



Take Charge... Help Prevent Health Care Fraud and Abuse!

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Medicare Fraud, Errors, and Abuse Affect...

Everyone

- ✓ **Billions** of taxpayer dollars lost to improper claims
- ✓ Medicare trust fund at risk

Medicare Beneficiaries

- ✓ Higher premiums
- ✓ Less money for needed benefits
- ✓ Quality of treatment



Consequences of Medicare Fraud, Errors, and Abuse



Medical identity theft



Health impact



Personal financial losses

What is the Senior Medicare Patrol?

SMPs...

Help Medicare beneficiaries prevent, detect, and report health care fraud

Help preserve the integrity of the Medicare program

Rely on volunteers to help perform SMP work

What is Medicare Fraud?



Intentionally billing Medicare for services that were not received or billing for a service at a higher rate than is actually justified

What is Medicare Abuse?



Providers supply services or products that are not medically necessary or that do not meet professional standards

Examples of Fraud & Abuse

Billing for services, supplies, or equipment that were not provided

Billing for excessive medical supplies

Obtaining or giving a Medicare number for “free” services

Improper coding to obtain a higher payment

Unneeded or excessive x-rays and lab tests

Claims for services that are not medically necessary

Using another person’s Medicare number, or letting someone else use your number

Three Steps to Prevent Health Care Fraud



1) Protect

2) Detect

3) Report

Step 1: Protect Yourself and Others from Medicare Fraud

DO

- Do treat your Medicare card and number like your credit card.
- Do watch out for identity theft.
- Do be aware that Medicare doesn't call or visit to sell you anything.
- Do be cautious of offers for "free" medical services.
- Do **pass it on!**

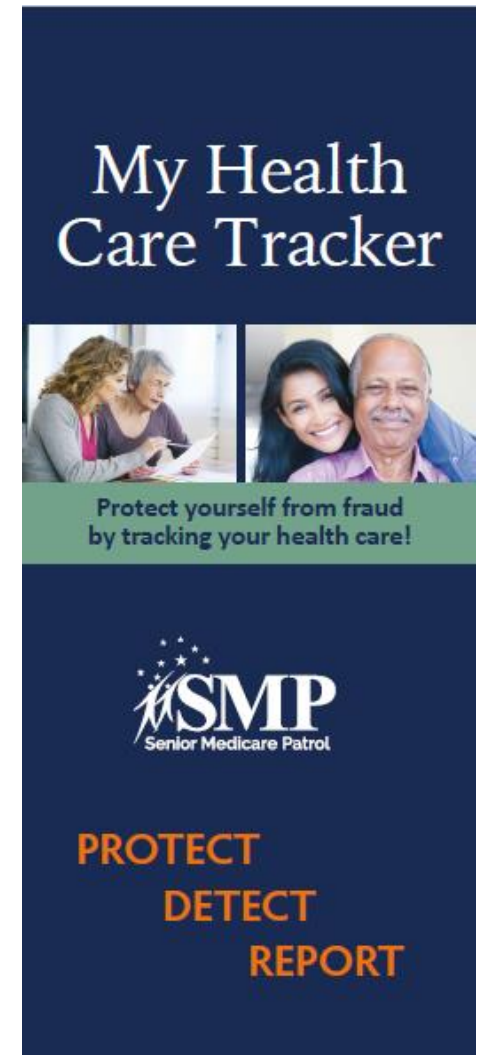
DON'T

- Don't give out your Medicare number except to your doctor or other Medicare provider.
- Don't carry your Medicare card unless you will need it.




Step 2: Detect Medicare Fraud & Abuse


- ✓ Use your **My Health Care Tracker** provided by the SMP.
- ✓ Review your **Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs)** and/or **Explanations of Benefits (EOBs)**.
- ✓ Access your Medicare information at www.Medicare.gov.



My Health
Care Tracker



Protect yourself from fraud
by tracking your health care!



**PROTECT
DETECT
REPORT**

Step 3: Report Suspected Medicare Fraud and Abuse



- ✓ Call the provider.
- ✓ Gather information and documentation.
- ✓ **Contact your SMP.**
 - This is a free and confidential service!

Three Steps to Prevent Health Care Fraud



1) Protect

2) Detect

3) Report



For More Information

Websites: www.smpresource.org
<https://eciaaaa.org/smp>

Call Toll-free: 1-877-808-2468

- To report suspected fraud/abuse
- For training, speakers, and/or materials
- To volunteer with the SMP program