The Medicare Advantage Program

August 2017



What is Medicare Advantage?

Medicare Advantage (MA) plans are private plans that participate in Medicare and provide Medicare benefits as an alternative to traditional Medicare

Plans must provide, at a minimum, a benefit that is the same or 'actuarially equivalent' to the Medicare benefit; most plans provide extra benefits and reduced cost sharing

MA plans also provide disease management and care coordination programs

Most MA plans also provide the Part D (prescription drug) benefit and are known as MA-PD plans

99% of Medicare beneficiaries have access to at least one MA plan option in 2017; on average beneficiaries can choose from among 10 MA plans*

*MedPAC, "A Data Book: Health Care Spending and the Medicare Program", Chart 9-2, June 2017 available at http://medpac.gov/docs/default-source/data-book/jun17 databookentirereport sec.pdf?sfvrsn=0

Types of MA Plans

There are various types of MA plans for beneficiaries

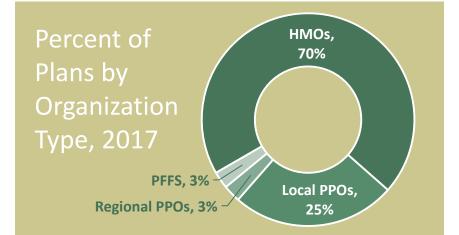
Organization types:

- Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs)
- Local and regional Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs)
- Private Fee-For-Service Plans (PFFS)

Special Needs Plans (SNPs):

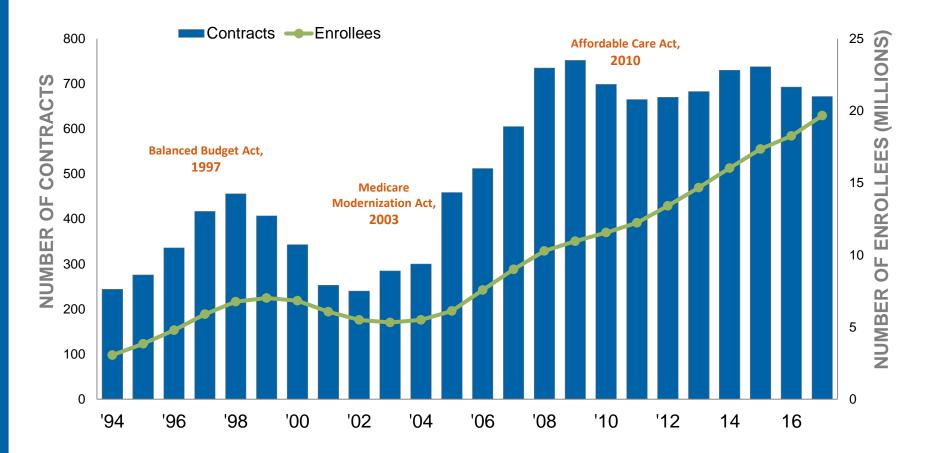
- Dual eligible SNPs (D-SNPs)
- Chronic Condition SNPs (C-SNPs)
- Institutional SNPs (I-SNPs)

Employer Group Waiver Plans (EGWPs)



