



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 11, 2012

Contact: CMS Media Relations  
[\(202\) 690-6145](tel:(202)690-6145)

## **HEALTH CARE LAW DELIVERS FREE PREVENTIVE SERVICES TO OVER 14 MILLION PEOPLE WITH MEDICARE IN 2012**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today announced that the Affordable Care Act helped 14.3 million people with in original Medicare get at least one preventive service at no cost to them during the first five months of 2012. This includes 1.1 million who have taken advantage of the Annual Wellness Visit provided by the Affordable Care Act. In 2011, 32.5 million people in Medicare received one or more preventive benefits free of charge.

One of the major goals of the Affordable Care Act is to help people stay healthy by giving them the tools they need to take charge of their own health and prevent health problems before they happen.

“Thanks to the health care law, millions of Americans are getting cancer screenings, mammograms and other preventive services for free,” said CMS Acting Administrator Marilyn Tavenner. “These free preventive services are helping people in Medicare stay healthy and lower their health care costs.”

Prior to 2011, people with Medicare faced cost-sharing for many preventive benefits such as cancer screenings. Under the Affordable Care Act, preventive benefits are offered free of charge to beneficiaries, with no deductible or co-pay, so that cost is no longer a barrier for seniors who want to stay healthy and treat problems early. The law also added an important new service for people with Medicare — an Annual Wellness Visit with the doctor of their choice— at no cost to beneficiaries.

For more information on Medicare-covered preventive services, please visit:  
<http://www.healthcare.gov/law/features/65-older/medicare-preventive-services/index.html>.

To learn what screenings, vaccinations and other preventive services doctors recommend for you and those you care about, please visit the myhealthfinder tool at [www.healthfinder.gov](http://www.healthfinder.gov).

###