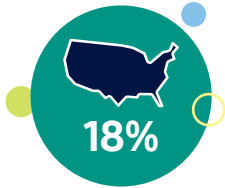


Merck Supports Reducing Waste in Our Health Care System



Total health care expenditures in the United States (U.S.) were **\$3.8 trillion in 2019.**¹



The U.S. spends more on health care than any other country, with costs approaching **18%** of the gross domestic product (GDP).²



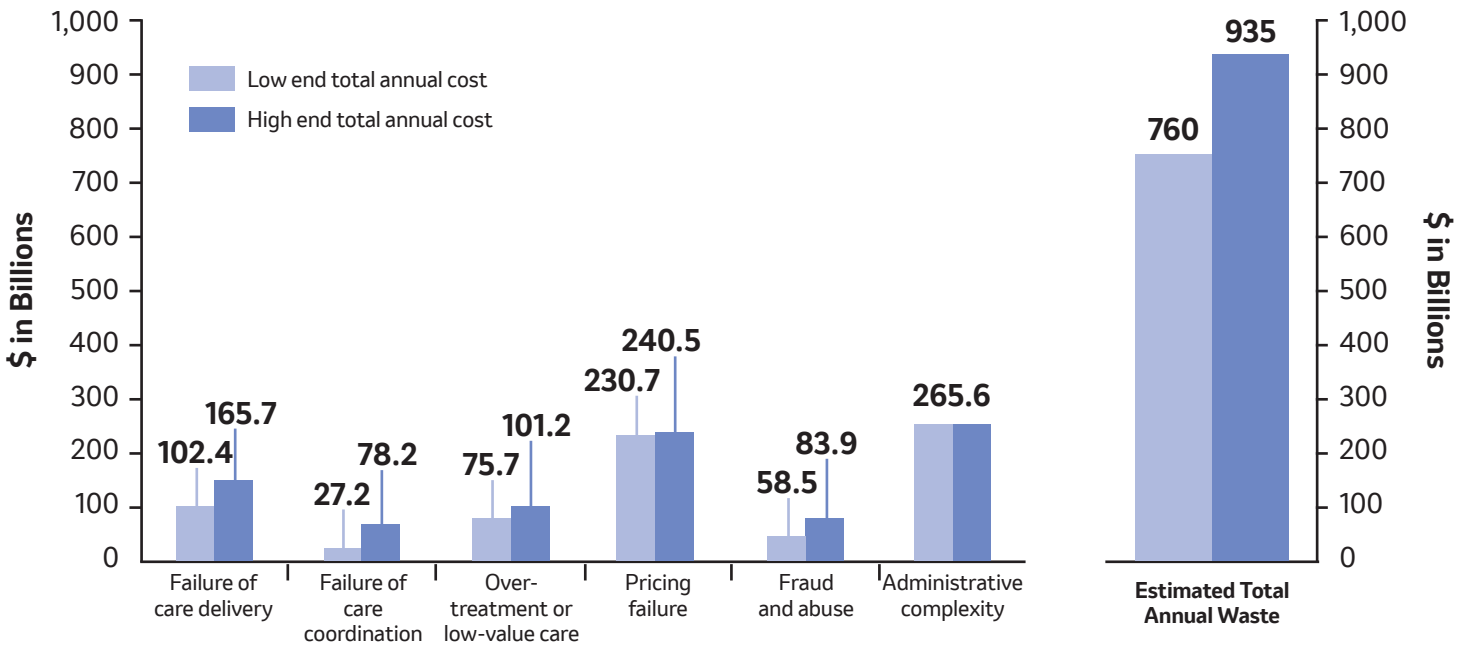
Prior studies estimated that approximately **30%** of health care spending may be considered waste.²



Stakeholders must **evaluate waste and inefficiency across the health care system** and identify and modify those areas that provide the least value to patient care and outcomes.²

This means evaluating health care **beyond medicines.**²

The estimated ranges of total annual cost and waste were **\$760 billion to \$935 billion.**²



Note: A 2019 JAMA review of 54 unique peer-reviewed publications, government-based reports, and reports from the gray literature, including 71 estimates.



Merck supports high value patient care

Merck supports efforts that reduce waste/low value care in the U.S. health care system.

References:

1. Fein AJ. Latest CMS data reveal the truth about U.S. drug spending. Drug Channels. Updated April 6, 2021. Accessed April 25, 2022. <https://www.drugchannels.net/2021/01/latest-cms-data-reveal-truth-about-us.html>
2. Shrank WH, Rogstad TL, Parekh N. Waste in the U.S. health care system: Estimated costs and potential savings. JAMA. 2019;322(15):1501-1509.