Cardiovascular disease (CVD) refers to all diseases that affect the heart or blood vessels. In common usage CVD and heart disease are sometimes treated as interchangeable terms, but CVD is actually a broader term that encompasses coronary and other forms of heart disease, and other health threats like stroke, congenital heart defects, and peripheral artery disease.¹

Research has delivered solutions to CVD, leading to significant advancements in awareness and treatment. For every $1 spent on community-based health education interventions that include weight loss, medication adherence, and medical screening—the primary prevention strategies for CVD—$5.60 in healthcare costs and lost productivity is recouped within five years.⁵

Advances in 3-D printing technologies have allowed heart surgeons to practice procedures on models created from individual patients. These research-fueled developments have led to significantly improved cardiac surgical skills.⁶

In the United States, approximately 1 in 3 deaths are caused by cardiovascular disease, which kills more than 840,000 people each year.²

Cardiovascular disease has been the leading cause of death in America since 1920.² Every 40 seconds, someone in America has a heart attack; about 805,000 occur each year.²

Nearly half (48 percent, 121.5 million in 2016) of all adults in the United States have some type of cardiovascular disease.²

Today, thanks to research-driven advances in awareness and treatment, the majority of heart attacks are survivable.⁶

The cost of treating cardiovascular disease is expected to exceed $1 trillion by the year 2035.³

Cost
$351 billion: Total direct and indirect costs of CVD, including healthcare costs and lost productivity.²

Half of Americans Willing to Pay Additional Taxes to Support Medical Research
Would you be willing to pay $1 per week more in taxes if you were certain that all of the money would be spent on additional medical research?

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019
THEN
In 1950, there were 589 deaths in the U.S. (per 100,000) from CVD.¹

NOW
Thanks to advances in research, prevention, early detection, and treatment, the age-adjusted death rate attributable to CVD fell to less than 219.4 deaths per 100,000 in 2016.²

IMAGINE
A cure.

Cardiovascular Disease Death Rates, 2014 - 2016
(per 100,000 total population - age adjusted)²

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