

# Disease Management and Medicare



*A Presentation to the  
Disease Management  
Colloquium*

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# Today's Agenda

- **The DM Landscape in Medicare Part D**
- **The CMS Perspective**
- **What is CMS Looking for?**
- **The Disease Management Solution**
- **Chronic Care Management**
- **Strategies for Success**



# New Medicare Part D

## *Beneficiaries Will Have Several Coverage Options*



### Medicare Options

Prescription  
Drug-only Plan  
(PDP)/  
FFS Add-On

Medicare  
Advantage  
PPO Option

#### Regional Options

- Blended benchmark
- Stabilization fund

Risk Corridors

Must offer  
benefits  
equivalent to  
standard  
coverage

Medicare  
Advantage  
HMO Option

Medicare  
Advantage  
PPO Option

Special Needs  
Plan (SNP)  
Option

#### Local (county- based) Options

Must offer  
benefits  
equivalent to  
standard  
coverage on at  
least one plan in  
portfolio

### Other Options

Qualified  
Employer Plan

Must offer benefits equivalent  
to standard coverage to  
receive subsidy

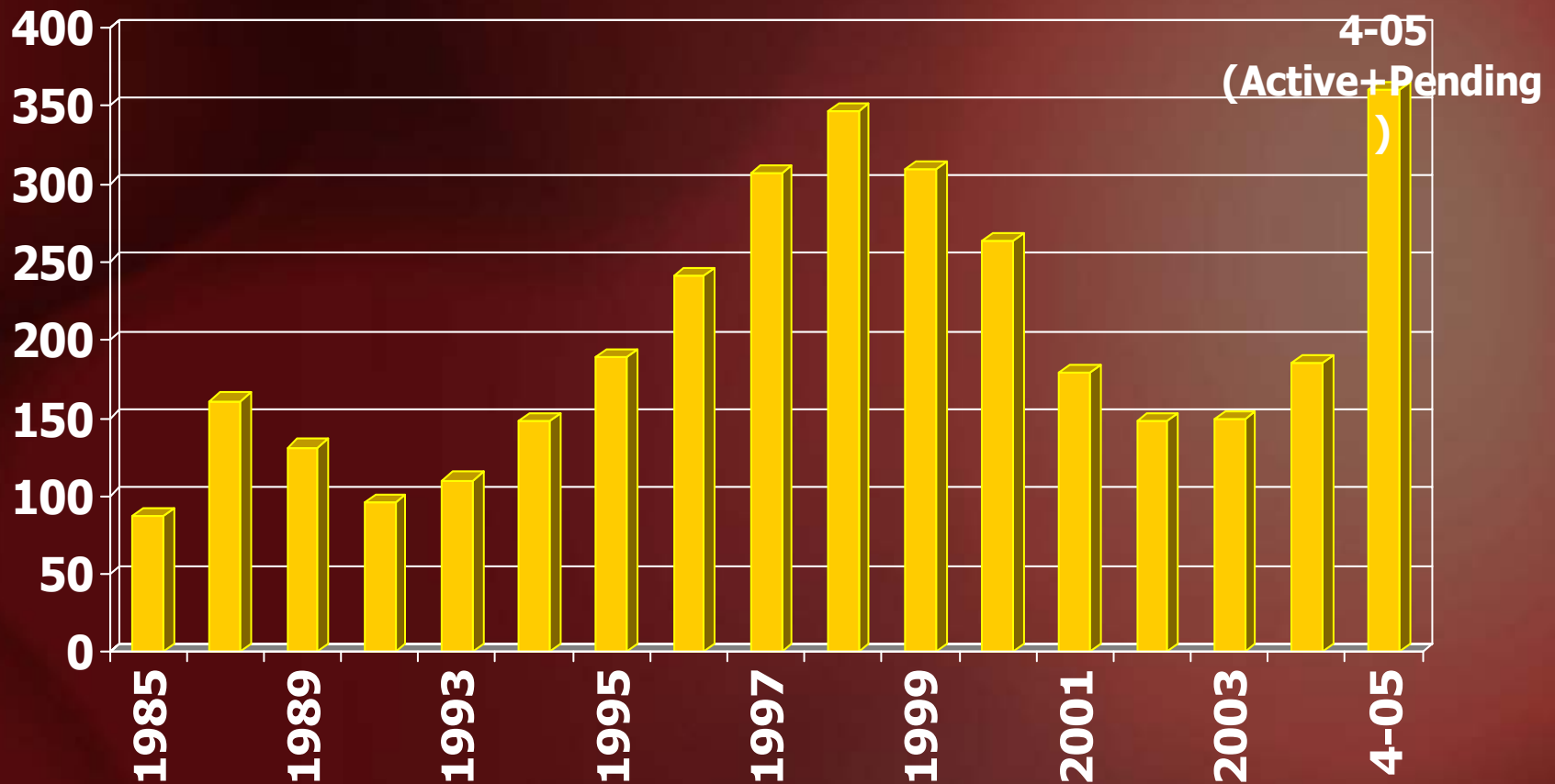
~~Limited Risk or  
Fallback Drug-  
Only Plan~~

