

# Use of the US Medicare database in HIV epidemiologic and health services research

---

Xiaoying Yu, MD, PhD

Department of Biostatistics & Data Science

School of Public and Population Health

University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB)

The UCLA-CDU CFAR Clinical Science Core Clinical Discovery Seminar, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# Disclosure

---

I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation

# Acknowledgements



## Mentor team:

Yong-Fang Kuo, PhD  
Thomas P. Giordano, MD, MPH  
Mukaila Raji, MD

Building Interdisciplinary  
Research Careers in  
Women's Health

**K12HD052023;**  
**Berenson**



## Mentor team:

Scott Letendre, MD  
Erin Sundermann, PhD  
Qing Ma, PharmD, PhD

**R25MH108389; Letendre/Moore/Sundermann**

Comparative Effectiveness Research on Cancer in Texas (RP210130;  
**Kuo**)



**P30 AG024832; Volpi**



Texas Developmental  
Center for  
AIDS Research

**TX D-CFAR**

**P30AI161943; Giordano**



**P30AG059301; Markides**

## Programming support:

Jordan R. Westra, MPH

**All my colleagues  
and collaborators**



Family

# Outline

---

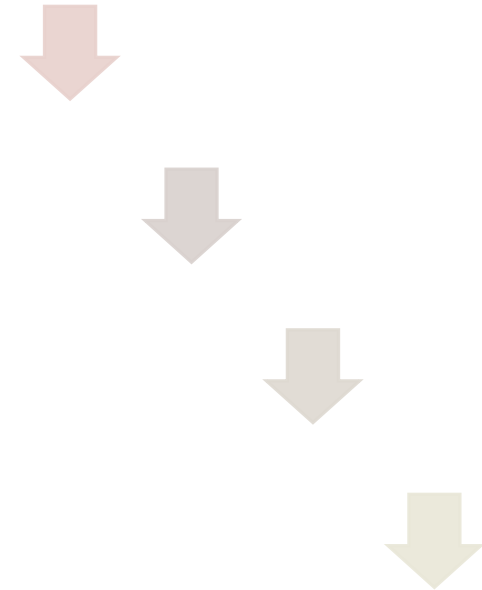
Background

Introduction to Medicare databases

Questions/discussion

One example for HIV research

Questions/discussion



# Background

---

**Former physician in China**

**Received statistical training (MS 2003, PhD 2015)**

**Supported CFAR at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM, 2006-2016)**

**Joined UTMB in 2017**

- ✓ **Continued the collaboration with HIV researchers at BCM**
- ✓ **Support aging programs at UTMB**
- ✓ **Interested in collaborative and independent research on HIV and aging**
  - **BIRCWH training (2020-2022)**
  - **UCSD STAHR scholar (2021-current)**

# Why use Medicare data to conduct HIV research?

---

- ❑ People with HIV (PWH) are getting older (53.5% reached 50 in 2021)<sup>1</sup>
- ❑ Studies from longitudinal HIV cohorts (e.g., MWCCS, VACS, HAILO) provided rich information<sup>2-4</sup>
  - ✓ Relatively small number of older PWH (especially 65+)
- ❑ US Medicare data is a population-based database
  - ✓ 98% of elderly Americans are Medicare enrollees (65M in 2022)<sup>5</sup>

1. CDC. HIV Surveillance Report, 2021; vol. 34. <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html>.

2. <https://statepi.jhsph.edu/mwccs/>;

3. <https://www.vacsp.research.va.gov/CSPEC/Studies/INVESTD-R/Veteran-Aging-Cohort-Study.asp>

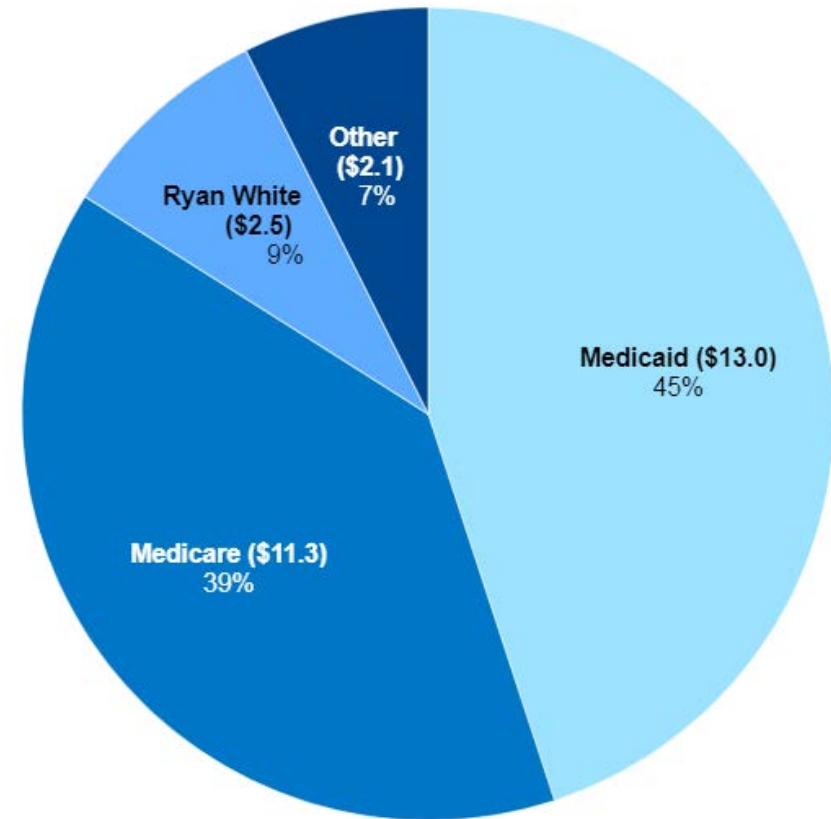
4. <https://actgnetwork.org/clinical-trial/a5322-long-term-follow-up-of-older-hiv-infected-adults-in-the-actg-addressing-issues-of-aging-hiv-infection-and-inflammation-hailo-2/>;

5. <https://data.cms.gov/infographic/medicare-beneficiaries-at-a-glance>

# Why use Medicare data to conduct HIV research?

In 2020:

- ✓ Medicare is the second largest source of federal financing for the care and treatment of PWH
- ✓ Covers 28% of adults with HIV per CDC HIV surveillance report

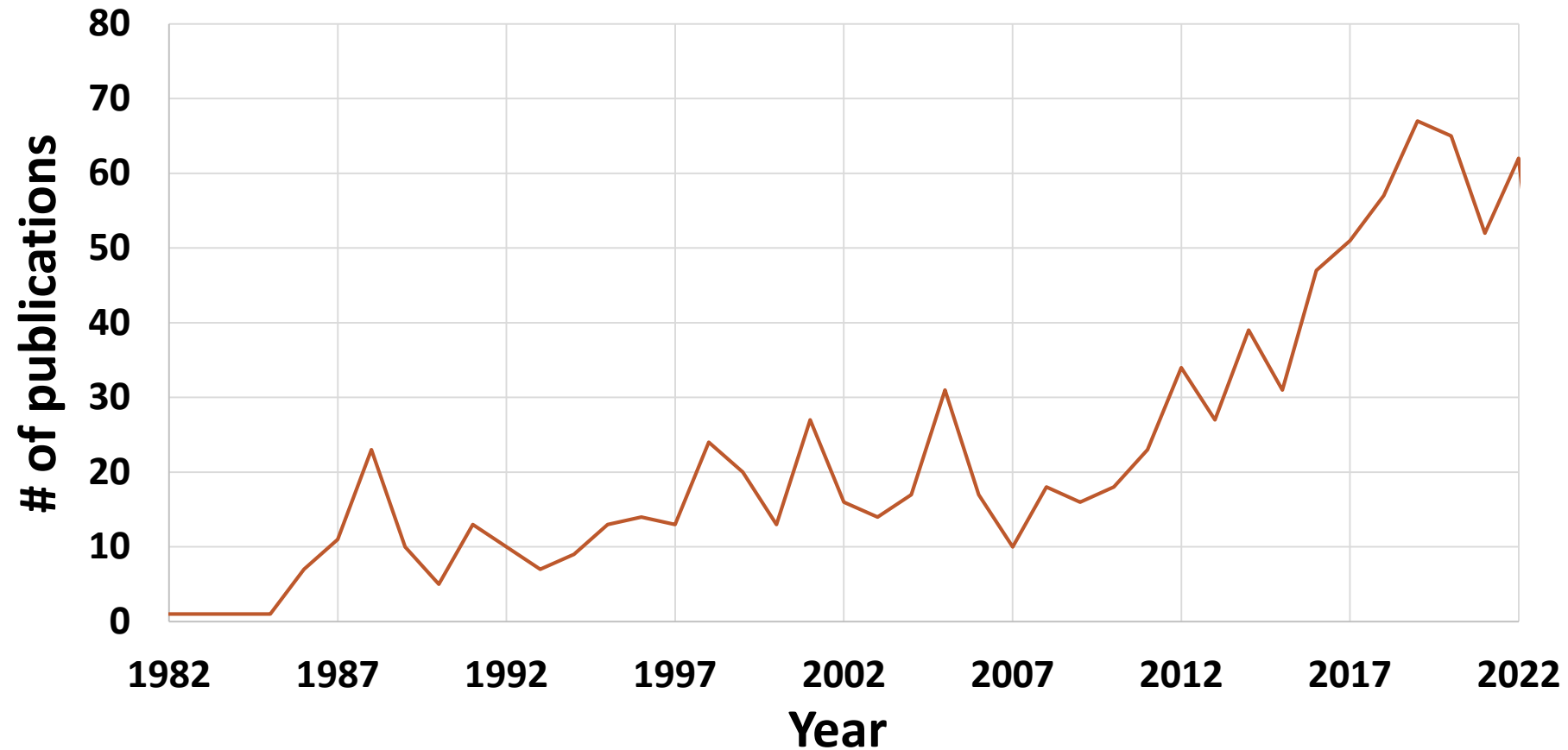


<https://www.kff.org/hivaids/issue-brief/medicare-and-people-with-hiv/>

CDC MMP 2020 HIV Surveillance Special Report 29. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html>

