

Healthy Living and Healthy Aging Demonstration Project Act of 2009:
Summary of Key Provisions

Description of the Demonstration Project

- This proposal establishes a demonstration project under which not more than six eligible partnerships (state or local public health departments and medical facilities-- health centers & rural health clinics) are awarded five-year grants to examine whether community-based prevention strategies, such as walking programs, group exercise classes, anti-smoking programs, healthy eating programs, and increased access to nutritious and organic foods, targeted to the pre-Medicare population, individuals aged 55-64, will lower rates of chronic disease or Medicare costs.
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) would have primary responsibility for administering the demo. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) would take leadership in awarding grants to eligible partnerships for administering health screenings/risk assessments and community-based prevention interventions.

Administration of Community-based Prevention Strategies & Health Screenings

Health departments awarded funds would:

- Develop and administer community-based prevention strategies, as defined above, targeted to the pre-Medicare population;
- Work in partnership with the designated medical facility to provide individual health screenings, targeted to the pre-Medicare population, for chronic diseases, including tests for diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity, tobacco use and any other chronic disease or condition as determined by the CDC Director;
- Work in partnership with the designated medical facility to serve as a clinical referral site for provision of medical services.

Referral for Treatment for Individuals Screened & Found to Exhibit Chronic Disease Risk Factors or Diagnosed with a Chronic Disease

- Insured individuals who screen positive for a chronic disease would be referred for medical or mental health treatment to their existing provider.
- Uninsured individuals who screen positive for a chronic disease would not be eligible for Medicare benefits but would be referred to the designated clinical referral site.
- All individuals who are screened and diagnosed with a chronic disease or chronic disease risk factor would be referred for enrollment in a community-based prevention program.

Evaluation and Reporting

- The evaluation would include: (a) a population based design that compares populations targeted under the demo with a matched control group; and (b) a pre-post design that measures changes in health indicators and health outcomes for those individuals who, prior to completion of the demonstration project, become eligible for benefits under Medicare.
- The Secretary would be required to report to Congress on the status and results of the project.

Funding

- \$200,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for FY 2010 through 2016 to carry out the project.