If insufficient  
number of PDPs  
or PPOs emerge  
in the market

# Medicare Advantage: Market Outlook

- Major resurgence in program underway
- Since passage of MMA:
  - 43 MA contracts approved
  - 48 MA Service Area Expansions approved
  - 37 Special Needs Plans approved
  - 34 MA contracts applications pending (2/05); 141 new apps received 2/15
  - 39 Service Area Expansions pending
- Reports of 300+ PDP applications received on March 23 (2006 deadline)

# Medicare Risk Contracts 1985 to 2005

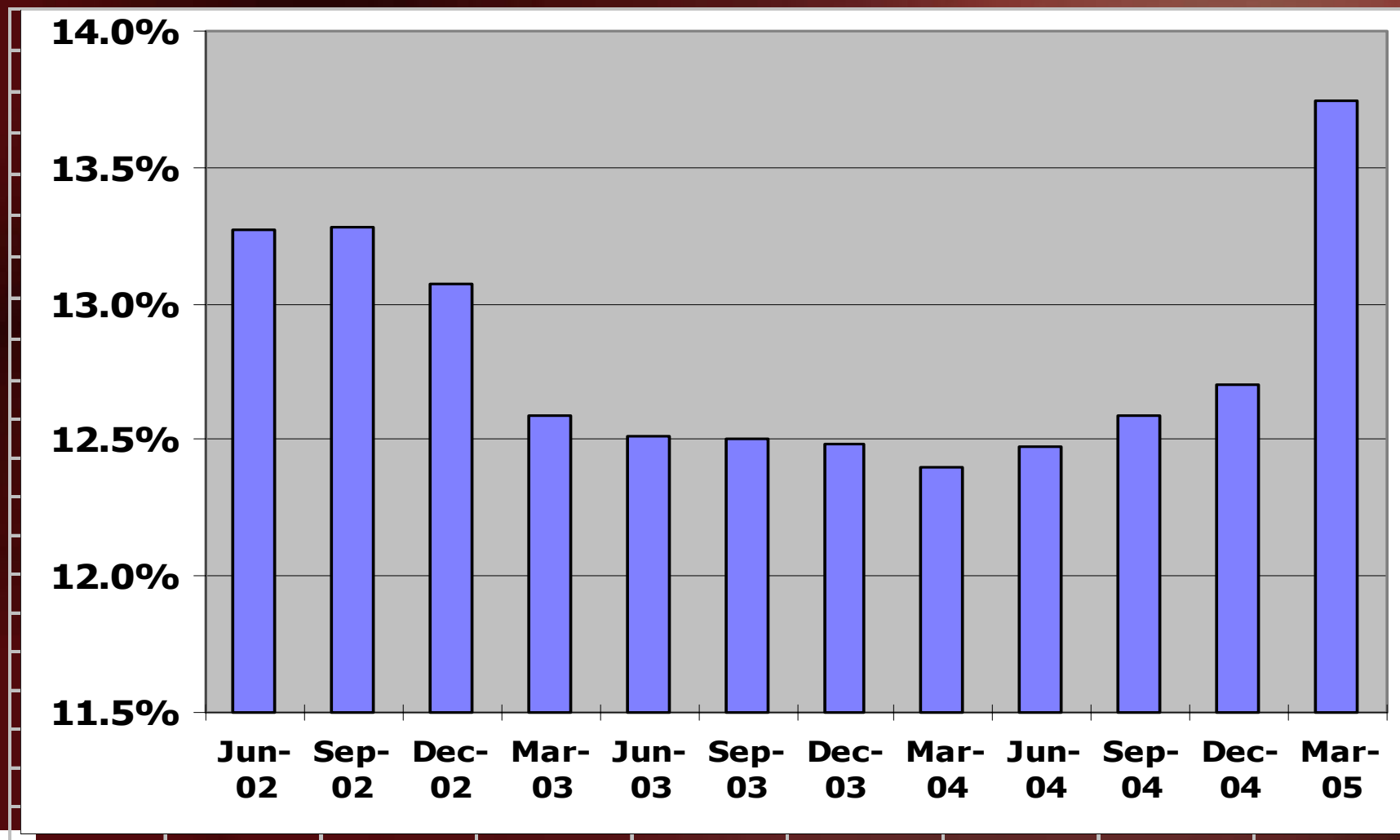


Source: CMS, April 2005.

Note 2006 application deadline saw 300+ PDP applications filed.

# Medicare Advantage: Resurgence Underway

*National Medicare Advantage Penetration Rates,  
March 2002-March 2005*



# Known PDP Participants

Applicant	Partner	Scope
Aetna	Aetna PM	All 34 regions
Medco	NA	All 34 regions
HealthNet	NA	6 regions
WellPoint	WellPoint PM	All 34 regions
Universal American Financial Corp.	PharmaCare	All 34 regions
United Healthcare	Walgreens HI	All 34 regions (AARP endorsement)
Sierra	NA	8 regions
WellCare	Walgreens HI	All 34 regions
Heartland Alliance (6 BCBS plans)	Prime Therapeutics	Upper Midwest Region
CIGNA/NationsHealth	CIGNA PM	All 34 regions
WellChoice	CareMark	New York Region
PacifiCare	Prescription Solutions	All 34 regions
Humana	Argus	31 regions
Coventry	Rite Aid	All 34 regions

