



The Future of Medicare

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Major Issues

1. Filling gaps in the Medicare benefit package
2. Balancing Traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage
3. Leveraging Medicare
4. Medicare and the budget



Filling Gaps in the Medicare Benefit Package

- Strengthening protections for low- and middle-income beneficiaries
- Dental, hearing, vision coverage
- Catastrophic coverage (A/B and D)



Balancing Traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage

- Structuring benefit packages: choice versus standardization
- Setting payment levels
- Measuring and paying for quality
- Facilitating competition



Leveraging Medicare

- Expanding Medicare
- Expanding use of Medicare payment rates
- MA plans and the Marketplaces



Medicare and the Budget

- Budgetary pressures and “entitlement reform”
- Hospital Insurance trust fund shortfall
- Medicare as a source of “offsets”