

Ensuring Access for Medicare Beneficiaries with Treatment Resistant Depression

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Disclosure Information

Disclosures (past 3 years)

Scientific Advisory Board: Genomind (Mild)

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Depression: A Serious Disorder with Significant Morbidity and Mortality

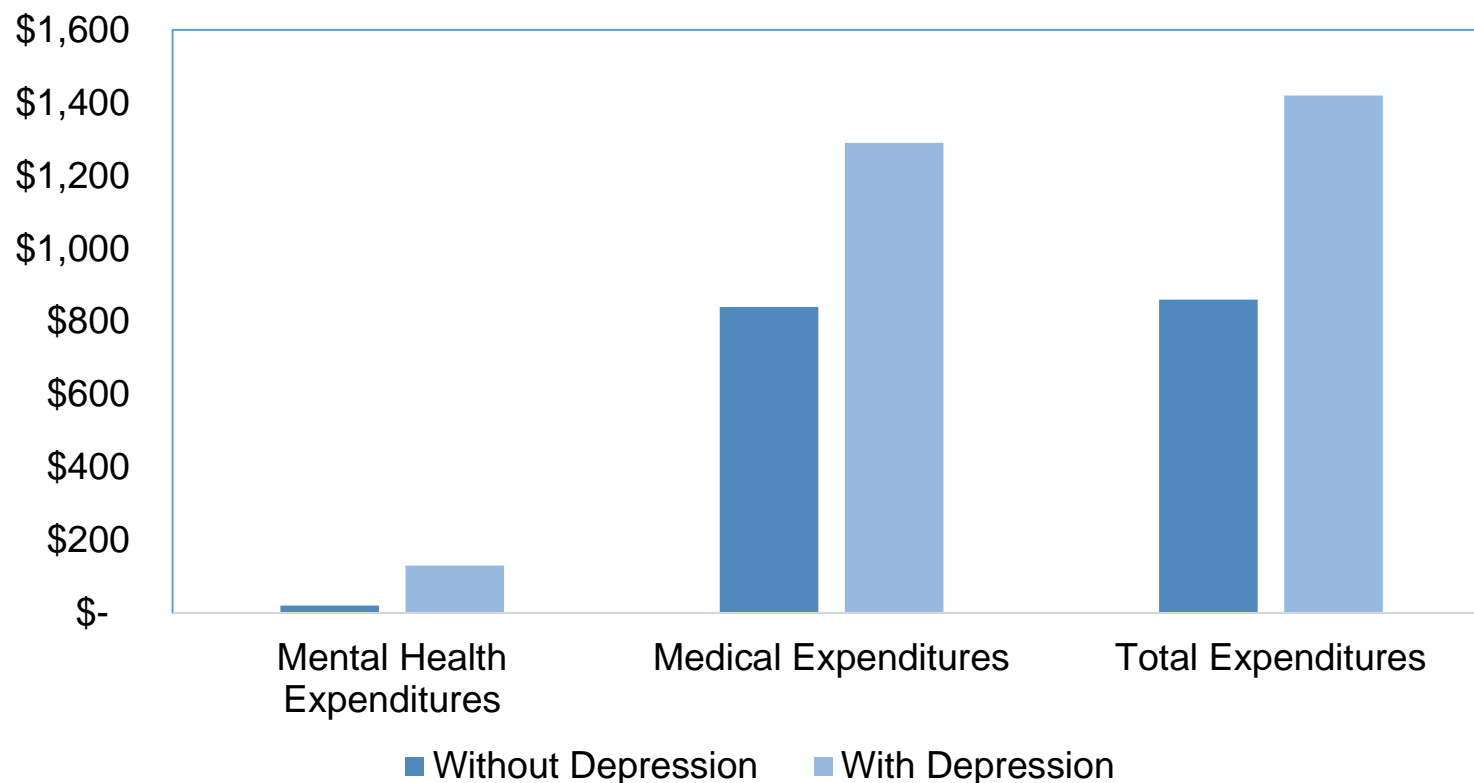
- Leading cause of disability in the U.S.
 - **6 out of 10** Medicare beneficiaries ***under age of 65*** diagnosed with a mental disorder
 - Mood disorders **second leading cause of disability** in Medicare recipients under age of 65
- Depression is one of best predictors of onset of stroke, diabetes, heart disease
 - Person with history of depression three times more likely to have heart attack – stronger indicator than hypertension
- Every 13 minutes, an American dies by suicide (40,000+ deaths per year)
 - 90% of people who commit suicide have diagnosable psychiatric illness at time of death
 - **More than 50% of those who commit suicide are suffering from major depressive disorder (MDD)**
- Mortality rates in Medicare beneficiaries with depression are similar to overall Medicare population, but average age is eleven years *younger*
- Although adults over age 65 make up only 12% of the nation's population, they account for 16% of all suicide deaths

Sources: American Foundation for Suicide Prevention; American Psychiatric Association; Feldman RL, Dunner DL, Muller JS, Stone DA. *Journal of Medical Economics* SSI Annual Statistical Report, 2014

The National Institute of Mental Health, <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/older-adults-depression-and-suicide-facts-sheet/index.shtml>

Depression: A Serious Disorder with Significant Morbidity and Mortality (cont.)

**Monthly Health Care Expenditures for Chronic Conditions,
With and Without Comorbid Depression, 2005**



Sources: Melek, S. and Norris, D. (2008), *Chronic Conditions and Comorbid Psychological Disorders*
Cited in: Druss, BG and Walker, ER (February 2011), *Mental Disorders and Medical Comorbidity*
Research Synthesis Report No. 21, Princeton, NJ, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Depression: A Serious Disorder with Significant Morbidity and Mortality (cont.)

- CMS recognized this in 2011 and decided to cover annual screening for depression:
 - “...evidence is adequate to conclude that screening for depression in adults, which is recommended with a grade of B by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), is reasonable and necessary for the prevention or early diagnosis of illness or disability and is appropriate for individuals entitled to benefits under Part A or enrolled under Part B.”
 - “Therefore CMS will cover annual screening for depression for Medicare beneficiaries in primary care settings that have staff-assisted depression care supports in place to assure accurate diagnosis, **effective treatment, and follow-up.**”

Important step forward – and appropriate access to empirically proven treatments will ensure “effective treatment and follow-up” throughout the care continuum for people with TRD