# Growing interest in using Medicare data for HIV research

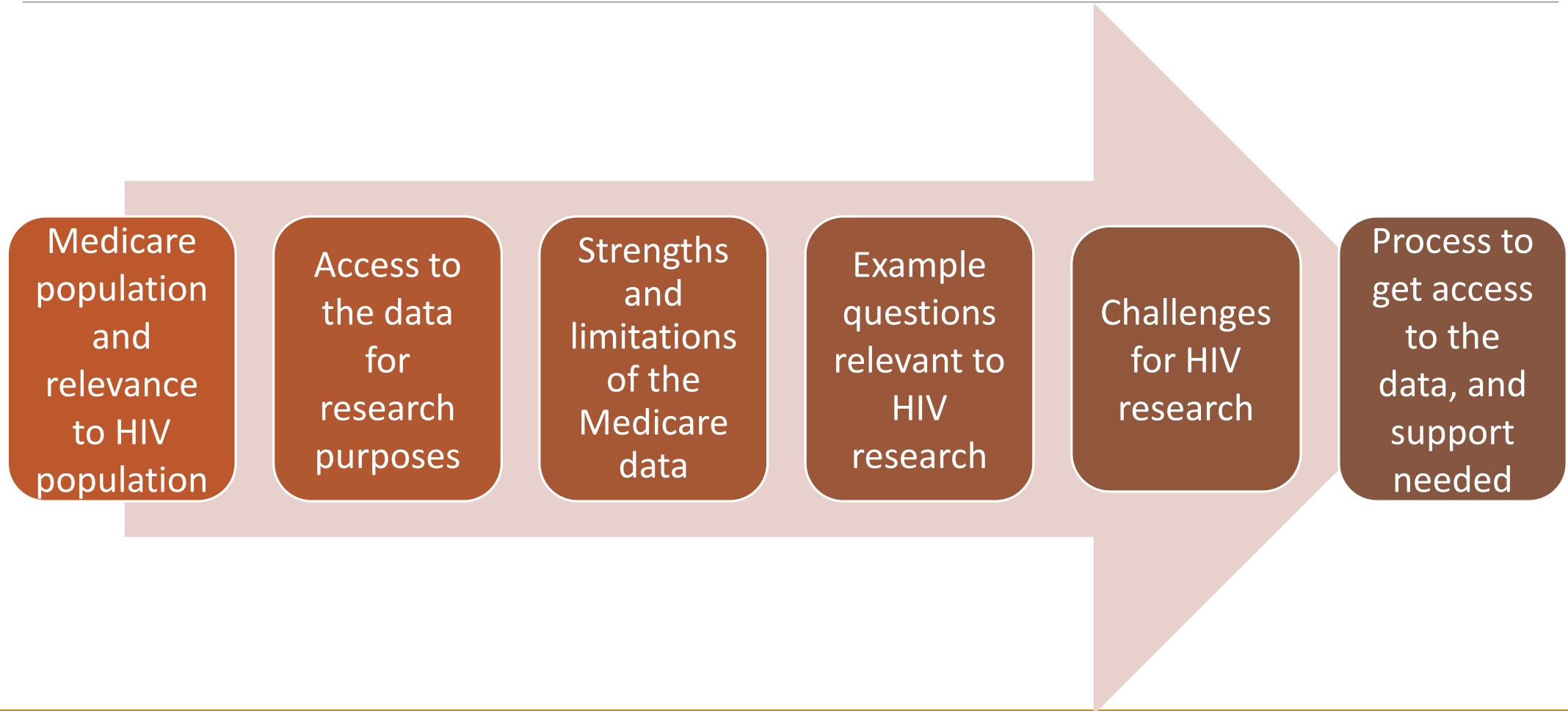
---





# Introduction to Medicare databases

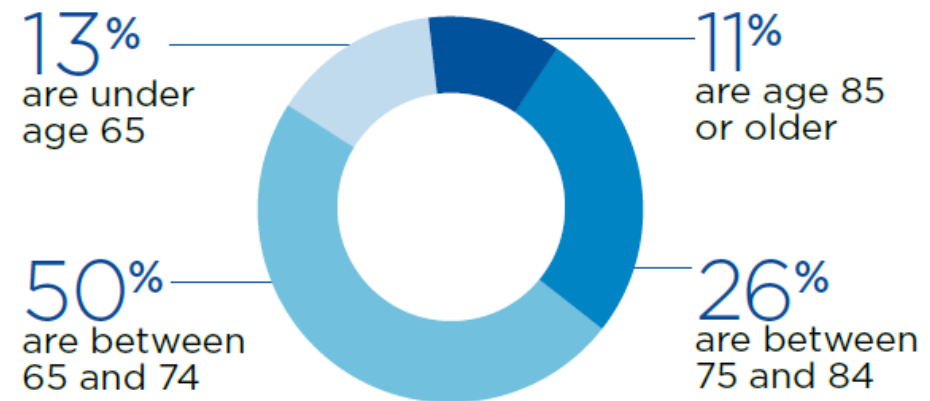
---



# Medicare population

---

- ❑ Elderly: 65 years and older
- ❑ Disability: <65 years old
- ❑ End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)
- ❑ Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) or Lou Gehrig's Disease



Those under 65 years old at enrollment will automatically qualify for old age when turning 65 years old

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Eligibility-and-Enrollment/>

Center for Medicare & Medicaid Service (CMS) 2020

# Medicare population with disability

---

## ❑ Definition for disability

The inability to do any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months

## ❑ Disability benefits

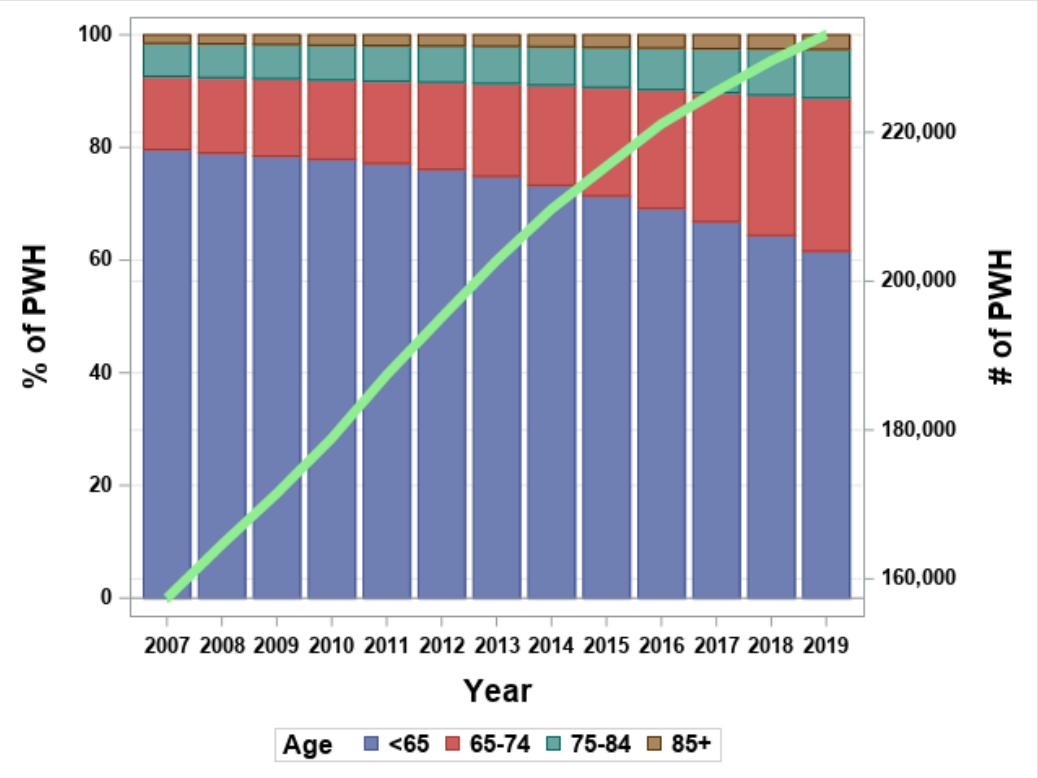
- ✓ Wait 5 months before receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefit
- ✓ Enrollment in Medicare: Medicare benefits start 24 months after disability benefits start

## ❑ For ESRD and ALS, Medicare benefit starts at time of diagnosis

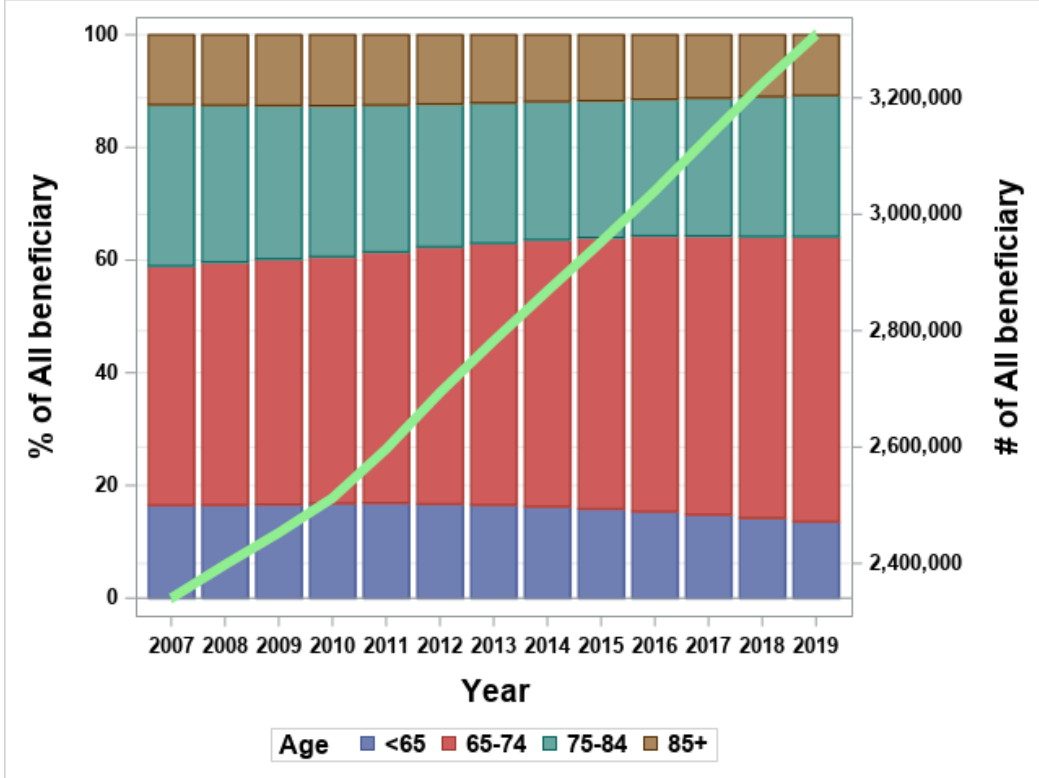
- <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Eligibility-and-Enrollment/>
- Social Security Administration. Definition of Disability. [https://www.ssa.gov/OP\\_Home/cfr20/404/404-1505.htm](https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/cfr20/404/404-1505.htm)
- Social Security Administration. Disability Benefits. <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability/approval.html>

