Patient Experiences in Medicare: National Psoriasis Foundation 2018 Advocacy Survey

Psoriasis (PsO) and psoriatic arthritis (PsA) are chronic, immune-mediated diseases that require a combination of life-long care and treatments to be well managed. While there are effective treatment options, a 2018 survey by the National Psoriasis Foundation found that access remains a problem.

Medicare Patient Demographics

- 47% have an annual household income below $50,000
- More than half feel very self-conscious because of their PsO
- Over 60% have at least one comorbid condition

32% surveyed have Medicare

Medicare Beneficiary Treatment Types

For PsO and PsA patients, any delay in access to the right treatment can result in increased disease activity, loss of function, and possible irreversible disease progression.

Medicare Patient Experiences with Cost

- Nearly 1 in 3 Medicare beneficiaries who take biologics report a monthly out of pocket cost greater than $200.
- 50% of Medicare beneficiaries experience financial strain due to the cost of biologics.
- 1 in 5 have had a change in out of pocket costs that has impacted their ability to access treatment.

Access to Biologics for Medicare Beneficiaries

- 31% receive their biologics through Medicare Part B, meaning they are physician-administered.*
- I’m 70% less likely to receive a biologic if I don’t have Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidies or if I’m African American.*
- I take an average of 4.7 medications in addition to those I take for PsO.*