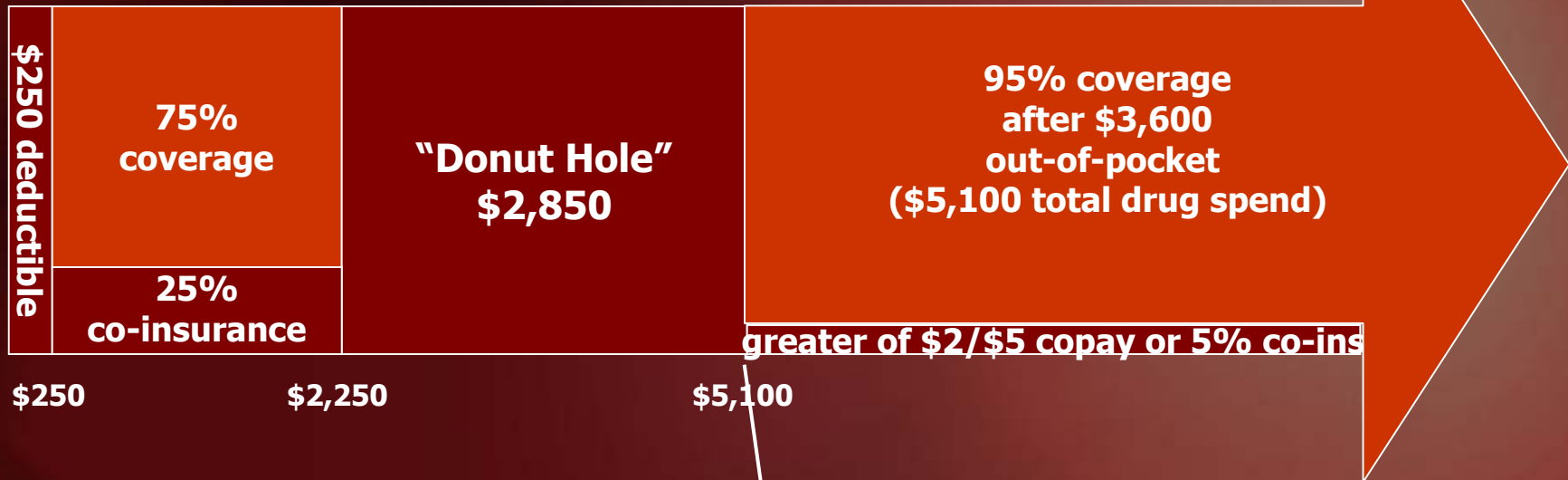
# Part D Projections: 2006

- **GHG expects in 2006:**
  - **\$110B in revenues generated for private plans (up from \$51B in 2005) – 37% through PDPs**
  - **800,000 new beneficiaries in MA products (5.6M in 2005)**
  - **14.3M in PDPs (including duals and low-income)**
- **Therefore, over 20M beneficiaries in some form of managed care in 2006**



# Medicare “Standard” Drug Benefit

Part D Premium: est. \$35/month



*CMS provides individual reinsurance for 80% of drug costs once catastrophic threshold is exceeded*

# **“Privatizing” Medicaid Dual Eligibles Through PDPs**

- **A large portion of the 7.2 million “dual eligibles” are disabled:**
  - 2.4 million (1/3) are under age 65
  - 4.8 million (2/3) are 65 and older
- **Much of the “dual eligible” population has special needs**
  - **Long Term Care**
    - 26% of elderly dual eligibles are in nursing homes
    - 12% of non-elderly dual eligibles are in nursing homes
  - **Mental Health/Mental Retardation**
    - 59% of non-elderly dual eligibles have a mental or psychiatric disorder
  - **AIDS**
  - **Frail Elders**
    - 12% of elderly dual eligibles have 3 or more of 5 ADLs
    - 29% of elderly dual eligibles are unable to walk without assistance

# Eligibility of Medicare Beneficiaries in 2006 for Low-Income Subsidies

	Income (%Federal Poverty Level)				Total
	100%and Below	101%-135%	136%-150%	151%and Above	
Number of Eligible Beneficiaries (millions)					
Subsidy A					
Dual Eligibles	4.4	1.1	0.2	0.6	6.4
All other beneficiaries	2.7	3.1	0	0	5.8
Subsidy B	0.2	0.5	1.2	0	1.9
Not eligible	0.4	0.9	0.5	23.7	25.4
<b>Total Medicare Benefes</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>39.4</b>

