MEDICARE COST OF OSTEOPOROTIC FRACTURES

The clinical and cost burden of an important consequence of osteoporosis

The objective of this report is to provide national and state-level insights into the economic and health impact of osteoporotic fractures on Medicare FFS beneficiaries and the Medicare program.

OSTEOPOROTIC FRACTURES EXACT A HUGE
HUMAN AND ECONOMIC TOLL

- Approximately 1.8 MILLION Medicare beneficiaries suffered approximately 2.1 MILLION OSTEOPOROTIC FRACTURES IN 2016
- The total estimated allowed medical cost to Medicare FFS in the six-month period following subsequent fractures that were suffered up to three years following an initial fracture in 2016 was $5.7 BILLION (Actual total costs may be even higher)
- Preventing 20% of subsequent fractures in Medicare FFS could have saved $1.1 BILLION in 2016

OSTEOPOROTIC FRACTURE INCIDENCE, COSTS AND DEATHS VARY SUBSTANTIALLY IN MEDICARE FFS ACROSS THE STATES

- The rate of osteoporotic fractures among the fifty states ranged from LOWEST: 318.7 PER 10,000 IN HAWAII to HIGHEST: 472.2 PER 10,000 IN KENTUCKY
- The average estimated 180-day incremental cost of a subsequent fracture ranged from LOWEST: ABOUT $17,000 IN ARKANSAS to HIGHEST: WYOMING AT ABOUT $26,200

THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL RACIAL/ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN FRACTURE INCIDENCE, CARE AND DEATHS

- The report found that "FRACTURE RATES VARIED SUBSTANTIALLY BY RACE/ETHNICITY"
- After adjusting for differences in age and sex, the analysis shows that NORTH AMERICAN NATIVES SUFFERED FRACTURES AT A RATE 20% HIGHER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE
- While suffering fewer initial fractures and subsequent fractures, BLACK MEDICARE FFS BENEFICIARIES HAVE LOWER SCREENING RATES, A HIGHER HOSPITALIZATION RATE AND HIGHER DEATH RATES FOLLOWING FRACTURES

Of those Black Medicare FFS Beneficiaries who suffered an osteoporotic fracture in 2016, 45% percent were hospitalized within 7 days of the fracture, compared to a national average of 42%.

Milliman Research Report: Medicare Cost of Osteoporotic Fractures 2021 Updated Report, March 2021
Commissioned by the National Osteoporosis Foundation.
Full report and state reports can be found at www.nof.org