# Majority of PWH are <65 and aging groups grow faster

### PWH

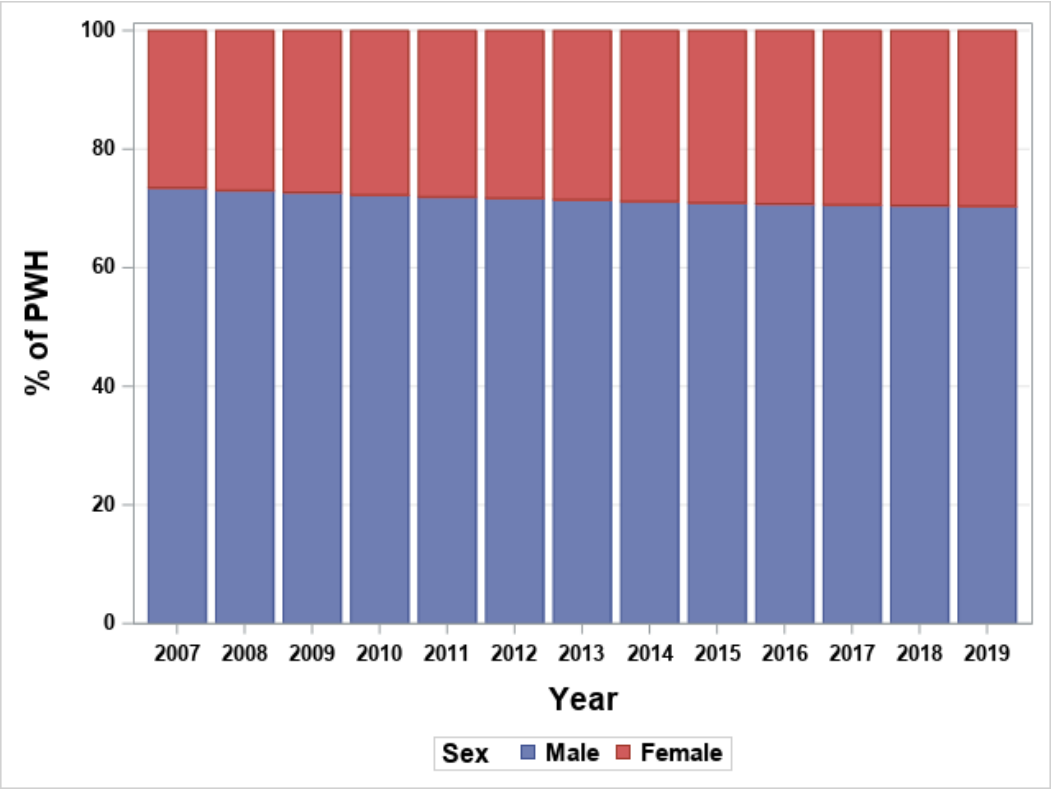


### 5% National Sample

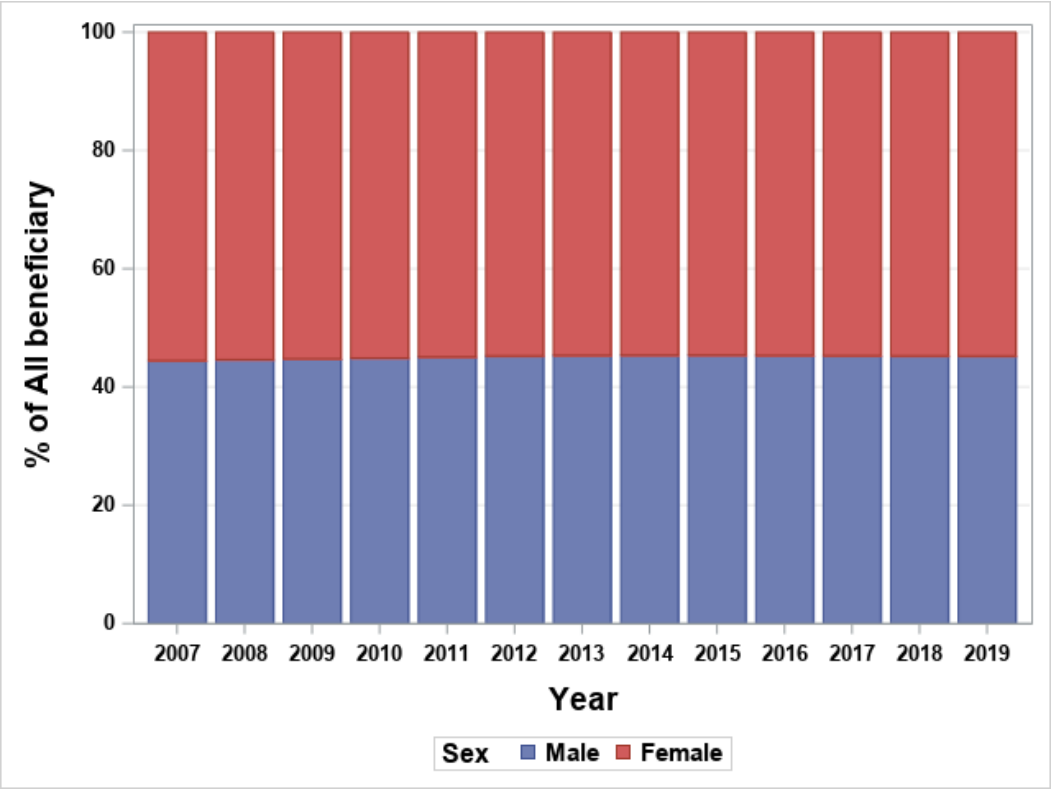


# Majority of PWH are males

### PWH

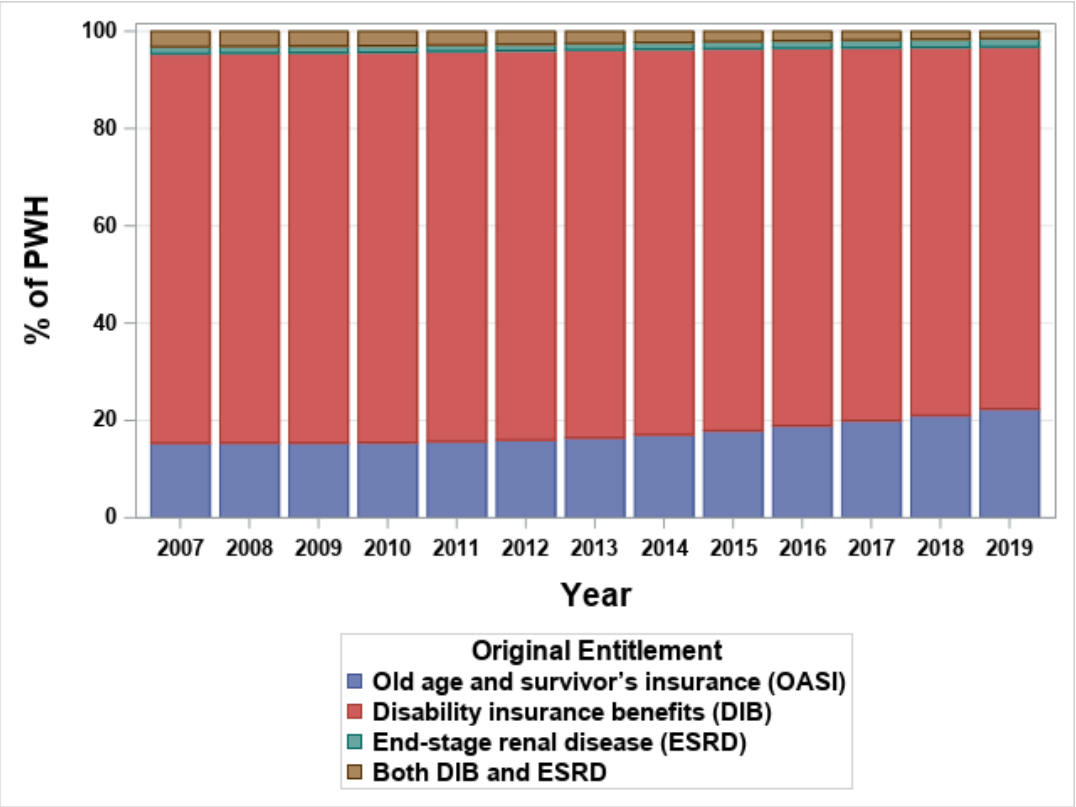


### 5% National Sample

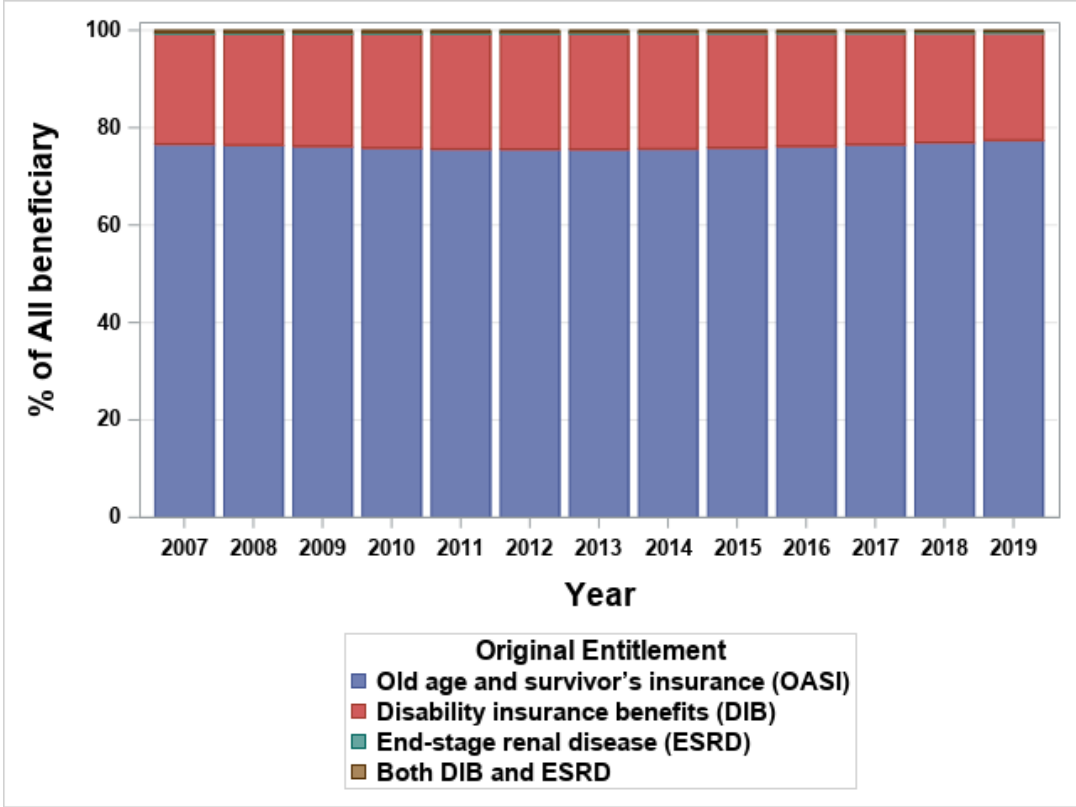


