

Spending often persists in high-cost Medicare-Medicaid eligible

October 12 2018



(HealthDay)—More than half of patients who are dually eligible for

Medicare and Medicaid and are designated as high-cost in one year remain persistently high-cost over three years, according to a study published online Oct. 2 in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Jose F. Figueroa, M.D., M.P.H., from Harvard University in Boston, and colleagues used data from the Medicare-Medicaid Linked Enrollee Analytic Data Source (2008 to 2010) to identify 1,928,340 dual-eligible Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries who were alive all three years. High-cost beneficiaries were defined as having spending in any given year in the top 10 percent for that year.

The researchers found 192,835 high-cost [patients](#) in the first year, more than half (54.8 percent) of whom remained high-cost across all three years. Persistently high-cost patients were younger, had fewer medical comorbidities, and had greater intellectual impairment than transiently high-cost patients. Costs per year were \$161,224 for persistently high-cost patients compared with \$86,333 for transiently high-cost patients and \$22,352 for non-high-cost patients. Persistently high-cost patients' spending was mostly related to long-term care (68.8 percent), with very little (

Citation: Spending often persists in high-cost Medicare-Medicaid eligible (2018, October 12) retrieved 11 April 2023 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-10-persists-high-cost-medicare-medicaid-eligible.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.