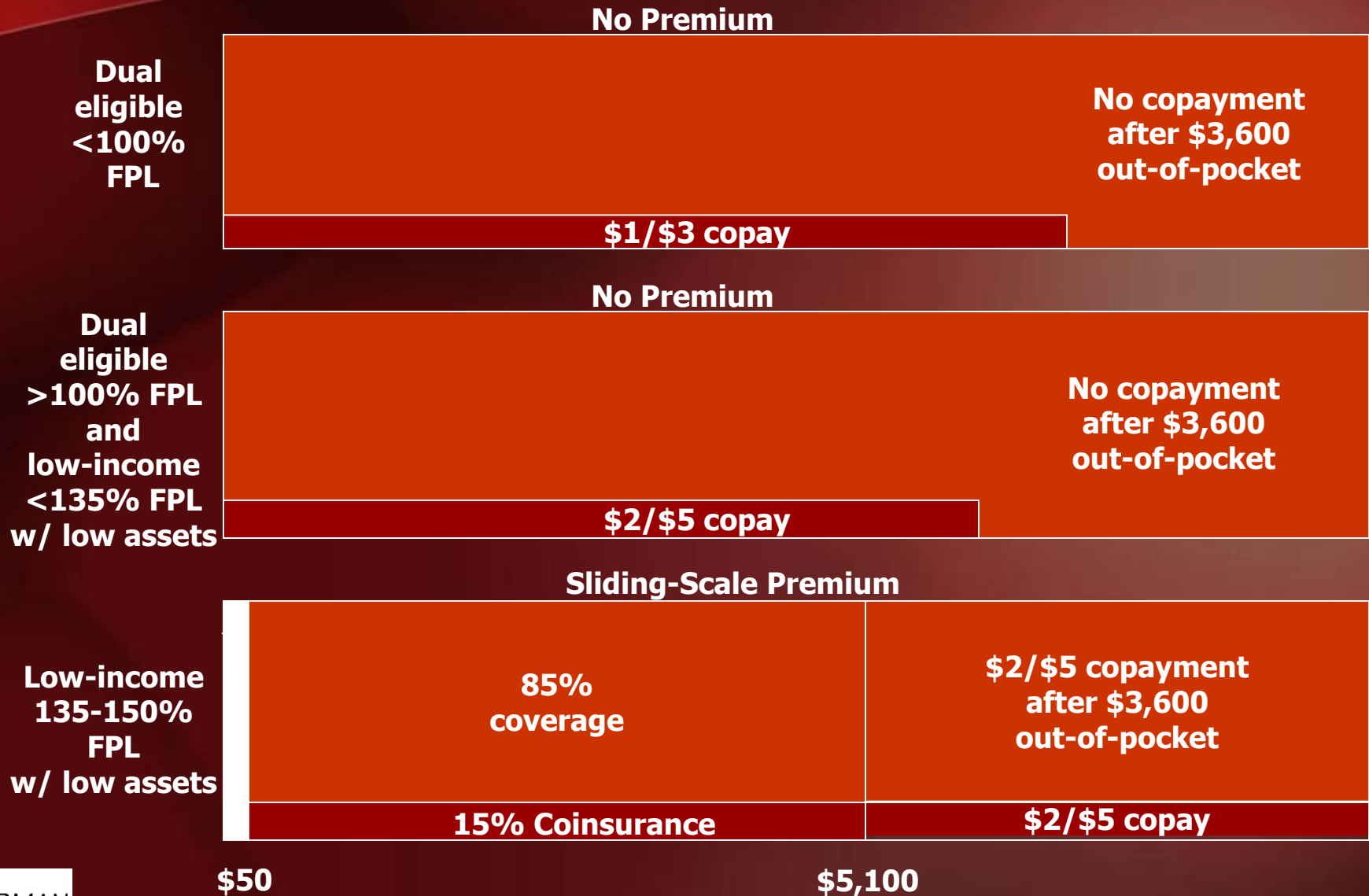
**CBO Enrollment Projections**

<b>75%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>5.78</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>0.63</b>