# Majority of PWH have a disability

### PWH

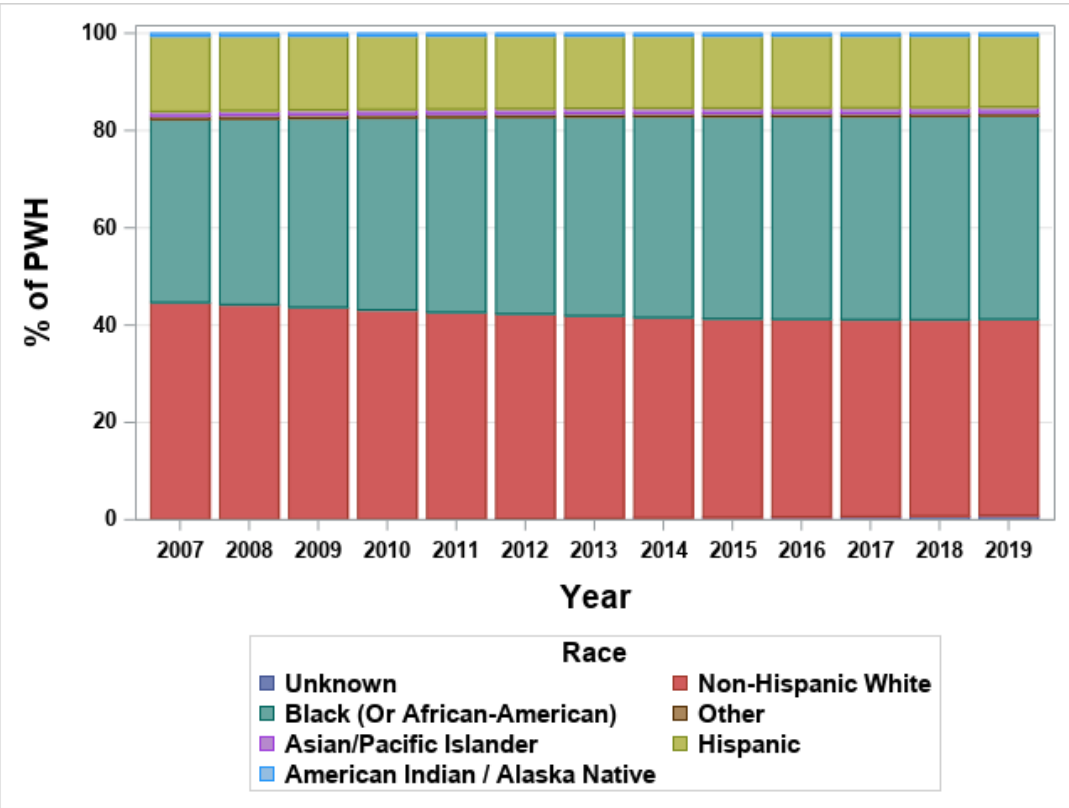


### 5% National Sample

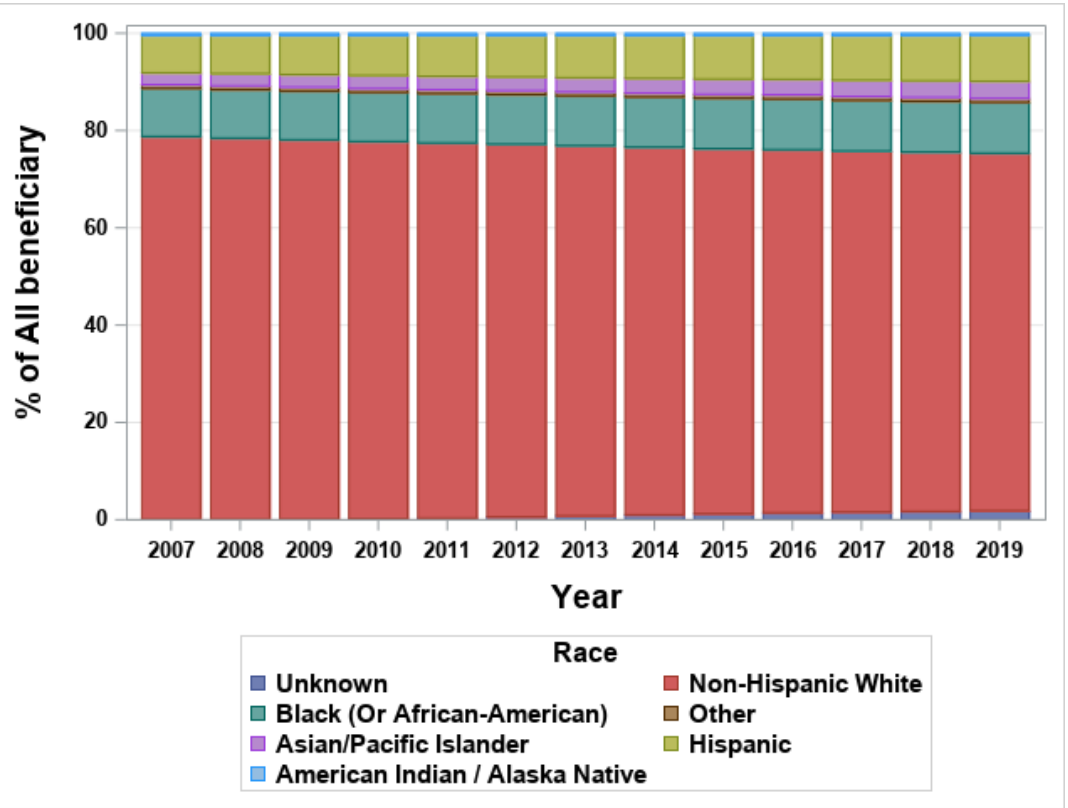


# More Black and Hispanic among PWH

**PWH**

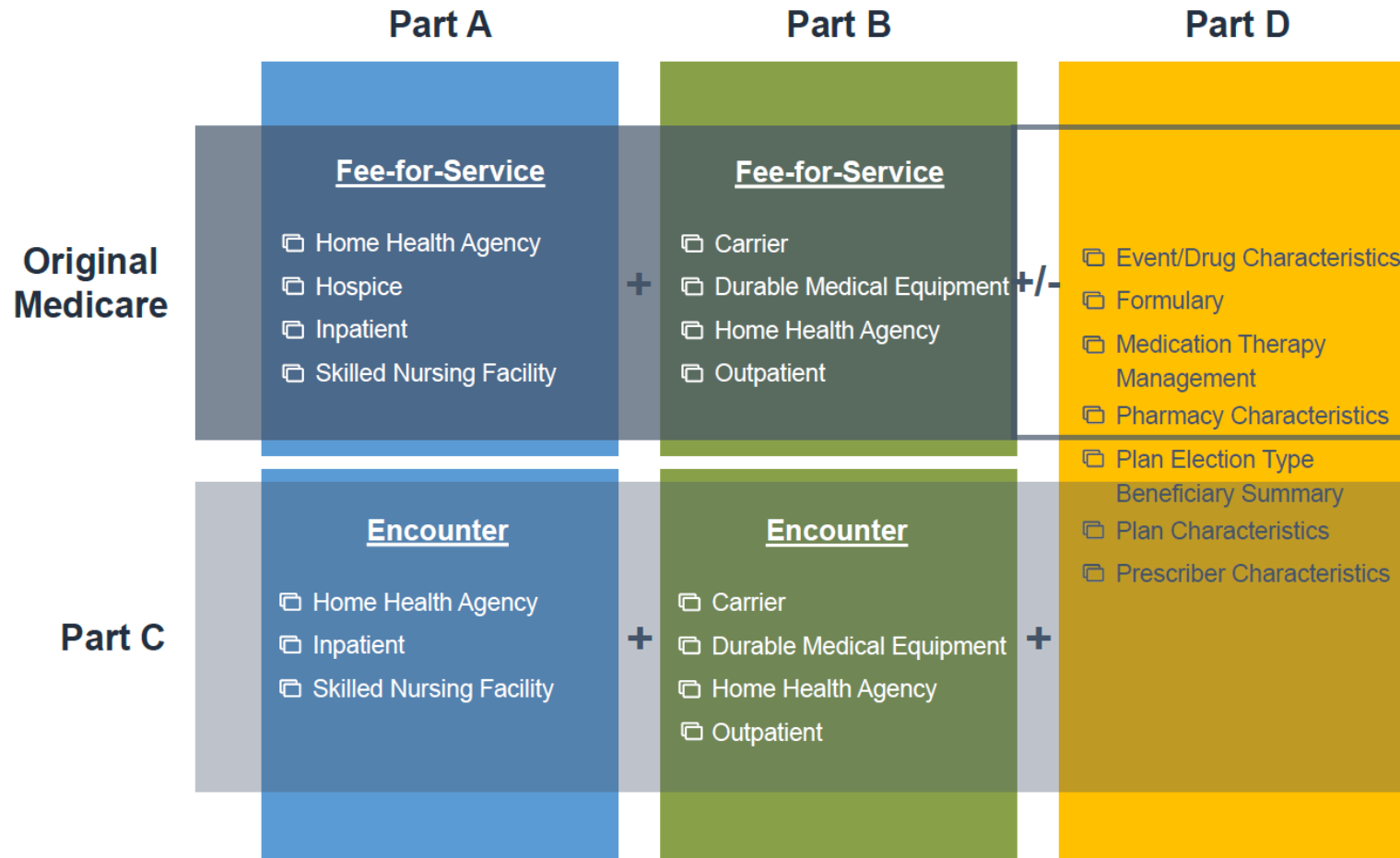


**5% National Sample**



Enhanced race/ethnicity designation based on first and last name algorithms developed by Research Triangle Institute

