MEDICARE ADVANTAGE
The Choice of America’s Seniors

Congress created Medicare Advantage (MA) in 2003 to provide America’s seniors a convenient, coordinated option for their health coverage and to drive greater value and accountability in the Medicare program. Today, the evidence is clear: MA is working, providing exceptional coverage and care for nearly 23 million seniors. The program provides all the benefits of traditional Medicare, plus enhanced benefits, high value coverage, better health outcomes, greater transparency and superior customer experience – all at a lower price.

Seniors are choosing MA in record numbers.
MA enrollment will grow significantly, totaling 32 million by the year 2030.¹

At the same time, enrollment in traditional Medicare is slowing, down more than 400,000 people in the last year, while MA has increased 1.5 million people.²

MA serves a diverse population, covering the majority of Hispanic American seniors and nearly half of all Asian-American seniors. In addition, nearly 40% of African Americans choose MA when they turn 65.³

Choose MA over traditional Medicare

- Hispanic Americans: 55%
- Asian Americans: 45%
- African Americans: 39%

Since 2014, MA enrollment has grown by more than 40%.¹

¹ 2019 Medicare Trustees Report, Federal Hospital Insurance and Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds Boards of Trustees, https://go.cms.gov/30uicWM
² Medicare Enrollment Dashboard, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, July 2019, https://go.cms.gov/31Tr3kY
³ Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey Access to Care (2016 data), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, https://go.cms.gov/2zfPsKs
Higher Standards, Greater Transparency and Quality Coverage

MA prioritizes quality over volume — aligning incentives around caring for people by encouraging more effective, coordinated care, unlike the fragmented, fee-for-service model. Focused on quality, MA utilizes the CMS Star Ratings system to measure and publicly report plan performance. MA is the only government health program that measures and rewards high-quality, efficient, and coordinated care.

MA outperforms traditional Medicare on health outcomes:

- MA has a nearly **29% lower rate** of potentially avoidable hospitalizations.⁵
- **41% fewer** avoidable acute hospitalizations.⁵
- **18% fewer** avoidable chronic hospitalizations and higher rates of preventive tests, such as breast cancer screenings.⁵

For more information about Medicare Advantage, please contact Tricia Guay at tguay@achp.org.

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