



NEW PUBLIC POLL SHOWS MOST AMERICANS CONCERNED ABOUT SENIORS' ACCESS TO CARE BECAUSE OF MEDICARE CUTS TO PHYSICIANS

Poll Highlights

A telephone survey of 1,006 adults 18 years of age and older living in the continental United States was conducted by Opinion Research Corporation for the American Medical Association (AMA) from February 22-25, 2008. The margin of error is +/-3%.

- When told about the cuts, **8 out of 10 Americans** are concerned that access to care for Medicare patients will be hurt.
- **88% of current Medicare patients** (age 65+) are concerned that seniors' access to care will be hurt because of impending cuts.
- **87% of Americans age 55-64** are concerned that access to care will be hurt because of the impending cuts. The oldest baby boomers turn 62 this year, and will begin relying on Medicare in 2011.
- **Nearly three-quarters (73%) of Americans** believe Congress should stop the cuts to physicians so they can continue to care for Medicare patients.
- **The majority of Americans, 65%**, are not aware that Medicare will start cutting payments to physicians this July, and that the cuts will total 15 percent over 18 months.