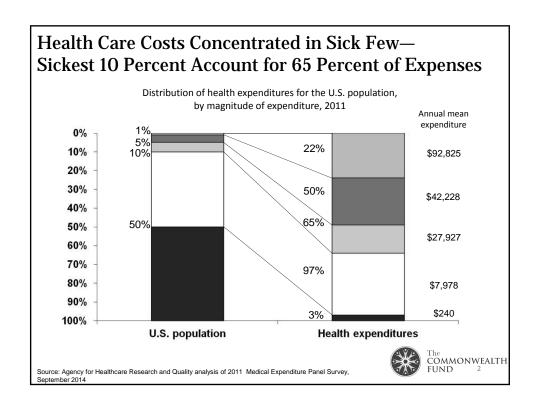
Integrating Physical and Behavioral Health for High-Need, High-Cost Patients: Goals and Challenges

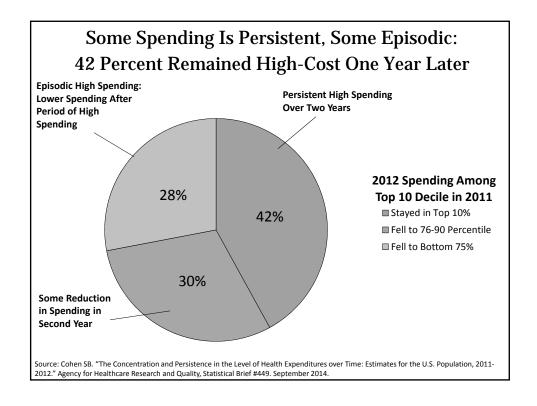
Melinda Abrams, MS The Commonwealth Fund

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Affordable, quality health care. For everyone.



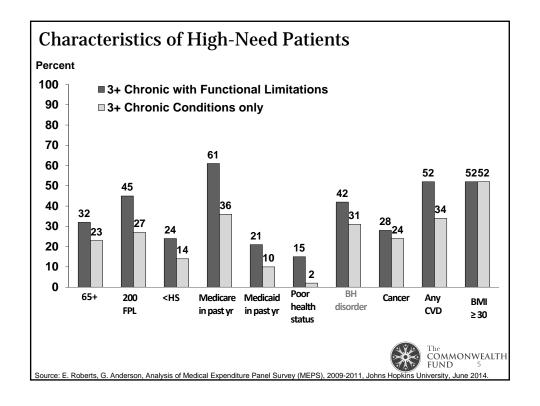


How We Define High-Need, High-Cost Patients

Clinically complex needs, functional limitations, and/or behavioral health conditions and who incur high costs, or are likely to, in the near future.



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Overlap Between High-Need, High-Cost and Behavioral Health Conditions

- Among Medicare-Medicaid beneficiaries ("dual eligibles"),
 25 percent >65 years old and 40 percent <65 years old have a mental health condition
- Medicare beneficiaries with serious mental health condition are twice as likely to have 3+ chronic, comorbid conditions
- Over half of all Medicaid beneficiaries with a disability are diagnosed with a mental illness.
- Health care spending is 2.5-3.5 times higher for patients with co-morbid mental health or substance abuse problems than those without.

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Summary and Implications

- High-need population is heterogeneous
- Best opportunity for intervening to improve care for high-need patients lies at the intersection of need, cost and amenability to change
- Integration of behavioral health and social support services is critical



Thank you!



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