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As Chief Actuary for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Mr. Foster is responsible for all actuarial and other financial analyses for the Medicare and Medicaid programs. This work involves both the evaluation of the financial status of the programs under present law and the estimation of the financial effects of legislative proposals. In addition, Mr. Foster and the staff of the Office of the Actuary prepare the widely used national health expenditure account data and projections, produce the hospital input price index, Medicare Economic Index, and other price indexes used to update Medicare payments to providers, and calculate the Medicare Advantage payment benchmarks for private health plans that contract with Medicare. Finally, the Office of the Actuary reviews the actuarial bid submissions for all MA and Part D plans.

Mr. Foster became Chief Actuary in February 1995; prior to this position, he served as Deputy Chief Actuary for the Social Security Administration for 13 years. He is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries (1980) and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries, American Statistical Association, American Economic Association, National Academy of Social Insurance, and Senior Executives Association. He has written numerous articles and reports on Medicare and Social Security issues, including “Level of OASDI Trust Fund Assets Needed To Compensate for Adverse Contingencies” in *Transactions of the Society of Actuaries* (1993), “A Stochastic Evaluation of the Short Range Economic Assumptions in the 1994 OASDI Trustees Report,” and “Trends in Medicare Expenditures and Financial Status, 1966-2000” and “Medicare Financial Status, Budget Impact, and Sustainability: Which Concept is Which?” in the *Health Care Financing Review*. Mr. Foster has also made more than 200 presentations on Medicare and Social Security issues.

Mr. Foster received an M.S. in applied mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and a B.A. in mathematics from the College of Wooster. He has received a number of awards, including the UMBC Outstanding Alumnus of the Year in 1997, the Presidential Meritorious Executive Award in 1998 from President Clinton, CMS Administrator’s Achievement Awards in 1999, 2003, and 2010, the Presidential Distinguished Executive Award in 2001 from President Bush, the College of Wooster Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006, and the Robert J. Myers Public Service Award from the American Academy of Actuaries in 2006. In 2007 through 2011, the readers of *Modern Healthcare* have voted Mr. Foster one of the 100 most influential persons in health care in the U.S.