MA Enrollment Has Been Growing Steadily Since MMA

Number of MA Contracts and Enrollees By Year

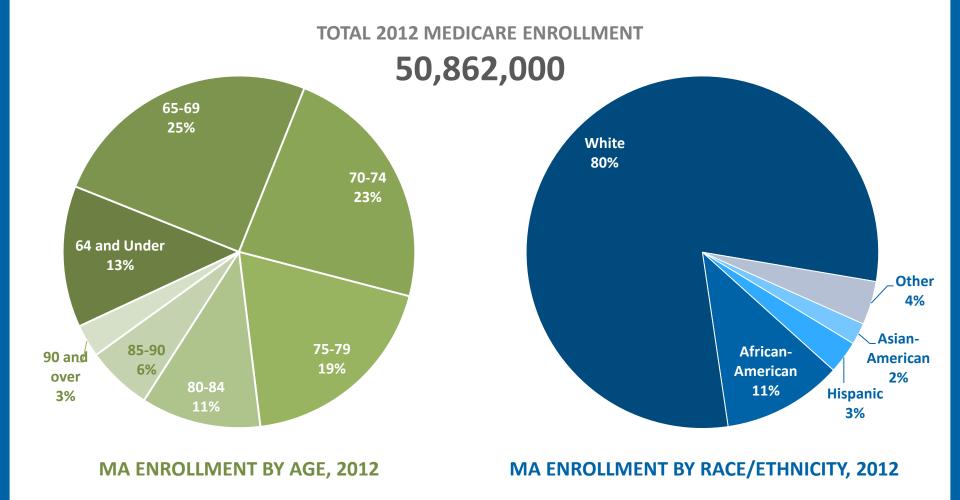


*Figures include all standard managed care contract types in force each year plus demonstration contracts; Part D and

Special Needs Plans excluded prior to 2006. A single contract may include multiple plan options.

Sources: Prior to 2006, data from CMS Monthly Reports (December releases). 2006 and later data from CMS monthly enrollment releases for Part C and Part D plans.

MA Enrollee Demographics Generally Mirror Medicare Overall



Source: MedPAC, Medicare Advantage Demographics and Enrollment Patterns, September, 2014, http://www.medpac.gov/documents/september-2014-meeting-presentation-medicare-advantage-demographics-and-enrollment-patterns.pdf?sfvrsn=0

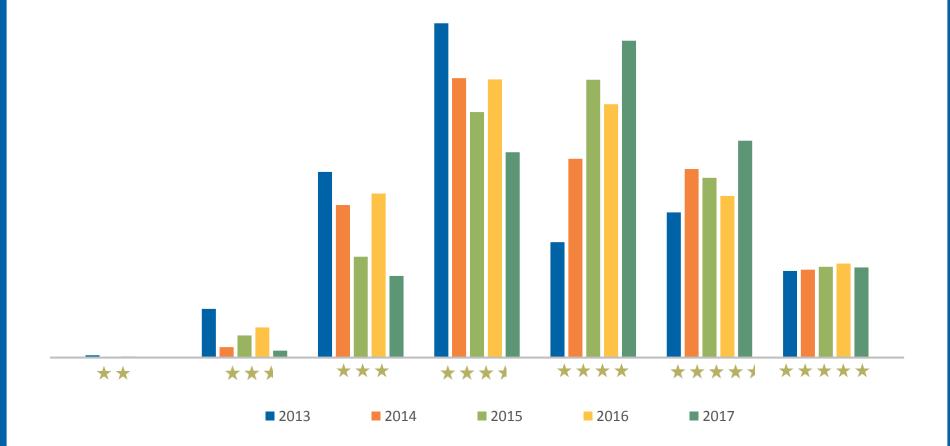
MA Plans Submit Bids on Estimated Costs of Benefits and Services

MA plans receive a monthly capitated (per enrollee) amount to provide all Part A and B benefits	This payment is risk adjusted to account for beneficiary risk profiles
Plans submit bids based on estimated costs per enrollee for services covered under Medicare Parts A and B	The bids are compared to benchmark amounts that are set by a formula established in statute and vary by county or region
	The benchmarks are the maximum amount Medicare will pay a plan in a given area
	If a plan's bid is higher than the benchmark, enrollees pay the difference between the benchmark and the bid in the form of a monthly premium
	If the bid is lower than the benchmark, the plan and Medicare split the difference between the bid and the benchmark; the plan's share is known as a "rebate," which is used to provide supplemental benefits or to reduce cost sharing

Plan Quality Performance Steadily Increasing

DISTRIBUTION OF MA-PD ENROLLEES BY CONTRACT QUALITY SCORE*

2013-2017



*These ratings summarize all Part C and Part D measures combined. Does not include contracts that were too new to be measured or did not have enough data to calculate a rating CMS. "Fact Sheet – 2017 Star Ratings." October 2016.

Questions?

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