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Medicare’s Biggest Problem - The Elderly

Many say Medicare can be saved by cutting payments to doctors, rationing care and putting seniors into Medicare Advantage HMOs. But a new federal chart shows that’s not going to work.

The real problem is people growing old. The advance of 77 million aging babyboomers is sinking the Medicare ship. The chart shows up to 75 percent of the growth in federal spending for health care is because people are aging, not because of rising costs. The program intended for the elderly is being sunk by the elderly. So simply thinking cost cutting will protect America’s financial stability is like standing in front of a tornado and throwing stones to stop it.

“The 2012 Long-Term Budget Outlook,” Congressional Budget Office, June 2012. (SEE PAGE 15)