# Medicare programs



## Fee-for-Service (FFS)

- ✓ Providers submit bills to CMS for services provided
- ✓ Payments are based on standard fee schedules

## Part C – Medicare Advantage

- ✓ Pay extras not covered in FFS
- ✓ Encounter data reported to CMS
- ✓ Payments to provider are on a capitated basis
- ✓ Data for research was released since 2015

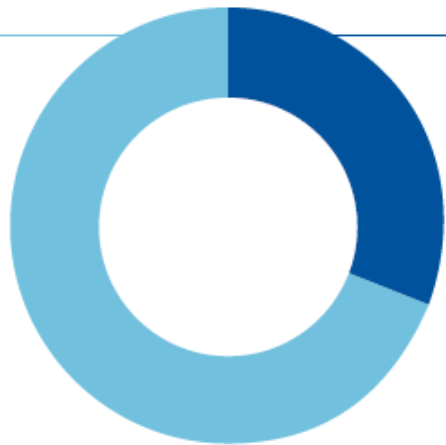
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eMFn3BmBarM>
- <https://resdac.org/videos/overview-history-and-structure-medicare-advantage-and-comparison-ffs-and-ma-enrollees>



# Medicare programs

---

60%  
are in the  
Medicare  
Fee-For-  
Service  
(FFS)  
program



40%  
are in the  
Medicare  
Advantage  
(MA)  
program



75%  
of Medicare beneficiaries  
also have Part D coverage

Center for Medicare & Medicaid Service (CMS) 2020



# Assistance to people with low income

## ❑ State buy-in

State Medicaid programs can pay Medicare premiums for certain dual eligibles (this action is called “buying in”)

## ❑ Part D low-income subsidy (LIS)

Covers some or all of those costs for certain low income individuals, including deductibles and cost-sharing during the coverage gap (74% of PWH in 2020)

- CMS 101 Medicare Data workshop: Introduction to the Use of Medicare Data for Research
- <https://www.kff.org/hiv/aids/issue-brief/medicare-and-people-with-hiv/>

Research files (Yearly)	Type of information	Available fields (selected, all files can be linked by BENE_ID)
Master beneficiary Summary files (MBSF base & NDI)	Demographics and enrollment	Age, <b>date of birth</b> , sex, race, place of residence (state, county and <b>zip code</b> ), <b>date of death</b> and cause of death (available through NDI segment), and indicators in enrollment in part A, B, C, D, Medicaid, and LIS
MBSF chronic conditions segments	Chronic/disabling conditions	Indicators of 62 chronic conditions or potentially disabling conditions (65, 2017 forward): <b>first ever occurrence date and flags of condition</b> in the calendar year based on the CCW algorithms
Part A files	Diagnosis and service (hospital)	Admission date, discharge date, diagnosis codes (DRG, ICD-9/ICD-10 codes, procedure codes (CPT/HCPCS), physician/provider codes (UPIN, NPI), charge data
Part B files	Diagnosis and service (Physician)	Date of service, diagnosis codes (ICD-9/ICD-10 codes, procedure codes (CPT/HCPCS), physician codes, charge data
Part D event file (2006-2021)	Prescription filled	fill date, <b>NDC codes</b> , quantity dispensed, days supply, gross drug cost, out-of-pocket cost, benefit phase, prescriber identifiers, pharmacy identifier

**NDI**: National Death Index; **CCW**: Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse; **DRG**: Diagnosis-related group; **UPIN**: Unique Physician Identifier; **NPI**: National Provider Identifier; **NDC**: National Drug Code

Check data availability for the year and data dictionary: <https://www2.ccw2.com/guest/data-dictionaries>

# Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse website. It features a dark teal background with white text. On the right side, there are links for "My CCW Login (Authorized Users Only)", "FAQ", and "Help". The main header area is split into two sections: on the left, the title "Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse" is displayed in a large, bold, dark blue font, with the subtitle "Your source for national CMS Medicare and Medicaid research data" in a smaller, lighter blue font below it. On the right, there is a white search bar with the placeholder text "Search..." and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is a horizontal navigation menu with teal background and white text, containing links for "Home", "Medicare Data", "Medicaid Data", "Data Dictionaries", "Condition Categories", "Analytic Guidance", and "Pricing", each followed by a small downward-pointing triangle indicating a dropdown menu.

[Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse](#) » [Home](#)

- Provides researchers with Medicare and Medicaid beneficiary, claims, and assessment data linked by beneficiary across the continuum of care
- A research database designed to make Medicare, Medicaid, Assessments, Part C, and Part D Prescription Drug Event data more readily available to support research designed to improve the quality of care and reduce costs and utilization

<https://www2.ccwdata.org/web/guest/home/>

# Overview of file difference by privacy level

	Public Use File	Limited Data Sets	Research Identifiable
<b>Requires Privacy Board Review?</b>	No	No	Yes
<b>Requires a Data Use Agreement?</b>	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Files include beneficiary-level data?</b>	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Researchers may request customized cohorts (e.g. Diabetics residing in MN)?</b>	No	No	Yes
<b>Data can be linked at beneficiary level to non-CMS data using a beneficiary identifier?</b>	No	No	Yes[1]
<b>Claim run off period[2]</b>	NA	Annual file: 6-month run off Quarterly file: 3-month run off	Annual file: 12-month run off Quarterly file: 3-month run off

[1] The inclusion of patient identifiers linkable to outside data requires CMS approval. Without this approval, the RIF patient identifiers are not linkable to outside data.

[2] More detailed information about the runoff periods and availability are found in the articles, "[RIF Medicare Quarterly Data](#)" and "[Medicare Limited Data Set \(LDS\) Quarterly Claims and Enrollment Data](#)".

<https://resdac.org/articles/differences-between-rif-lds-and-puf-data-files#:~:text=The%20difference%2C%20however%2C%20between%20RIF,or%205%25%20random%20sample%20file>

# Medicare standard analytic files (SAFs)

---

- ❑ 5% or 20% sample of Medicare beneficiaries
  - ✓ Beneficiaries are selected for inclusion in the database based on the last 2 digits of their health insurance claim number, which, in the vast majority of cases, is their social security number
- ❑ 100% of Medicare beneficiaries (generally limited to specific disease cohorts, for example, all people with HIV)
- ❑ 100% of Medicare beneficiaries for a state

# Disease-specific Medicare datasets and linkages

---

Additional survey data, disease-specific databases, and linked databases with access to more detailed information regarding health care utilization and clinical characteristics of Medicare beneficiaries

- ✓ Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey
- ✓ United States Renal Data System
- ✓ SEER-Medicare

<https://www.cms.gov/research-statistics-data-and-systems/research/mcbs>

<https://resdac.org/articles/data-resources-studying-end-stage-renal-disease-esrd>

<https://www.niddk.nih.gov/about-niddk/strategic-plans-reports/usrds>

<https://healthcaredelivery.cancer.gov/seermedicare/overview/>

# Strengths of the Medicare data

---

- ❑ Nearly complete coverage for older population: 98% of US individuals aged  $\geq 65$  years receive Medicare (65M+ US individuals as of 2022)
- ❑ Longitudinal information on health care services: Once individuals are enrolled in Medicare, they are typically followed until death
- ❑ Reflect near-complete capture of health care services across all settings of care: The data can be used to answer a wide range of health care-related questions
- ❑ Demographic data, such as age, date of birth, race, place of residence and date of death are considered largely reliable and valid: Can serve as denominator file
- ❑ Convenient linkage to external data sources: US Census, survey, cancer registries, other providers, etc.

<https://resdac.org/articles/strengths-and-limitations-cms-administrative-data-research>

Turrini G et al. PLoS One. 2020. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0241833.



# Limitations of the Medicare data

---

- ❑ Contain record of cares received and conditions can be underdiagnosed
- ❑ Lack information on behavioral characteristics, physiological measures, laboratory tests and results of diagnostic tests and disease severity indicators
- ❑ Diseases are typically defined in Medicare data by the presence of a diagnostic code and prone to misclassification
- ❑ Impact of changes in CMS policy (ex., ICD-9-CM code switched to ICD-10-CM in October 2015)
- ❑ It is difficult to conduct longitudinal studies on the entire Medicare population (data availability on beneficiaries covered by Medicare Advantage plans)
- ❑ Medicare data for beneficiaries aged <65 years are not representative of the age-matched national population

<https://resdac.org/articles/strengths-and-limitations-cms-administrative-data-research>

Turrini G et al. PLoS One. 2020. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0241833.

