



# MEDICARE COST OF OSTEOPOROTIC FRACTURES

THE CLINICAL AND COST BURDEN OF AN IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCE OF OSTEOPOROSIS

The objective of this report is to provide national and state-level insights into the economic and health impact of osteoporotic fractures on Medicare FFS beneficiaries and the Medicare program.



## OSTEOPOROTIC FRACTURES EXACT A HUGE HUMAN AND ECONOMIC TOLL

Approximately  
**1.8 MILLION**  
Medicare beneficiaries  
suffered approximately  
**2.1 MILLION**  
**OSTEOPOROTIC**  
**FRACTURES**  
**IN 2016**

The total estimated allowed  
medical cost to Medicare FFS  
in the six-month period  
following subsequent  
fractures that were suffered  
up to three years following  
an initial fracture in 2016 was  
**\$5.7 BILLION**  
*Actual total costs may be even higher*

Preventing 20%  
of subsequent  
fractures in  
Medicare FFS  
could have  
saved  
**\$1.1**  
**BILLION**  
in 2016



## OSTEOPOROTIC FRACTURE INCIDENCE, COSTS AND DEATHS VARY SUBSTANTIALLY IN MEDICARE FFS ACROSS THE STATES

The rate of osteoporotic fractures among the fifty states ranged from  
**LOWEST:**  
**318.7 PER 10,000**  
**IN HAWAII**  
**HIGHEST:**  
**472.2 PER 10,000**  
**IN KENTUCKY**

The average estimated 180-day incremental cost of a subsequent fracture ranged from  
**LOWEST:**  
**ABOUT \$17,000 IN**  
**ARKANSAS**  
**HIGHEST:**  
**WYOMING AT ABOUT**  
**\$26,200**



## THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL RACIAL/ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN FRACTURE INCIDENCE, CARE AND DEATHS

The report found that  
**"FRACTURE RATES VARIED**  
**SUBSTANTIALLY BY**  
**RACE/ETHNICITY"**  
After adjusting for differences in age and sex, the analysis shows that  
**NORTH AMERICAN**  
**NATIVES SUFFERED**  
**FRACTURES AT A RATE**  
**20% HIGHER THAN THE**  
**NATIONAL AVERAGE**

While suffering fewer initial fractures and subsequent fractures,  
**BLACK MEDICARE FFS**  
**BENEFICIARIES HAVE**  
**LOWER SCREENING RATES,**  
**A HIGHER HOSPITALIZATION**  
**RATE AND HIGHER DEATH**  
**RATES FOLLOWING**  
**FRACTURES**

*Of those Black Medicare FFS Beneficiaries who suffered an osteoporotic fracture in 2016, 45% percent were hospitalized within 7 days of the fracture, compared to a national average of 42%.*