



Florida Medicaid Assisted Living Study

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Project Objectives

- Identify key assisted living facility and resident characteristics likely to contribute to efficient and effective Medicaid spending in the future.
- Establish baseline measures to serve as the basis for comparisons of program effectiveness over time and across programs.
- Identify the effects of Medicaid assisted living policies on vulnerable subgroups of assisted living residents.
- Assess regional and race/ethnic differences in Medicaid ALF utilization across the state of Florida.
- Analyze the extent to which Medicaid expenditures on ALFs (under several programs) are contributing to changes in patterns of nursing home utilization.

Long Term Goals

- To generate an accurate description of the Florida assisted living environment (both facilities and residents) with particular emphasis on Medicaid populations and facilities serving them.
- To understand similarities and differences in facilities that serve Medicaid residents and those that do not.
- To compare outcomes (health, satisfaction, depression, family networks, among other dimensions of individual level data) for ALF residents whose residence is paid by Florida Medicaid compared to private pay residents.
- To determine the role that Medicaid assisted living programs play in the context of overall Medicaid LTC expenditures and the role of Medicaid assisted living programs in nursing home utilization trends.

Current Status

- Administrator questionnaire, resident questionnaire and walk-through form have been completed.
- Resident questionnaire has been pilot tested.
- Received grant from the National Institute on Aging to conduct pilot study and refine data collection instruments for the general Florida ALF population.



Florida Medicaid Nursing Home - Assisted Living Transition Program

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Project Objectives

- To determine whether the Florida Medicaid Nursing Home Transition Program is cost effective.
- Evaluate effect of moving nursing home residents to assisted living facilities on resident satisfaction.

Current Status

- Created data file of linked CARES/CIRTS data for the 600+ individuals participating in the NHTP.
- Designed and pilot tested questionnaire for transitioned residents.
- Conducted face-to-face interviews with approximately 25 percent of transitioned residents and control group.
- Analyzed Medicaid claims data.
- Prepared profile of NHTP participants.

CARES Data

Status	Frequency	Percent
Actually Transitioned	373	63.9
Pending	121	20.7
Withdrawn	90	15.4
Total	584	100.0

Cost Savings of Transition Program

Median NH charges	\$3,120.82
Median ALF charges	\$1,304.85
ALF Months	1,968
NH charges*ALF months	\$6,141,773.76
ALF charges*ALF months	\$2,567,944.80
Savings	\$3,573,828.96

Transitioning nursing home residents to assisted living facilities saved the state \$3,573,828.86 in Medicaid charges during 2001-2002.

Gender of Transitioners

Gender	Valid Percentages			
	Total	Actually Transitioned	Pending	Withdrawn
Female	65.8	69.2	59.5	60.0
Male	34.2	30.8	40.5	40.0

Missing=0

Almost twice as many women as men are in the transition program. Men are more likely than women to be waiting for placement or to have been withdrawn from the program.

Race of Transitioners

	<i>Valid Percentages</i>			
Race	Total	Actually Transitioned	Pending	Withdrawn
White	86.8	87.9	83.5	86.7
Black	8.6	8.8	9.9	5.6
Hispanic	3.6	2.4	6.6	4.4
Other	1.0	.8	.0	3.3

Missing=0

The vast majority of those in the program are white. Compared to blacks and Hispanics, a smaller proportion of white people are pending placement. Blacks have been less likely to withdraw from the program than others.

Age of Transitioners

Age	Valid Percentages			
	Total	Actually Transitioned	Pending	Withdrawn
64 & younger	5.3	4.3	6.6	7.8
65-69	11.0	12.1	9.9	7.8
70-74	11.0	10.5	14.0	8.9
75-79	19.9	17.2	24.0	25.6
80-84	19.9	22.3	15.7	15.6
85-89	17.3	17.2	21.5	12.2
90 & older	15.8	16.6	8.3	22.2

Missing=0

About three-quarters of those in the transition program are age 75 or older. Transition status varies substantially by age, but the data do not suggest any consistent patterns.

Marital Status of Transitioners

Marital Status	Valid Percentages			
	Total	Actually Transitioned	Pending	Withdrawn
Widowed	54.6	57.9	52.2	44.6
Single	16.3	16.1	15.7	18.1
Divorced	14.1	14.3	15.7	10.8
Married	12.6	9.7	13.9	22.9
Separated	2.4	2.1	2.6	3.6

Missing=44

More than half of those in the transition program are widows or widowers. Those who are married, single, or separated display the highest rates of withdrawal from the program; those who have been widowed or divorced are less likely to withdraw.