# Example questions relevant to HIV research

---

- ❑ Understanding the epidemiology of HIV and chronic conditions (prevalence, incidence, trend over time)
- ❑ Describing treatment utilization patterns and the delivery of HIV health care services
- ❑ Comparing the effectiveness, safety, and costs of HIV medications and treatments
- ❑ Studying the effects of policy changes on prescribing patterns and clinical outcomes for PWH

# Challenges for HIV research

---

- ❑ It is challenging to ascertain the timing of first HIV diagnosis and incident conditions
  - Apply an 'observation' period
- ❑ Lack of information on risk behaviors among PWH and lab test results such as, CD4 counts and viral load data
  - Link external datasets (e.g., census data) to the Medicare by zip code
- ❑ PWH can receive medications outside the Medicare program. Non-FDA approved drugs were not covered
  - Interpret your results appropriately

# Challenges for HIV research

---

- ❑ It is challenging to understand what services/treatments/drugs are covered by Medicare and policy changes
  - Consult with clinician and who are familiar with billing and policies
- ❑ Need advanced statistical methods to handle complex analytical issues
  - Control measured confounding (e.g., matching, propensity methods)
  - Address unmeasured confounding (e.g., instrumental variable methods)
  - Address misclassification (e.g., sensitivity analysis using various algorithms)

# Process to get access to the data

## ☐ Researcher (1,3,6)

- ✓ Proposal
- ✓ DUA
- ✓ Payment

## ☐ ResDAC (2,4)

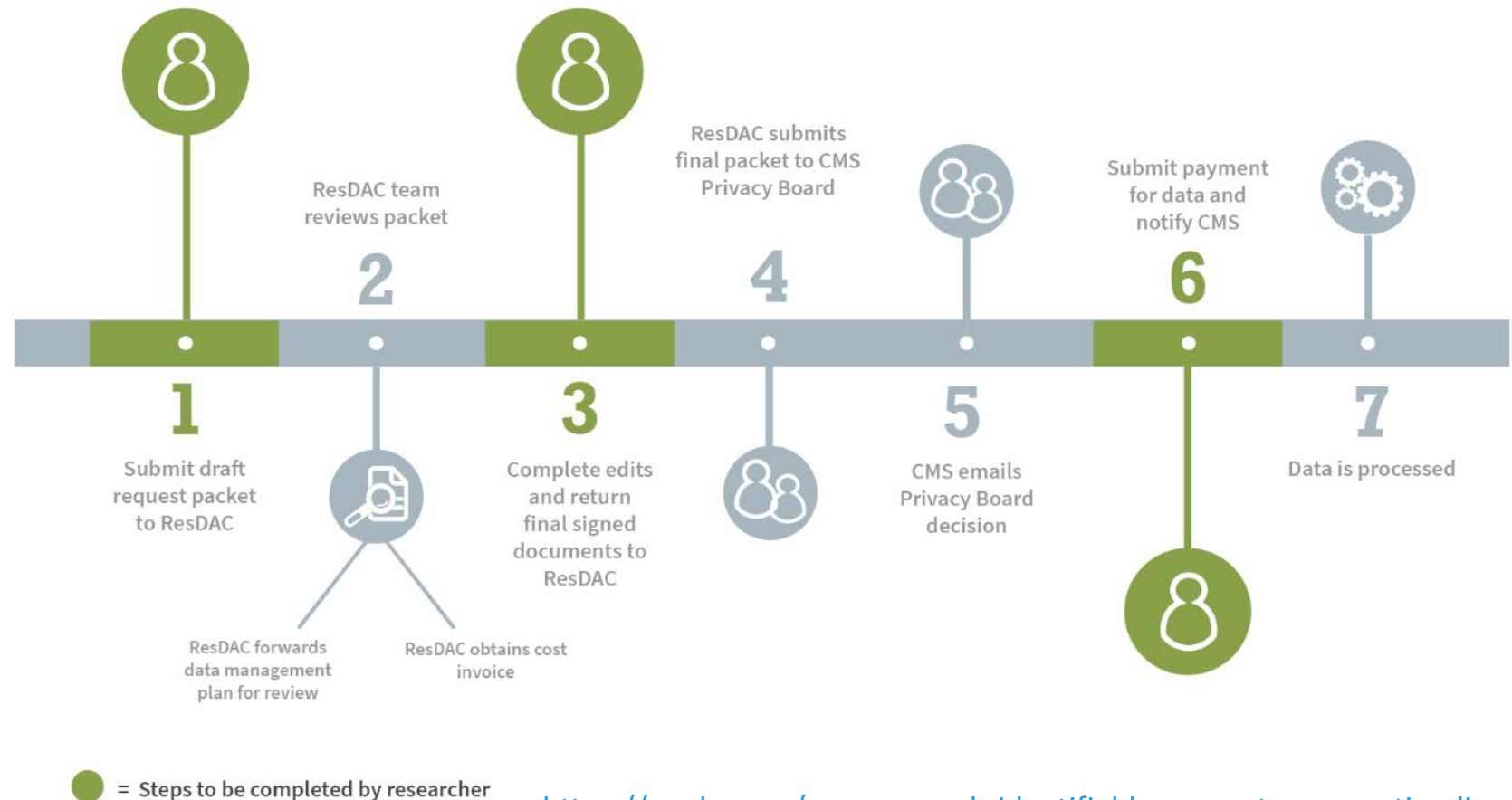
- ✓ Technical support for the submission
- ✓ Estimate the cost

## ☐ CMS (5)

- ✓ Review and approve the application

## ☐ CCW (7)

- ✓ Process data
- ✓ Data access



<https://resdac.org/cms-research-identifiable-request-process-timeline>

# Access format and cost

Type	Cost
Physical files*	Fees are per year of data and vary based on beneficiary count and file type
CCW Virtual Research	Based on seat access, project fee, software, space/usage cost
Data Center (VRDC)	Ex., 1 seat, 1 project, SAS only, and no extra space → \$35,000 (initial), \$23,000 (renewal), for one-year access

\* Institution needs to complete a Data Management Plan Self-Attestation Questionnaire (DMP SAQ) to demonstrate compliance and preparedness with CMS security and privacy requirements

<https://resdac.org/cms-fee-information-research-identifiable-data>

# Support needed to be able to manage and analyze Medicare data

---

- ❑ Administrative support for data access requests and revisions, need designated custodian
- ❑ Institution IT support, IRB (NOT exempt research)
- ❑ Training on Medicare data (ResDAC) and utilization of VRDC (CCW)
- ❑ Data management (combine complex files, construct the cohort and create all analytical variables)
- ❑ Statistical support to employ advanced analytical methods



Questions/Comments...



# Example to use Medicare data for HIV research



## HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

*AIDS*. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2022 August 01.

Published in final edited form as:

*AIDS*. 2021 August 01; 35(10): 1667–1675. doi:10.1097/QAD.0000000000002963.

## Assessing comorbidities and survival in HIV-infected and uninfected matched Medicare enrollees

Xiaoying Yu, MD, PhD<sup>1,2</sup>, Jordan R. Westra, MPH<sup>1</sup>, Thomas P. Giordano, MD, MPH<sup>3,4</sup>, Abbey B. Berenson, MD, PhD<sup>2,5</sup>, Jacques G. Baillargeon, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Yong-Fang Kuo, PhD<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Office of Biostatistics, Department of Preventive Medicine and Population Health, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX, USA

<sup>2</sup> Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Women's Health, The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, TX, USA

# Background

---

- ❑ People with HIV experience excessive mortality compared with people without HIV (PWOH)<sup>1,2</sup>
- ❑ Age-related comorbidities have become more prevalent in PWH
- ❑ Only one large study used the Medicare dataset to extensively examine the comorbidities and mortality of all older PWH (≥65 years old between 2011-2016, N=43,708) and compared them to a 1% sample of PWOH<sup>3</sup>
- ❑ It is unclear whether the impact of HIV infection on mortality varies by comorbidities or whether sex difference exists in this relationship
- ❑ There are limited data on enrollees who qualify for Medicare because of disability despite they comprise majority of the PWH in Medicare program

1. de Coninck Z, et al. AIDS Patient Care STDS 2018; 32(8):297-305.; 2. Legarth RA, et al.. J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr 2016; 71(2):213-218.; 3. Turrini G et al. PLoS One 2020; 15(11):e0241833..

# Objective

---

Assess the effect of newly diagnosed HIV infection on overall mortality among Medicare enrollees who qualify for disability and old age ( $\geq 65$ )

---

Examined sex differences in baseline comorbidities and the impact of HIV infection on mortality

---

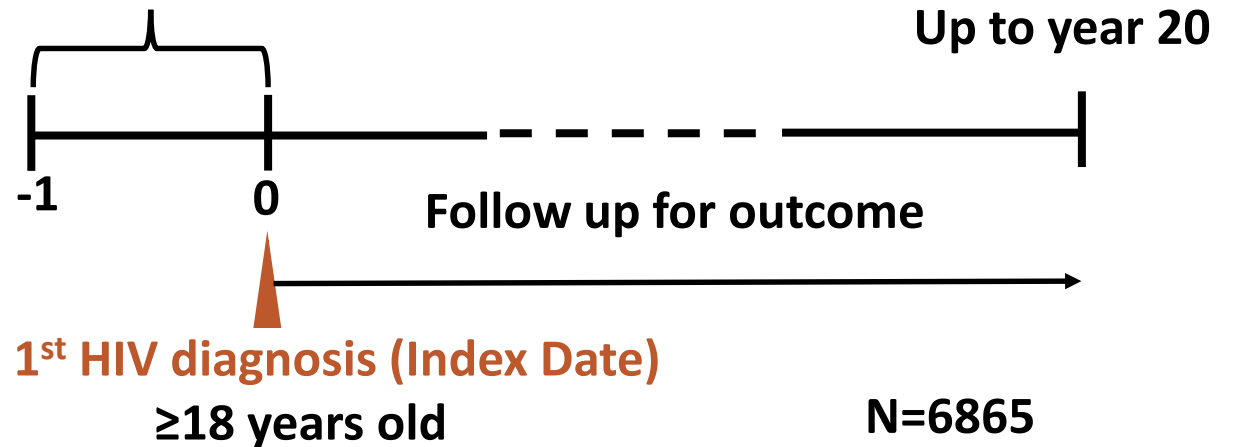
Explore baseline comorbidities interacting with HIV infection on outcomes

# Data source and HIV cohort

**5% national sample** of Medicare beneficiaries between 1995 and 2015 (Master Beneficiary Summary Files and claim files for each year)

