Frequently Asked Questions:

“How do we transition into a whole new system like Medicare for All?”

The longer we maintain the current market-driven system of private insurance, the more people will die because they cannot get the care they need. The longer a transition takes, the greater opportunity opponents of Medicare for All will have to sabotage its implementation. That is why H.R. 1384, the Medicare for All Act, implements a quick two-year transition to ensure people get the care they need, all the while minimizing the disruption felt during the change. It’s important to note that we’ve done major transitions to programs like Medicare in shorter time frames, with less sophisticated technology than we have now.

- **The transition to Medicare for All happens in stages over a two-year period.** One year after the bill is enacted, adults over 55 and minors can enroll in and start receiving Medicare for All benefits. Those who are eligible, including current Medicare recipients, will be automatically enrolled in the Medicare for All program and will be able to access the new expanded benefits package at no additional cost. After two years, every U.S. resident will eligible for and enrolled in the Medicare for All program.

- **A temporary Medicare for All Buy-In is included as a safety net during the transition.** This buy-in will ensure that people who need coverage can get it. This buy-in exists only during the transition, is open to anyone who wants to enroll, and will be paid for by premiums established on a sliding income scale, with cost-sharing subsidies available under the ACA.

- **Continuity of care is explicitly ensured during the 2-year transition to Medicare for All to ensure as little disruption as possible.** Insurance companies will be prohibited from kicking people off of their healthcare plans during the transition to Medicare for All. In addition, insurance companies would be prohibited from altering or attempting to exclude anybody from their coverage on the basis of disability or chronic illness.

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