted For 85 Percent Of All Health Care Spending In 2004

- 85% Health Care Spending for People with Chronic Conditions
- 15% Health Care Spending for People without Chronic Conditions

Sixty-Five Percent Of Health Care Spending Is On People With Multiple Chronic Conditions

Percent of Health Care Total Spending by Number of Chronic Conditions

- 5+ Chronic Conditions: 21%
- 4 Chronic Conditions: 12%
- 3 Chronic Conditions: 14%
- 2 Chronic Conditions: 18%
- 1 Chronic Condition: 20%
- 0 Chronic Conditions: 15%

Two-Thirds Of Medicare Spending Is For Beneficiaries With Five Or More Chronic Conditions

Health Care Spending Increases With The Number Of Chronic Conditions

Poor Care Coordination Leads To Unnecessary Hospitalizations

- Ambulatory care sensitive conditions (ACSCs) are conditions for which timely and effective outpatient primary care may help to reduce the risk of hospitalization.

Physicians Believe That Poor Care Coordination Produces Bad Outcomes

- Receipt of contradictory information: 54%
- Emotional problems unattended: 49%
- Adverse Drug Interactions: 44%
- Unnecessary hospitalization: 36%
- Patients not functioning to potential: 34%
- Experience of unnecessary pain: 34%
- Unnecessary nursing home placement: 24%

Percent of Physicians Who Believe that Adverse Outcomes Result from Poor Care Coordination
People With Serious Chronic Conditions Believe They Do Not Receive Needed Treatment

Source: Serious Chronic Illness Survey, conducted by the Gallup Organization, 2002.
Problems To Overcome

- Clinical research – complicated patients excluded from clinical trials
- Medical education – specialty not coordinated care is focus of medical school curriculum
- Payment and delivery systems - acute not chronic care orientation
- Quality measurement - care coordination and multiple chronic problems