***10.6M Subsidized***

Source: CBO

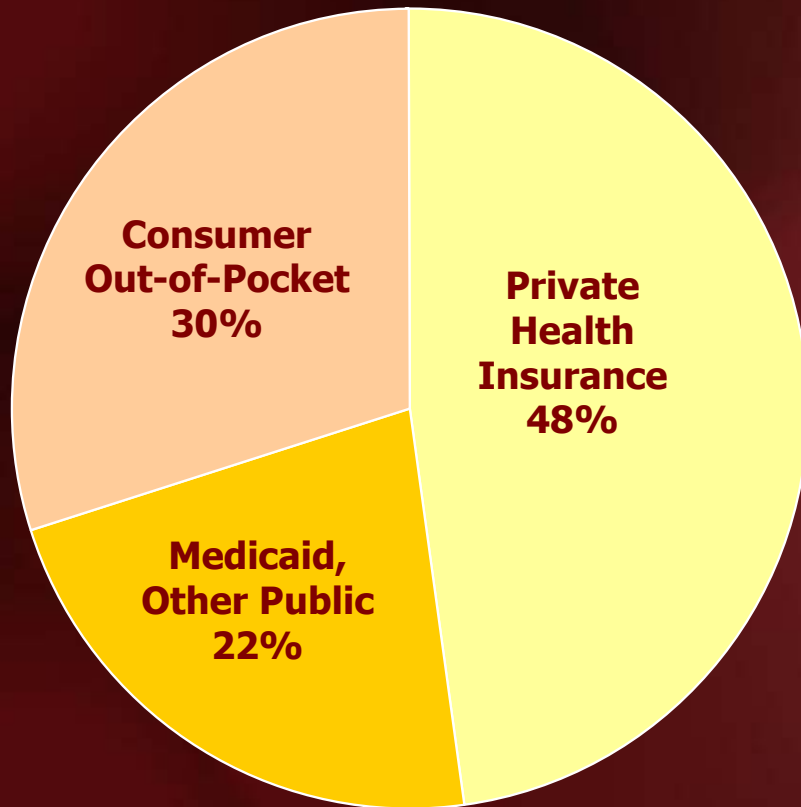
# Low-Income Subsidies



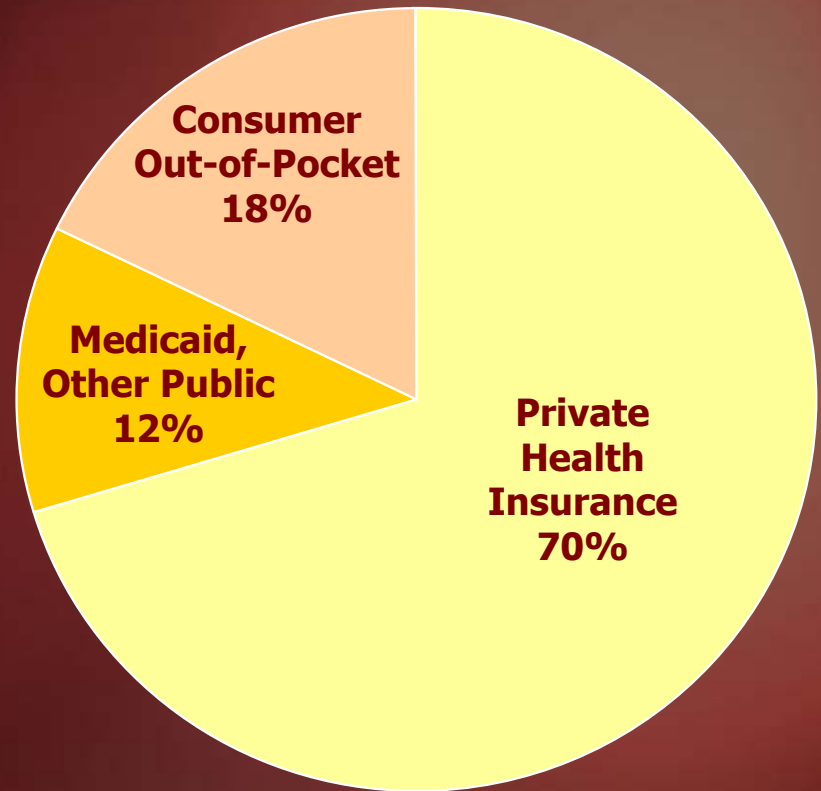
# Privatization of the Drug Market

## Total U.S. Drug Spending

**Before Medicare Drug Benefit**



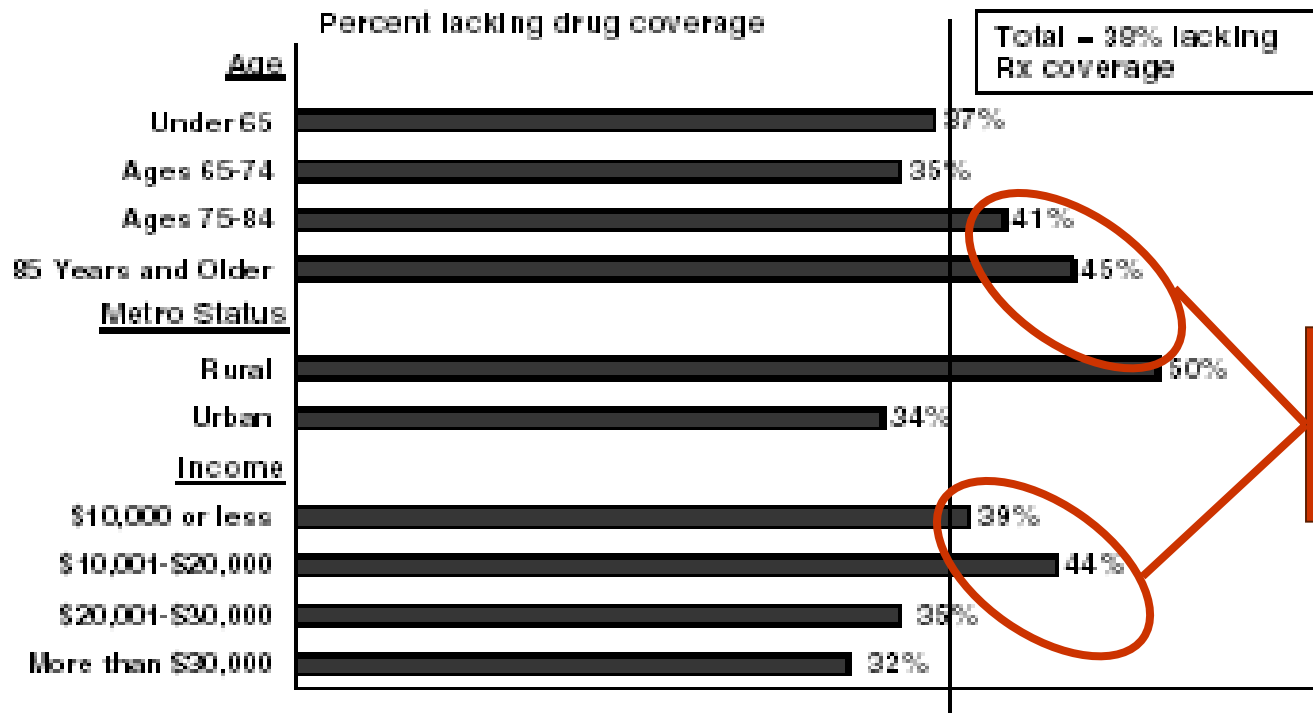
**After Medicare Drug Benefit**



**Sources: CMS, National Health Spending, 2002; and CBO, Issues in Designing a Prescription Drug Benefit for Medicare, Oct, 2002.**

