Appendix

Decomposition of spending growth

$$C^{y} = \sum\nolimits_{i} \frac{c_{i}^{y}}{e_{i}^{y}} * \theta_{i}^{y} * \frac{E^{y}}{N^{y}}$$

Where C^y is the cost per capita in year y, c_i is the spending on disease i, e_i is the number of episodes of disease i, E is the total number of episodes, θ_i^y is the episode mix (e_i/E) , and N is the total number of patients.

Our change in spending per capita between years 1 and 2 is given by:

(1)
$$C^2 - C^1 = \sum_i \frac{\sigma_i^2}{N} \frac{c_i^2}{\sigma_i^2} - \sum_i \frac{\sigma_i^1}{N} \frac{c_i^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

or

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{C}^2 - \mathcal{C}^1 &= \sum_i \frac{e_i^1}{N^1} \left(\frac{c_i^2}{e_i^2} - \frac{c_i^1}{e_i^1} \right) + \sum_i \frac{c_i^1}{e_i^1} \frac{E^1}{N^1} \left(\theta_i^2 - \theta_i^1 \right) + \sum_i \frac{c_i^1}{e_i^1} \theta_i^1 \left(\frac{E^2}{N^2} - \frac{E^1}{N^1} \right) \\ &+ \sum_i \frac{c_i^1}{e_i^1} \left(\theta_i^2 - \theta_i^1 \right) \left(\frac{E^2}{N^2} - \frac{E^1}{N^1} \right) + \sum_i \left(\frac{c_i^2}{e_i^2} - \frac{c_i^1}{e_i^1} \right) \frac{E^1}{N^1} \left(\theta_i^2 - \theta_i^1 \right) \\ &+ \sum_i \left(\frac{c_i^2}{e_i^2} - \frac{c_i^1}{e_i^1} \right) \theta_i^1 \left(\frac{E^2}{N^2} - \frac{E^1}{N^1} \right) + \sum_i \left(\frac{c_i^2}{e_i^2} - \frac{c_i^1}{e_i^1} \right) \left(\theta_i^2 - \theta_i^1 \right) \left(\frac{E^2}{N^2} - \frac{E^1}{N^1} \right) \end{split}$$

where each of the first three terms decompose the change in per capita spending into the change in cost per episode, the mix of episodes, and the number of episodes per person, holding the other terms at their base year level. The remaining terms are the cross interaction terms.

Sensitivity Analysis Results

Sensitivity analyses truncated the cost of outlier episodes (those in the highest 1 percentile of spending) to the same cost as the $99^{\rm th}$ percentile of spending. Tables of sensitivity analysis results are included below.

Sensitivity Analysis Table 1: Decomposition of spending growth by episode type, 2003-2007

Episode Type	Growth in	Contribution to	
	spending per	overall spending	
	capita (\$)	growth (%)	
Well care	61.37	13.61%	
Chronic episodes	184.22	40.85%	
Chronic maintenance	6.57	1.46%	
Chronic with acute flare	-8.11	-1.80%	
Chronic non-stratified	185.76	41.19%	
Acute episodes	205.42	45.55%	

Source: Authors' analysis of MarketScan® Commercial Claims and Encounters Database, 2003 and 2007.

Notes: Spending on outlier episodes (those in the highest 1 percentile of spending) is set to the 99th percentile of spending. Direct adjustment was used to standardize age and gender to 2003 levels to account for spending growth attributable to demographic changes in the population.

Sensitivity Analysis Table 2: Spending decomposition for diseases with largest and smallest contribution to overall spending growth, 2003-2007

	Episode Type	Growth in spending per capita (\$)	Contribut ion to overall spending growth (%)	Growth in Spending per Episode (%)
Top 10				
Encounter for Preventive	Well			
Health Services	Care	61.37	13.61%	31.5%
Neoplasm, Malignant:				
Breast, Female	Chronic	25.55	5.67%	37.5%
Osteoarthritis, Lumbar				
Spine	Chronic	20.27	4.49%	24.8%
Diabetes Mellitus Type 2				
and Hyperglycemic States				
Maintenance	Chronic	19.20	4.26%	5.4%
Osteoarthritis, Except				
Spine	Chronic	18.55	4.11%	31.0%
Delivery, Cesarean				
Section	Acute	14.24	3.16%	12.0%
Neoplasm, Malignant:	_			
Colon and Rectum	Chronic	13.39	2.97%	54.1%
Renal Failure	Chronic	10.63	2.36%	-26.5%
Multiple Sclerosis	Chronic	10.45	2.32%	47.8%
Dysfunctional Uterine				
Bleeding	Acute	8.16	1.81%	34.7%
Bottom 10				
Neoplasm, Benign: Uterus				
(Leiomyomas)	Acute	-1.09	-0.24%	4.7%
Other Fungal Infections	Acute	-1.09	-0.24%	-11.4%
Sleep Disorders	Acute	-1.66	-0.37%	-38.5%
Congestive Heart Failure	Chronic	-1.79	-0.40%	4.9%
Endometriosis	Acute	-1.89	-0.42%	7.9%
Hepatitis C	Chronic	-2.03	-0.45%	-21.1%
Sinusitis	Acute	-2.54	-0.56%	-8.8%
Depression	Acute	-3.70	-0.82%	-5.8%
Acute Myocardial	Chronic			
Infarction	*	-7.78	-1.72%	6.7%
Angina Pectoris, Chronic				
Maintenance	Chronic	-23.5231	-5.22%	-9.2%

Source: Authors' analysis of MarketScan® Commercial Claims and Encounters Database, 2003 and 2007.

Notes: Spending on outlier episodes (those in the highest percentile of spending) is set to the 99th percentile of spending. Direct adjustment was used to standardize age and gender to 2003 levels to account for spending growth attributable to demographic changes in the population. *Episode type considered chronic with acute exacerbation.