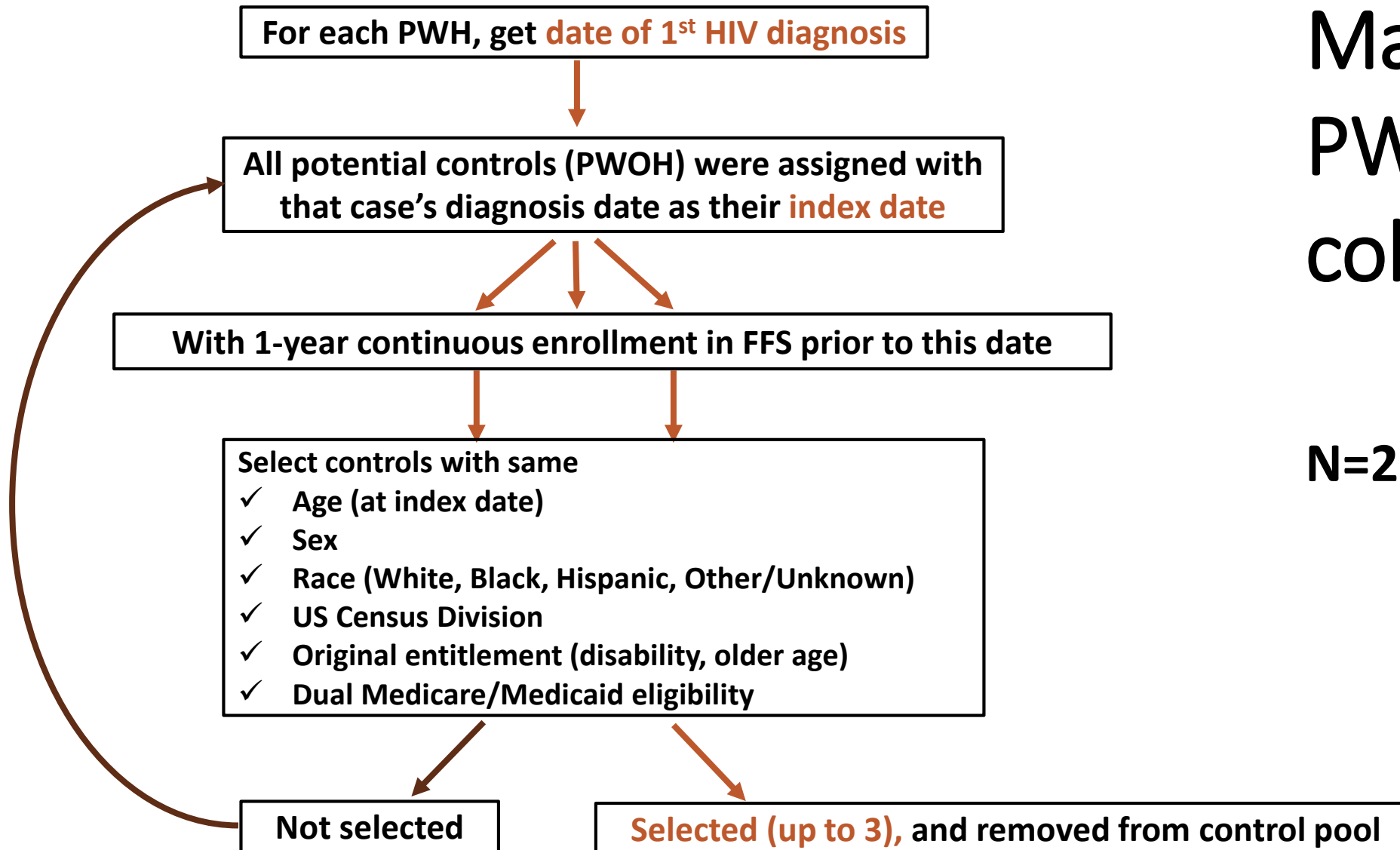
- ✓ Newly diagnosed HIV patients by ICD-9-CM/ICD-10-CM (1 on inpatient claim, or 2 outpatient/Carrier claims)
- ✓ Have at least 1 year of continuous enrollment in Medicare parts A and B with no HMO enrollment (FFS) prior to 1<sup>st</sup> HIV diagnosis

Continuously enrolled in FFS  
No HIV diagnosis



# Matched PWOH cohort

**N=20358**



# Statistical analysis

---

**Outcome: All-cause mortality and time to death/censoring** (beneficiaries were censored at the end of the study period (December 31, 2015) or final loss of coverage)

**All analyses were stratified by disability status and sex**

- ✓ Baseline comorbidities included in **Elixhauser comorbidity index**.  
**Hypertension** and **diabetes** were examined as two individual covariates (High prevalence and individual effect has been under-studied)
- ✓ Unadjusted survival curves by HIV status were obtained using the **Kaplan-Meier method**
- ✓ **Hazard ratio (HR)** and 95% confidence intervals (CI), **stratified results by comorbidity levels**

# Demographics

- ✓ Only PWH were presented due to individual matching on these variables
- ✓ Females were older than males, especially among 65+
- ✓ Race make up was similar except for more Black persons among older males, fewer Black persons among males with disability
- ✓ More females had Medicaid Dual Eligibility

Medicare original entitlement		Disabled		Older Age	
Sex	Level	Male N (%)	Female N (%)	Male N (%)	Female N (%)
Sample size		3,313	1,558	1,064	930
Mean (SD)		47.4 (11.7)	48.3 (12.9)	73.3 (6.3)	76.7 (7.4)
Age at Index Date	18-39	888 (26.8)	417 (26.8)		
	40-49	1,097 (33.1)	439 (28.2)		
	50-59	773 (23.3)	400 (25.7)		
	60-69	443 (13.4)	221 (14.2)	370 (34.8)	194 (20.9)
	70-79	97 (2.9)	64 (4.1)	516 (48.5)	437 (47.0)
	80+	15 (0.5)	17 (1.1)	178 (16.7)	299 (32.2)
Race	Black	1,487 (44.9)	811 (52.1)	289 (27.2)	204 (21.9)
	Hispanic	212 (6.4)	89 (5.7)	57 (5.4)	82 (8.8)
	Other/Unknown	150 (4.5)	64 (4.1)	39 (3.7)	41 (4.4)
	White	1,464 (44.2)	594 (38.1)	679 (63.8)	603 (64.8)
US Census Division	East North Central	335 (10.1)	183 (11.7)	139 (13.1)	132 (14.2)
	East South Central	190 (5.7)	71 (4.6)	43 (4.0)	38 (4.1)
	Middle Atlantic	636 (19.2)	300 (19.3)	216 (20.3)	174 (18.7)
	Mountain	91 (2.7)	31 (2.0)	34 (3.2)	26 (2.8)
	New England	173 (5.2)	54 (3.5)	31 (2.9)	20 (2.2)
	Pacific	480 (14.5)	175 (11.2)	157 (14.8)	95 (10.2)
	South Atlantic	969 (29.2)	538 (34.5)	314 (29.5)	325 (34.9)
	West North Central	88 (2.7)	37 (2.4)	32 (3.0)	30 (3.2)
	West South Central	351 (10.6)	169 (10.8)	98 (9.2)	90 (9.7)
Medicaid Dual Eligibility (Yes)		2,020 (61.0)	1,141 (73.2)	268 (25.2)	341 (36.7)
Index Year	1995-2000	1,056 (31.9)	367 (23.6)	231 (21.7)	206 (22.2)
	2001-2005	800 (24.1)	341 (21.9)	215 (20.2)	179 (19.2)
	2006-2010	837 (25.3)	463 (29.7)	375 (35.2)	354 (38.1)
	2011-2015	620 (18.7)	387 (24.8)	243 (22.8)	191 (20.5)

# Baseline comorbidities

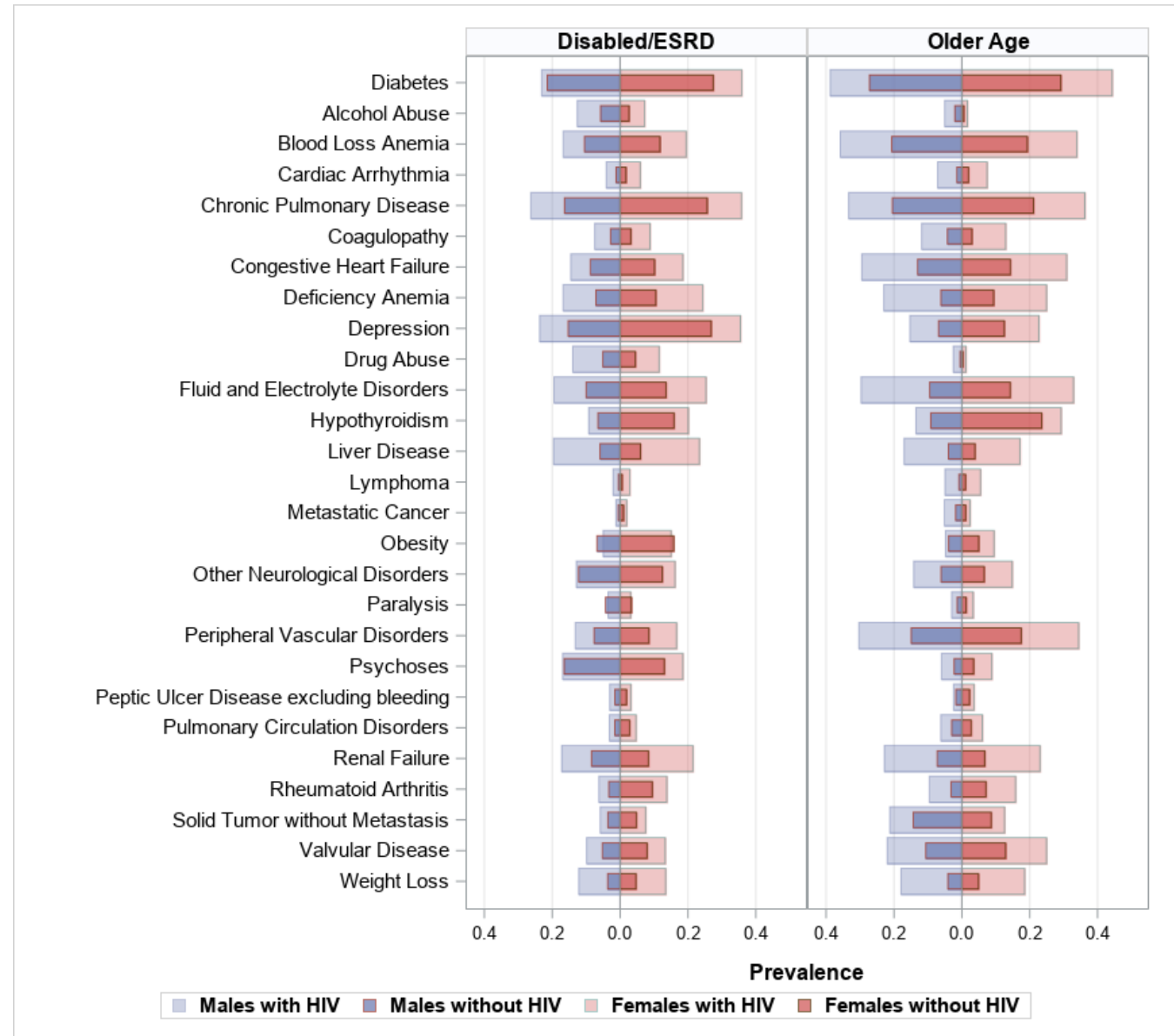
In general, older age group has higher prevalence except for obesity, depression and drug abuse

