Week 7 Discussion Post

Name

Institution

Date

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The largest policy issue facing older adults in the US is the increasing Medicare expenses. Medicare covers 50% of the healthcare cost for older adults. However, the older adults have to pay Medicare contributions annually. Besides, Medicare do not provide any meaningful assistance to older adults in nursing homes and long-term care facilitates. Medicare costs have been increasing. As the baby boomers reach the old age, the costs might increase further. Thus, healthcare policy makers need to address this problem.

I think there is a need for a comprehensive care plan that would help older adults get the care they need. For optimal health outcomes and quality of life, nonclinical needs of the older adults need to be addressed. The older adults’ social health-related concerns and social determinants of health should be included in their plan of care. Clinical aspects are important in older adults’ health. However, there are environmental, psychological, and social issues that need to be addressed. Policy makers also need to emphasize self-management of health and business of care coordination. The key factors that need to be considered are mobility, transportation, connectedness, resilience, optimism, and purpose in life.

Besides, there is a need to develop a plan that includes family members in the decision-making process. Family members can enhance achievement of positive outcomes by facilitating care coordination. When older adults are at home, they family members are responsible for their care. Thus, the involvement of older adults’ caregivers in the decision making process would be of great significance. Emphasizing these issues would improve the quality of life of older adults and enable them to live better lives.