# Prescription Drug Coverage For Medicare Beneficiaries

Percent of Beneficiaries Without Prescription Drug Coverage, by Beneficiary Characteristics, Fall 1999



**Argues for  
Adverse  
Selection**

Note: Analysis of non-institutionalized beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare for a full year.  
SOURCE: Laschober, et al, *Health Affairs*, February 2002.

# Relationship Between Utilization and Income

## Comparison of Income and Medicare Expenditure Distribution in Elderly Population

*Illustrates higher usage at lower income, lower usage at higher income*

Beneficiaries receiving subsidies	Income	Income Distribution	Medicare Expenditures	Index
	\$50,000+	6%	4%	67
	\$25-50,000	21%	17%	81
	\$15-25,000	26%	21%	81
	\$10-15,000	18%	19%	106
	\$5-10,000	24%	34%	142
	\$5,000<	4%	6%	150

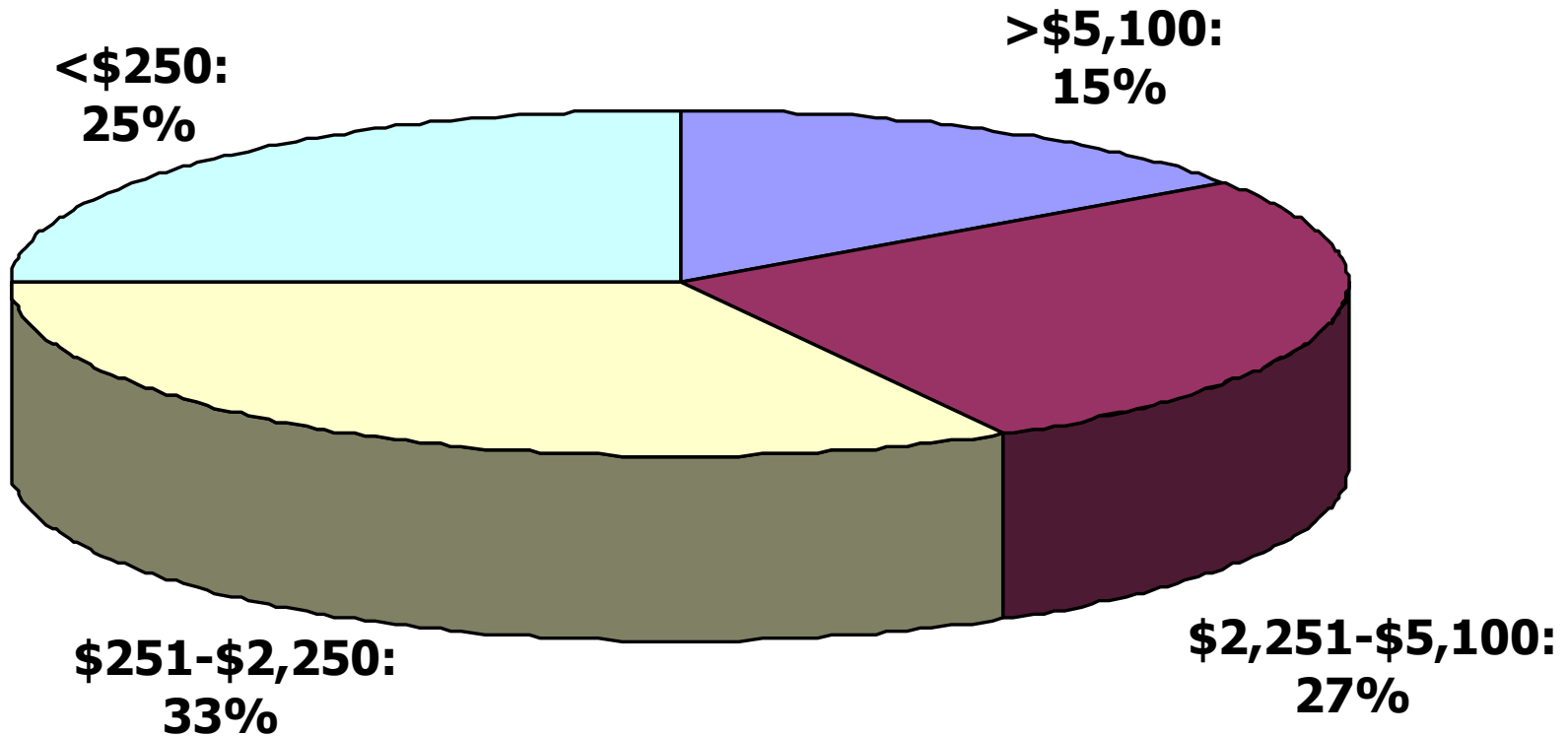
# Distribution of Beneficiaries by Number of Chronic Conditions

