Who Receives Home Healthcare?

Medicare's Vulnerable Home Health Population

nalyses of federal data by Avalere Health reveal that the Medicare home health benefit is particularly important to women and vulnerable seniors. The Medicare program's 3.5 million home health beneficiaries are older, sicker, and poorer than all other beneficiaries. Data also show home health

beneficiaries are more likely to be female, a minority, and/or disabled and that women constitute the majority of home health beneficiaries.

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Home health beneficiaries are more likely than non-home health beneficiaries to live in poverty.

67.2%

Medicare home health beneficiaries living at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

Medicare beneficiaries excluding home health patients living at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

52.1%

Home heath patients more likely to be female than the Medicare population as a whole.

61.5% Female home health

patients



54.6% Female Medicare beneficiaries excluding home health patients

Home health patients are older than the average Medicare beneficiary.

24% Home health patients older

than 85



12%

Non-home health Medicare beneficiaries older than 85

Home health patients are 30% more likely than other Medicare beneficiaries to be ethnic or racial minorities.

19.3%

Medicare home health patients who are a minority



14.9%

Medicare beneficiaries excluding home health patients who are a minority

Medicare home health patients are sicker than the average Medicare population and require more constant care to manage both chronic conditions and post-acute care.

51.2%

Home health patients who have five or more chronic conditions



24.9%

Non-home health Medicare beneficiaries who have five or more chronic conditions

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Medicare home health patients need more help with basic and necessary self care activities such as bathing and eating, known as Activities of Daily Living (ADLs).

31.9%

Medicare home health patients who need assistance with two or more ADLs



12% Non-home health Medicare beneficiaries patients who need assistance with two or more ADLs