

## —Inflation Reduction Act Research Series— Enbrel: Medicare Enrollee Use and Spending

This Fact Sheet provides information on **Enbrel**, one of the 10 drugs selected for the first cycle of Medicare drug price negotiations. Enbrel (active ingredient etanercept) is a biological product used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, and psoriatic arthritis. There is limited information on the prevalence of these conditions among the Medicare population, however, the data that is available indicates that about 35 percent of traditional Medicare enrollees have arthritis (osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis).

- Between 2018 and 2022, average annual total Part D spending per enrollee taking Enbrel (i.e., the total amount, including Medicare, plan, and enrollee payments, spent on Enbrel per person) increased by 36 percent (from \$41,500 to \$56,639).
- From 2018 through 2022, the average annual out-of-pocket spending per enrollee increased by 15 percent (from \$803 to \$921).

Table 1 presents data on utilization and spending for Enbrel among Part D enrollees. About 47,000 Part D enrollees filled prescriptions for Enbrel in 2022. Relative to the total Part D population, a greater share of Enbrel users were women (72 percent vs. 56 percent), under the age of 65 (33 percent vs. 19 percent), and Latinos (14 percent vs. 10 percent).

**Table 1. Medicare Part D Use and Spending on Enbrel, Calendar Year (CY) 2022**

	Total Enrollees	LIS Enrollees <sup>a</sup>	Non-LIS Enrollees
<b>Number of Part D Enrollees</b>	53,063,000	14,957,000	38,106,000
<b>Number of Enrollees Taking Enbrel</b>	47,000	26,000	21,000
<b>Share of Part D Enrollees Taking Enbrel</b>	<1%	<1%	<1%
<b>Total Spending on Enbrel</b>			
<b>Total Spending</b>	\$2,655,298,000	\$1,440,679,000	\$1,214,619,000
<b>Average per Enrollee taking Enbrel</b>	\$56,639	\$56,270	\$57,083
<b>Enrollee Out-of-Pocket Spending on Enbrel</b>			
<b>Total OOP Spending</b>	\$43,187,000	\$529,000	\$42,658,000
<b>Average OOP per Enrollee taking Enbrel</b>	\$921	\$21	\$2,005

Notes: <sup>a</sup>For eligible Part D enrollees who meet income and asset requirements, the Low-Income Subsidy (LIS), also known as Extra Help, provides assistance with premiums, deductibles, and co-payments for covered Part D drugs.

*The Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law by President Biden in August 2022. Please see [here](#) for more information on how the law is reducing drug costs for Medicare beneficiaries.*

*Please see [here](#) for more information on Enbrel and the other drugs selected for the first cycle of Medicare drug price negotiation, cautions and limitations in interpretation and use of these estimates, and relevant citations.*