Chronic Conditions	Percentage of Beneficiaries	Prescription Fills	Average Drug Spending (2006 \$)	Percentage with \$2000+ in Rx Spending
Zero	8.20%	8	\$ 1,346	18%
One	15.10%	12	\$ 1,819	27%
Two	21.40%	18	\$ 2,543	43%
Three	21.20%	24	\$ 3,426	56%
Four	16.40%	30	\$ 4,046	66%
Five or more	17.70%	40	\$ 5,673	75%

Source: Urban Institute, 2004



# Medicare Population by Level of Rx Spending in 2006



*Note: These figures represent spending for all beneficiaries. The distribution for those who participate in the program or who receive low-income subsidies may vary.*

**Source: Adapted from CBO.**

# The CMS Perspective

- **Transition away from Quality Assurance activities toward Quality Improvement**
- **MMA QI initiatives must include an ongoing chronic care improvement program**
- **CMS wants plans to focus on identifying real problems and developing solutions**

# The CMS Perspective

- **Studies are needed to develop a standardized method to measure program outcomes**
  - **Especially for Medicare FFS beneficiaries**
- **CMS sponsored Disease Management and Care Coordination Demonstration programs are currently underway**

# Expenditure Statistics

- **Aging of baby boom generation expected to increase Medicare spending to 5.4 % of GDP by 2030**
- **The costliest 5% of beneficiaries consume over 50% of costs**
  - **Over half of the spending for costliest beneficiaries went to pay for inpatient hospital services**
  - **High levels of expenditures persist over time**
- **47% of Medicare FFS beneficiaries have 3 or more chronic conditions and account for almost 90% of spending**
- **Only 22% of beneficiaries have no chronic condition and account for less than 1% of total spending**

# CMS Concerns

- **Longer life expectancy increases the prevalence of multiple chronic diseases**
- **The costliest beneficiaries have multiple chronic conditions, use multiple providers and take multiple medications**
- **A significant opportunity exists to implement treatment guidelines, coordinate care and reduce duplicative and unnecessary services in the chronically ill population**
- **A consistent, proven measurable method to manage these issues has not been documented**
  - **The decision regarding what and how to pay for disease management or care coordination services has not been determined**

# What CMS is Looking For

## 1. Disease Management Features:

- Identification of patients
- Matching interventions to patients
- Use of evidence based practice guidelines
- Supporting adherence to the plan of care

## 2. Practice Guidelines:

- Provided to MDs and other providers
- Reporting of progress according to guidelines
- Use of support services and personnel to monitor patients

# What CMS is Looking For

## **3. Service designed to enhance patient self-management and adherence to treatment plans**

- **Education**
- **Patient reminders**
- **Monitoring**
- **Behavior modification that encourages life-style changes**

## **4. Routine reporting and feedback**

- **Communication with patients**
- **Communication with MD and other providers**
- **Practice profiling**

# What CMS is Looking For

## 5. Communication and collaboration among and between providers and patients

- Team conferences
- Collaborative practice patterns
- Routine reporting
- Feedback loops
- Care manager communication to providers, across providers and to patients
- Communication across providers to address co-morbid conditions



# What CMS is Looking For

- 6. Collection and analysis of process and outcome measures**
- 7. Use of specialized software, data registries, automated decision support tools and callback systems**
- 8. Additional services to actually treat diseases**
  - **Assessment social services**
  - **Preventive services**
  - **Transportation**
  - **Rx coverage**

# Presenting the Opportunity

- **Significant, relatively low-risk opportunity in Medicare**
- **Capability must be broad and scalable**
- **Cash flow dedicated to DM function**
- **Insurers: DM capability central to long-term survival in Medicare**
  - **MA plans: adverse selection in Part D**
  - **Medigap: ability to mitigate insurance risk**
- **Strategic opportunities**

# **Disease Management Core Components**

- Population Identification Process (Often segmented by risk level)**
- Use of evidence based guidelines**
- Collaborative practice between patient, physician and program sponsor**
- Patient self management education**
- Process and outcome measurement**
- Reporting and feedback mechanism to allow for ongoing management of the patient's condition**

# Is Disease Management the Solution?

- **Disease Management appears to offer the potential to improving quality and contain costs**
- **Persistently expensive beneficiaries present obstacles to traditional disease management strategies such as education and self management**
  - **More likely to be diagnosed with dementia or functional decline along with multiple chronic diseases**

# Is Disease Management the Solution?

- **A single disease focus is not the solution for chronically ill Medicare population**
  - **Complicating co-morbidities must also be managed**
  - **Arthritis, Cancer, Heart Disease, Hypertension, Depression, Diabetes, Vision and hearing impairments**

# Disease Management Issues

- **DM Industry is still in the development stage**
- **It is not clear whether DM programs can improve health outcomes let alone produce long term cost savings**
  - Savings comparisons are made between what was actually spent against projected costs for same time period
- **Studies demonstrating positive outcomes use different strategies, methodologies and standards creating skepticism regarding results**
  - Results vary depending on baseline used

