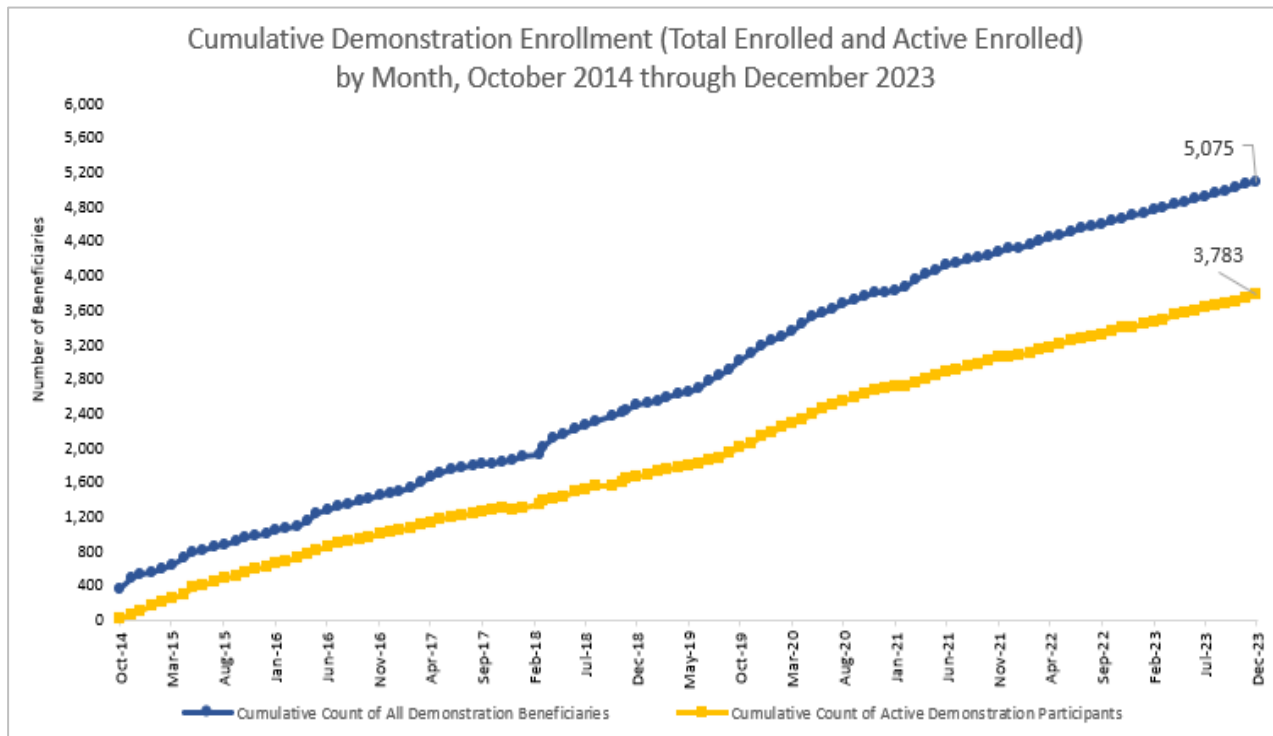


DEMONSTRATION OVERVIEW

- Congress established the **Medicare Intravenous Immune Globulin (IVIg) Demonstration** which was conducted from October 2014 through December 2023. The purpose of the Demonstration was to evaluate the benefits of providing payment for items and services needed for the in-home administration of IVIG for Medicare beneficiaries with specific Primary Immunodeficiency Disorders (PIDD).
- The Demonstration provided a bundled payment for items and services involved with the in-home administration of IVIG therapy for Medicare beneficiaries with specific PIDD diagnoses.
- PIDD are conditions triggered by genetic defects that cause a lack of and/or impairment in antibody function, thus preventing the body’s immune system from functioning properly. This leaves individuals with PIDD more susceptible to acute, unusual, or recurrent infections, and greater risks of complications if there is an infection.

PARTICIPANTS

Between October 2014 and December 2023, 5,075 eligible Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in the Demonstration. Of these, 74.5% (3,783) were active participants, indicating they had at least one claim for in-home IVIG therapy at any point during the Demonstration period.



FINDINGS



Demonstration enrollees reported better access to IVIG therapy.

- Active Demonstration participants reported better access to IVIG therapy and reduced likelihood of missing or postponing appointments relative to the comparison group of non-participants.
- Both healthcare providers and beneficiaries reported advantages of in-home IVIG therapy, including reduced transportation barriers, reduced risk of infection, increased treatment compliance, and improved monitoring of the infusion.



Demonstration participants reported being in better health after enrolling in the demonstration and experienced fewer infections relative to the comparison group.

- Active Demonstration participants were 6.7 percent less likely to receive services (e.g., physician visits) for an infection.
- Active participants were 19.2 percent less likely to receive services for pneumonia compared to non-participants.



Overall annual Medicare payments were higher among active participants, relative to the comparison group.

- Average Medicare spending among active participants during the Demonstration period was over \$62,500 annually, reflecting the high costs of PIDD patients receiving IVIG.
- Included in this total, annual Medicare payments were \$3,528 greater per beneficiary among active participants, relative to the comparison group of non-participants.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Improved access:** Demonstration enrollees reported better access to IVIG therapy and less trouble obtaining their Immune Globulin treatments.
- **Improved health outcomes:** Demonstration enrollees were significantly less likely to get infections, have hospitalizations, or receive services for infections or pneumonia.
- **Increased costs:** Overall annual Medicare costs were higher among active Demonstration participants, relative to the comparison group.
- **Made a permanent benefit:** In December 2022, Congress passed legislation making in-home IVIG infusions a permanent Medicare benefit for PIDD patients, effective January 2024.