The order of prevalence:

- ✓ 1 Female PWH (highest)
- ✓ 2 Male PWH
- ✓ 3 Female PWOH
- ✓ 4 Male PWOH (lowest)

Exceptions:

- ✓ Males had more alcohol/drug abuse, cancer/tumor

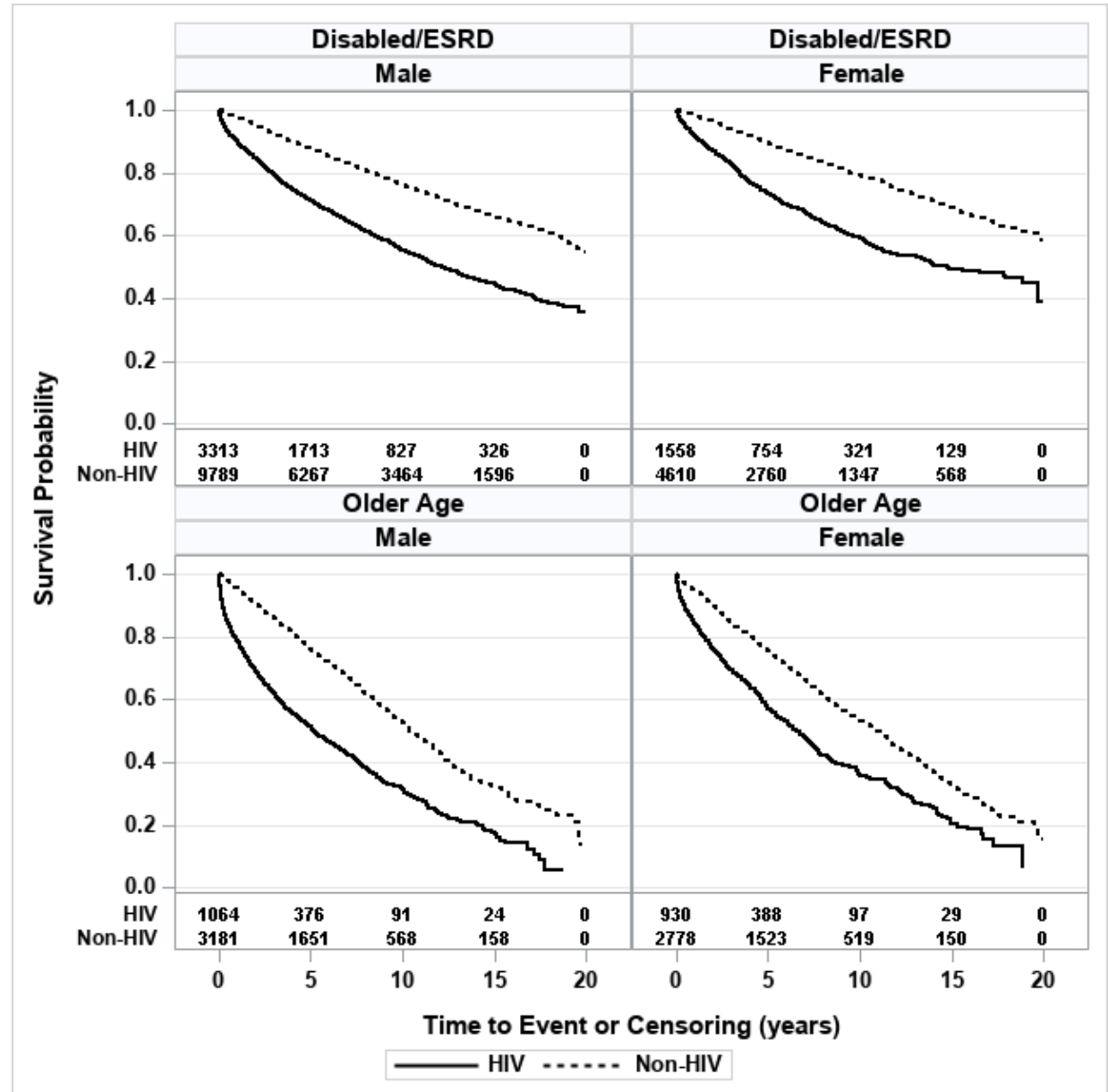




# Survival

- ❑ Lower survival for PWH
- ❑ Lower survival among males
- ❑ **Larger difference in males especially among older age group (HIV-sex interaction  $p=0.004$ )** by Cox proportional hazard models adjusting for the baseline covariates and comorbidities.

A difference of 4-5 years in median survival time among the older age groups



# Impact of comorbidities (adjusted hazard ratio)

Comorbidities	Level	Disabled				Older Age			
		Male		Female		Male		Female	
		HR (95% CI)	p	HR (95% CI)	p	HR (95% CI)	p	HR (95% CI)	p
Hypertension	No	2.43 (2.21, 2.68)	<0.0001	2.44 (2.03, 2.94)	<0.0001	1.91 (1.59, 2.29)	0.06	1.42 (1.11, 1.82)	0.38
	Yes	1.37 (1.23, 1.53)		1.42 (1.22, 1.65)		1.55 (1.36, 1.76)		1.25 (1.11, 1.42)	
Diabetes	No	2.26 (2.08, 2.46)	<0.0001	1.89 (1.62, 2.19)	0.08	1.69 (1.49, 1.92)	0.48	1.31 (1.13, 1.51)	0.66
	Yes	1.13 (0.99, 1.29)		1.54 (1.29, 1.84)		1.57 (1.32, 1.87)		1.25 (1.05, 1.48)	
Elixhauser Comorbidity Count	0	3.10 (2.70, 3.56)	<0.0001	2.91 (2.17, 3.90)	<0.0001	2.08 (1.63, 2.66)	0.14	1.40 (0.98, 2.00)	0.88
	1	2.26 (1.89, 2.70)		2.42 (1.71, 3.42)		1.45 (1.07, 1.95)		1.31 (0.95, 1.82)	
	2-3	1.87 (1.62, 2.16)		1.75 (1.38, 2.21)		1.79 (1.45, 2.21)		1.19 (0.95, 1.47)	
	4-5	1.41 (1.17, 1.68)		1.98 (1.52, 2.56)		1.49 (1.17, 1.90)		1.29 (1.01, 1.66)	
	6-8	1.14 (0.94, 1.38)		0.95 (0.73, 1.23)		1.35 (1.04, 1.74)		1.41 (1.10, 1.81)	
	9+	0.90 (0.69, 1.17)		1.45 (1.03, 2.05)		1.87 (1.26, 2.77)		1.11 (0.73, 1.68)	

Higher HIV impact on survival among those without comorbidity, especially for males and those with disability

# Discussion

---

- ❑ More prevalent chronic conditions among PWH, and among females
  - ✓ Possible some individuals had HIV infection, but delayed diagnosis impacted their general health conditions
  - ✓ Women live longer, and seek more care/service thus more diagnoses?
- ❑ Risk of death due to HIV infection was amplified in males and individuals with disabilities
  - ✓ Differences in health utilization between sex?
  - ✓ Disadvantages in individuals with HIV and disabilities
- ❑ PWH with chronic conditions had a less pronounced increase in risk of death than those without conditions compared to controls
  - ✓ Increase in care utilization might improve the management of their HIV and comorbidities and thus decrease their impact on other outcomes

# Limitations and future work

---

- ❑ Did not examine ART treatment as a covariate. The Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit program became available in 2006
- ❑ Did not assess HIV-related death
- ❑ Consider time-varying covariates for comorbid conditions would be incorporated in future studies
- ❑ Further analysis could include more conditions including HIV-related conditions and additional sex-specific conditions

# Conclusions

---

- ❑ Older Medicare enrollees with newly diagnosed HIV had more prevalent baseline comorbidities and were at higher risk of death following diagnosis
- ❑ The impact of HIV infection was less pronounced among beneficiaries with more chronic conditions
- ❑ Older females with HIV had more baseline comorbidities, but HIV infection had less impact on their survival compared to males with HIV

# Summary

---

- ❑ Medicare data is valuable to conduct HIV and aging research at population level and provide real-world evidence to guide decision-makers
- ❑ It is important to consider its limitations and use the data appropriately to address relevant questions

# References and resources

---

- ❑ Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Eligibility-and-Enrollment/OrigMedicarePartABEligEnrol> [Understand the Medicare program, get basic statistics]
- ❑ Research Data Assistance Center (ResDAC). <https://resdac.org/> [Request and learn to use CMS Medicare data]
- ❑ Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse (CCW). <https://www2.ccwdata.org/web/guest/home> [Details on the data and variables, a must stop for data analyst]
- ❑ Kasier Family Foundation (KFF). Medicare and People with HIV. <https://www.kff.org/hivaids/issue-brief/medicare-and-people-with-hiv/> [One stop to find updated statistics for PWH in Medicare and other programs]
- ❑ Your Guide to Medicare Drug Coverage. <https://www.medicare.gov/publications/11109-Medicare-Drug-Coverage-Guide.pdf> [Understand the drug coverage including relation with AIDS Drug Assistance Program]
- ❑ Mues KE, Liede A, Liu J, et al. Use of the Medicare database in epidemiologic and health services research: a valuable source of real-world evidence on the older and disabled populations in the US. Clin Epidemiol. 2017 May 9;9:267-277. doi: 10.2147/CLEP.S105613. [A very nice summary on the use of Medicare database in a broader content]
- ❑ Turrini G, Chan SS, Klein PW, et al. Assessing the health status and mortality of older people over 65 with HIV. PLoS One. 2020 Nov 5;15(11):e0241833. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0241833. [An example for analyzing patient outcomes]
- ❑ Tseng CW, Dudley RA, Chen R, Walensky RP. Medicare Part D and Cost-Sharing for Antiretroviral Therapy and Preexposure Prophylaxis. JAMA Netw Open. 2020 Apr 1;3(4):e202739. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2020.2739. PMID: 32286656; PMCID: PMC7156991. [An example for cost analysis using part D files]



# Thank You and Questions Comments...

Contact: [xiyu@utmb.edu](mailto:xiyu@utmb.edu)



Questions? Have ideas? Need support? Let us help you propose new projects and find resources for your work!

---

Contact us: [CFARClinicalCore@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:CFARClinicalCore@mednet.ucla.edu) or  
Stephanie Buchbinder, CSC Program Manager,  
[sbuchbinder@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:sbuchbinder@mednet.ucla.edu)

