Medicare and Medicaid

Two government programs to help people pay for health care – how they differ.

**Medicare**
- Care for People Who Are Older, Disabled, or Chronically Ill
  - Administered by Federal government.
  - Benefits are 100% Federal funds.
  - Eligibility based on age (65 and over), disability, or chronic illness.
  - Coverage is Federally mandated and generally includes hospital, outpatient, nursing home, and prescription drugs.
  - No financial tests to qualify.

**Medicaid**
- Care for People With Limited Incomes and Resources
  - Administered by States.
  - Benefits are a combination of State and Federal funds.
  - Eligibility based on limited income and resources.
  - Coverage varies by State but generally includes most medical services prescribed by a doctor or dentist.
  - Income and asset tests vary by State.

**Total Beneficiaries in Millions**
- **54*** Medicare
- **68*** Medicaid
- **10***** Dual Eligible

* September 2014
** January 2014

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