# Disease Management Issues

- **MMA has recommended randomized controlled studies as the method to authenticate results**
- **However, the industry cannot afford to wait until DM controlled trials are completed to implement some possible solutions**

# DM Challenges

- **Generally designed for commercial population within a health plan**
- **How to identify the target population**
  - Member turnover, change in plans
  - Enrollment and withdrawal patterns
- **The need to show short term results when interventions may not show impact for years**
- **The use of potential bias in reporting results**
- **Implementing a program that demonstrates a positive or neutral ROI**
  - Administrative costs of implementing the program must be considered along with the potential savings



# Current DM Outcome Measurements

- **Health Care Process Improvements**
  - Improvement in HEDIS Rates
  - Improvement in appropriate utilization of guideline recommended services
- **Improved compliance to recommended treatment guidelines by physicians**
- **Improvements in Member Satisfaction**
  - CAPHS Survey
  - HOS Surveys
- **Improvement in self management skills**

# Current DM Outcome Measurements

- **Short Term Improvements in Quality of Life and self rated health status**
  - SF 12 and SF 36 results
- **Short Term Financial Savings**
  - Generally achieved from reduction in utilization of services
  - PMPM savings and component savings compared to baseline
- **ROI- DM program cost compared to medical cost savings**
- **Long term outcomes have not been documented**

# So...Where are We?

- **Demonstrations are currently under way**
- **The most costly Medicare members have multiple chronic conditions. Costs will continue to increase as life expectancy increases and medical treatments improve**
- **There is clear agreement that the care of chronically ill populations needs improvement using some type of care coordination methodology**
- **Management of the chronically ill is central to long term success in Medicare**

# So...Where are We?

- **DM has not yet consistently demonstrated financial savings it has promised**
- **The day is coming when some sort of uniform methodology to measure Disease Management results will become standard operating procedure**
- **Who will take the lead in setting the standards for disease management? Industry or CMS?**

# Disease Management Trends

- **Use of technology to support the self management process**
  - Telemedicine
  - Proprietary Predictive Models
  - Electronic management of patient level monitoring results
  - Electronic Medical Records to support collaborative practice between providers
- **Automated electronic care pathways, decision support tools and medical management systems to support disease management efforts**

# Approaches to Chronic Care Management

- **Different approaches to the problem**
  - Use Disease Management or Case Management
  - Most likely a combination of both for best results
- **Disease Management**
  - Treats well defined chronic illnesses
  - Standardized clinical and self management protocols are used
- **Case Management**
  - Complex combinations of medical problems
  - Individual approach to meet specific needs of member
  - Often uses social support services along with clinical interventions

# Recommended Chronic Care Management Strategies

- **Effective Case Identification**
  - Use a combination of methods
  - Predictive models, sentinel events, physician referral, utilization, risk surveys
- **High Risk Validation**
  - Once identified, the risk level should be validated to support efficient use of resources
  - Perform comprehensive needs evaluation to determine which risk factors are amendable to intervention
  - Identify readiness to learn and motivation level
- **Risk Stratification**
  - Determine which members can receive intense management and which can receive more passive interventions
  - **Passive Management:** Reading materials, reminder programs, secondary prevention
  - **Active Management:** Employment of active, on site, collaborative interventions that include both social and clinical services

# Chronic Care Coordination Strategies

- **Management of level of care**
  - Appropriate to enrollees clinical and personal goals
  - Inpatient setting may not be necessary
- **Population based contracting strategies**
  - Where financial incentives complement care management strategies
  - Rewarding for performance
- **Use of standardized care path tools**
  - Specific to the needs of the geriatric population



# Chronic Care Coordination Strategies

- **Focus on Primary Care Physician**
  - The director and coordinator of the health care treatment plan
- **Program Sponsor (health plan) focuses on non-clinical needs to complement the clinical interventions**
  - Social and functional needs the physician does not address

# Chronic Care Coordination Strategies

- **Consider use of alternative health care professionals**
  - Where appropriate to augment the physician treatment plan
  - Nurse practitioners, Nurse Specialists, Physician home visits
- **Ongoing identification and surveillance of at risk enrollees**
  - Consider enhanced technology to continuously identify changing needs

# Chronic Care Coordination Strategies

- **Customization of the plan of care to meet individualized needs of the member**
  - Include social, functional and community service needs
- **Apply creative use of covered benefits combined with community resources and functional support services**
  - To address multiple chronic needs that go beyond skilled benefit services

# Summary

- **Disease Management offers potential opportunity to manage chronic care and control costs but does have unanswered questions**
  - Financial savings and long term outcomes are uncertain
  - Methods to measure results are highly variable
- **Costliest Medicare beneficiaries have multiple chronic diseases and functional deficits that complicate traditional DM approaches**
- **New chronic care strategies are needed to manage the unique challenges offered by the Medicare population**

- **Studies are currently underway to measure the effectiveness of DM and chronic care coordination programs**
- **MA plans need to consider program costs, outcome measurement methodologies and savings assumptions before implementing chronic care management programs**

# How To Contact Us

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