

# HEART VALVE DISEASE IN THE U.S.

Heart valve disease (HVD) involves damage to one or more of the heart's valves. This can reduce blood flow and lead to major complications—including death.



MORE THAN **5 MILLION PEOPLE** IN THE UNITED STATES ARE ESTIMATED TO HAVE HVD<sup>1</sup>

MORE THAN **ONE IN EIGHT PEOPLE** AGE 75+ ARE ESTIMATED TO HAVE MODERATE TO SEVERE HVD<sup>2</sup>

**MORE THAN 22,000 AMERICANS DIE** FROM HVD EVERY YEAR<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Nkomo et al. 2006. Burden of Valvular Heart Diseases: A Population-Based Study. *Lancet* 368(9540):1005-11

<sup>2</sup>Ibid

<sup>3</sup>Go et al. 2013. Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2013 Update. *Circ* 127(1)

Based on results from a national omnibus survey of 2,018 adults via randomly selected landlines and cell phones conducted by the Alliance for Aging Research and Belden Russonello Strategists

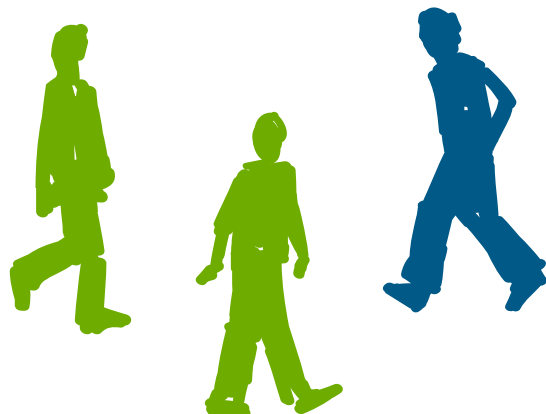
**60%** OF PEOPLE HAVE HEARD OF HVD...

BUT ONLY **9%** KNOW A GREAT DEAL ABOUT IT

AND **15%** KNOW SOMEWHAT ABOUT IT

OF THOSE 65 AND OVER:

**30%** KNOW NOTHING ABOUT HVD



Stats from an online survey of more than 400 individuals diagnosed with heart valve disease, conducted by the Alliance for Aging Research and Belden Russonello Strategists

In those with HVD:

**More than 2/3** knew a limited amount or nothing about HVD prior to their diagnosis

**60%** were diagnosed after a regular check-up or visit for something else

When it comes to barriers for optimal treatment:

**32%** say understanding how to go about getting treated is a problem

**17%** say care is too costly

**18%** lack medical facilities and/or doctors with expertise near to them

**14%** have difficulty getting insurance to cover care

**24%** don't have family or friends who can help enough

**16%** have difficulty getting appointments/referrals with experts



**63%** of patients with more serious HVD report experiencing some limitations in their lives before treatment

**Respondents who have received treatment express high levels of satisfaction with it**

For more information about heart valve disease visit: [LivingwithValveDisease.org](http://LivingwithValveDisease.org)

Alliance FOR AGING RESEARCH

