

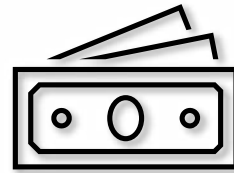


SMP

Senior Medicare Patrol

Preventing Medicare Fraud

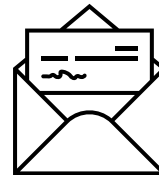
WHY YOU SHOULD PREVENT MEDICARE FRAUD?



\$60 billion of taxpayer's dollars are lost to Medicare every year due to fraud and abuse.



Your benefits could get used up due to the fact the scammer convinced you into getting unnecessary services.



You may end up having to pay money for something you never use or did not need at all.



Types of Medicare Fraud

HOME HEALTH FRAUD

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

GENETIC TESTING

NEW MEDICARE CARD SCAMS



HOME HEALTH FRAUD



To receive home health care
your doctor must certify that you:



Are
Homebound



Need
Skilled Care



Have a Plan
of Care

Homebound
Are

Skilled Care
Need

of Care
Have a Plan

HOME HEALTH FRAUD



“Homebound” means that a person cannot leave home without help.

Skilled care are services that require professionals.

Plan of care is the list of services your doctor refers you to.

Medicare will only cover an Assistant if you have a condition that qualifies you.

Illinois Community Care Program offers Personal Assistants for non-medical needs.

HOME HEALTH FRAUD



One agency visited a senior building and asked for Medicare numbers.



After that, they billed Medicare for home health services “provided” to each participant.

You sign up for Home Health Services because they tell you it’s free.



Following this, you receive a bill for home health services.

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FRAUD

Part B (Medical Insurance) covers any medically necessary durable medical equipment.

DME is mainly used in the home.

These most common types of Durable Medical Equipment Scams involve Back, and Knee braces.



Mr. Smith received a call claiming to be from Medicare asking if he had back pain.



The caller asked for their Medicare Number in return for a box with knee braces that did not fit Mr. Smith.



A month later Mr. Smith reviewed their Medicare Summary Notice and noticed a charge of \$1000.



What would you tell Mr. Smith to do next?

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FRAUD

GENETIC TESTING FRAUD



Cardiovascular genetic testing fraud occurs when Medicare is billed for a cardio type of test or screening that was not medically necessary and/or was not ordered by a beneficiary's treating physician.



Scammers are offering Medicare beneficiaries cheek swabs for genetic testing to obtain their Medicare information for fraudulent billing purposes or possibly medical identity theft.



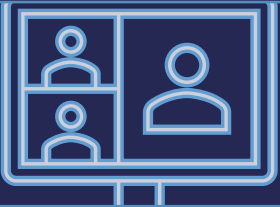
Billing Medicare (usually thousands of dollars) for a broad range of cardiac genetic tests that you did not request or possibly even receive.

GENETIC TESTING FRAUD

This is how companies may try to promote themselves to you:



A company offering you “free” or “at no cost to you” testing without a treating physician’s order and then billing Medicare.



A company using “telemedicine” to offer testing to you over the phone and arranging for an unrelated physician or “teledoc” to order the tests.



A company calls you stating your doctor or cardiologist requested that you have the testing done and they will send you a testing kit.

GENETIC TESTING FRAUD

Genetic testing fraud happens when Medicare is billed for a test that was not medically necessary.

You see a sign at a Health Fair that says: "Get Free Genetic Testing. Covered Under Medicare".

You know it could be a scam.

How would you approach this situation?



CBS 2 INVESTIGATORS

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CBS 2

NEW MEDICARE CARD SCAMS

Scammers try to offer you a new Medicare card made of plastic, gold or with a chip.



Scammers are trying to ask for your Medicare Number while offering this card.



Scammers bill Medicare and possibly commit medical identity theft.



There is no need to take any action since there is no need to update your Medicare card.



Medicare is not allowed to contact you to ask for your personal information.



Never give your Medicare number away to these callers.



NEW MEDICARE CARD SCAMS

DON'T FALL FOR NEW MEDICARE CARD SCAM

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

Everyone has already received a new Medicare Card.
Those cards were sent out three years ago!

Your Medicare Card number is **NO LONGER**
YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.

Medicare is **NOT ALLOWED TO CALL**
BENEFICIARIES.

There are **NO CARDS THAT ARE**
MADE OF PLASTIC.

There are **NO CARDS THAT HAVE A**
CHIP INSIDE OF THEM.

There are **NO CARDS THAT ARE THE**
COLOR GOLD.

DO NOT GIVE OUT YOUR MEDICARE CARD
NUMBER TO ANYONE OVER THE PHONE!



ILLINOIS SMP FRAUD ALERTS



The Illinois SMP Program sends email Fraud Alerts every other Monday.

These alerts contain fraud-related articles, scams and other helpful information. You can register here: <http://illinoissmp.org>

HOTLINE RESOURCES



Illinois SMP
1-800-699-9043

**Social Security
Administration**
1-800-772-1213

**Better Business
Bureau**
1-703-276-0100

**Identity Theft
Hotline**
1-877-438-4338

**Eldercare Senior
Services Locator**
1-800-677-1116

**Illinois Senior
Health Insurance
Program**
1-800-252-8966



Questions?





Preventing Medicare Fraud



ILLINOIS SMP

(800) 699-9043

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