Morning Consult, on behalf of the Better Medicare Alliance, conducted a poll online between December 10-14, 2021 among a national sample of 1,000 seniors on Medicare. An oversample of 200 seniors on Medicare Advantage was collected for a total sample of n=1,200, including n=696 seniors on Medicare Advantage. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of +/-3%, and results among seniors on Medicare Advantage have a margin of error of +/-4%.

KEY FINDINGS

Satisfaction with Medicare Advantage

Nearly all (94%) seniors on Medicare Advantage are satisfied with their Medicare Advantage coverage. Additionally, nearly all seniors on Medicare Advantage are satisfied with their Medicare Advantage network of doctors, hospitals, and specialists (95%). Nine in ten seniors agree that Medicare Advantage lets them see the doctors they want on their own terms (88%) and saves them money compared to other coverage options (89%).

Of a list of supplemental benefits provided by many Medicare Advantage plans, seniors on Medicare Advantage are most likely to have personally used vision (66%) and dental (52%) coverage.

Enrolling in Medicare Advantage

Not all seniors on Medicare are familiar with Medicare Advantage, but a majority of seniors on Medicare say it is important to have a choice of plans. Half (47%) of seniors on Medicare say they were not familiar with the option of Medicare Advantage upon turning 65, including 21% who were not familiar at all. Half (48%) of seniors on Medicare also say they would have liked to know more about the option of Medicare Advantage when they first enrolled in Medicare. Nine in ten (93%) seniors on Medicare say it is important for them and other seniors to have the choice of plans other than traditional Medicare, such as a Medicare Advantage plan.

Voting on Medicare Advantage

Seniors on Medicare Advantage support maintaining funding of Medicare Advantage. Nine in ten seniors on Medicare Advantage (88%) say they oppose the federal government reducing the amount of money it contributes to Medicare Advantage, including 74% who are strongly opposed.

Seniors on Medicare Advantage, especially Democrats, consider a candidate’s position on Medicare Advantage while voting for their representatives. Nine in ten (92%) seniors on Medicare Advantage say a candidate’s support for Medicare Advantage is important when they cast their vote, including 95% of Democrats. Three quarters (76%) of seniors on Medicare Advantage say they would be less likely to support their member of Congress if they voted in support of reduced funding to Medicare Advantage, including 78% of Democrats.

Seniors on Medicare Advantage’s support for the Biden administration also depends on the administration’s support of Medicare Advantage. Nearly three quarters (72%) of seniors on Medicare Advantage say they would be less likely to support President Biden if the administration reduced funding to Medicare Advantage through regulation, including 61% of Democrats. Additionally, nine in ten seniors on Medicare Advantage (93%) say protecting Medicare Advantage should be a priority for the Biden Administration, including 68% who say it should be a top priority. Democrat seniors on Medicare (98%) are especially likely to say it should be a priority, including 72% who say it should be a top priority.