

NUTRITION CARE ACT

(H.R. 1551/S. 584)

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EATING DISORDERS AND THE MEDICARE POPULATION

3-4%

Rates of disordered eating in seniors are similar to those of the general population.^{1,2}

420K-560K

Approximate number of Medicare Part B beneficiaries that are Black, Indigenous and/or People of Color who have an eating disorder.³

52
MINUTES

1 death every 52 minutes from an eating disorder.⁴
[10,200 deaths annually]

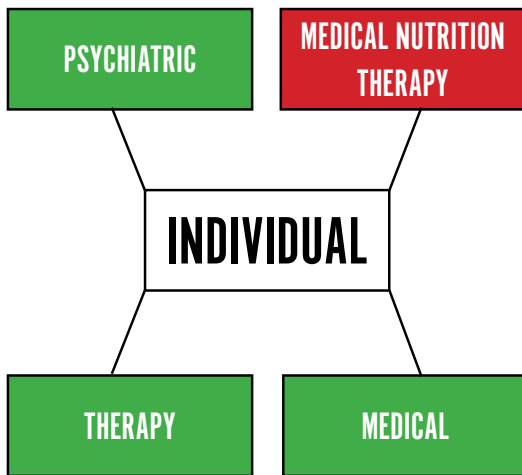
3% **6%**

Estimated rates of disordered eating in the SSDI population.
[Gender diverse literature unavailable]

THE PROBLEM:

Medical Nutrition Therapy is an essential part of outpatient eating disorder treatment, yet is NOT a covered benefit for people with eating disorders under Medicare Part B.

THE KEY COMPONENTS OF SUCCESSFUL EATING DISORDERS TREATMENT



LACK OF COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT CAN LEAD TO:

Co-occurring Medical Complications

When left untreated, eating disorders can lead to heart failure, kidney failure, osteoporosis, Type II diabetes, stroke, gastric rupture, hypoglycemia, other medical injury, and death.⁵

Economic Distress

\$64.7B Economic cost of eating disorders

\$17.7B Cost to the Federal Government

53,918 ER VISITS costing **\$29.3M**



\$23.5B COST TO INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Caregivers provide 6 weeks of informal, unpaid care



23,560 INPATIENT HOSPITALIZATIONS costing **\$209.7M**



All economic cost data taken from Social and economic cost of eating disorders in the United States

THE SOLUTION:

The Nutrition CARE Act provides individuals with eating disorders on Medicare Part B coverage for Medical Nutrition Therapy benefits equal to other medical conditions.

COVERAGE PROVISIONS:

MNT coverage would be equal to the coverage that is currently available under Medicare Part B for diabetes.

COST CONTROL PROVISIONS:

The bill includes provisions that give the Secretary the ability to authorize higher amounts of coverage as well as place cost-control measures as needed within the Medicare program - in addition to the savings already created by treating at the outpatient level.

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References from Infographic:

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