

Welcome to Montgomery County SHIP's: **Understanding Your Medicare Choices**

Please be aware that during the presentation:

- All attendees are muted
- Questions will be answered at the end
- Click “?” (question mark) in the webinar controls on the right side, type your question, & Enter
- This presentation will be posted the next day at:
www.MedicareABCD.org/Events

Thank you for joining us!



Jewish Council for the Aging®
Helping All Seniors Thrive®





MEDICARE OVERVIEW

Understanding Your Choices

Montgomery County SHIP*

(*State Health Insurance Assistance Program)

www.MedicareABCD.org | 301-255-4250



WHAT YOU'LL LEARN TODAY

- **What is Medicare?**
- **Enrollment Periods**
- **Enrollment Penalties**
- **Financial Assistance**
- **Prevent Medicare Fraud & Abuse**
- **Summary**

WHAT IS MEDICARE?

OPTION 1: ORIGINAL MEDICARE



Part A

Part B

You can add:



Part D

You can also add:



Medigap

OPTION 2: MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (PART C)



Part A



Part B



Part D

May cover vision, dental and hearing

WHAT IS MEDICARE?

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- ✓ U.S. citizens
 - ✓ Legal residents for 5 years or more
- and***
- ✓ Age 65 or older

OR

- ✓ U.S. citizens
 - ✓ Legal residents 5 years or more
- and***
- ✓ Age 64 or younger AND receive Social Security disability benefits for at least 24 months

WHAT IS MEDICARE?

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Part A

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WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE PART A (HOSPITAL INSURANCE)

Medicare Part A helps cover the following:

- ✓ Hospital Inpatient Care
- ✓ Skilled Nursing Facility Care
- ✓ Home Health Care
- ✓ Hospice Care



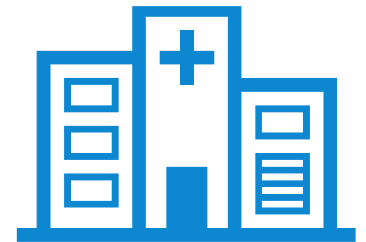
WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE PART A (HOSPITAL INSURANCE)

MEDICARE OUTPATIENT OBSERVATION NOTICE (MOON)

IMPORTANT!

- ✓ M.O.O.N must be given after 24 hours but no more than 36 hours from the onset of observation status
- ✓ Must have 3 consecutive overnight stays in order to have Medicare pay for skilled nursing facility care



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE PART B (MEDICAL INSURANCE)

Medicare Part B helps cover the following from any provider who accepts Medicare:

- ✓ Doctor's services
- ✓ Preventative services
- ✓ Diagnostic tests
- ✓ Outpatient care
- ✓ Home health care
- ✓ Durable medical equipment
- ✓ Therapies



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE PART B (MEDICAL INSURANCE)

Part B costs:

- ✓ **Part B premium**
 - ✓ Changes each year
- ✓ **Part B Deductible**
 - ✓ Beneficiary must pay the deductible before Part B begins to cover services
- ✓ **Part B Co-insurance**
 - ✓ 20% co-insurance for most Part B services
 - ✓ Original Medicare covers the remaining 80%



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDIGAP (MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE)

Medigap is supplemental insurance sold by private companies. Each Medigap policy:

- ✓ **Requires** Original Medicare (Part A and Part B)
- ✓ May help cover Part A and B co-pays and deductibles.
- ✓ **Only covers one person**
- ✓ Offers “standardized” basic benefits, but plan premiums and other costs may vary
- ✓ Monthly premium is paid directly to the private insurance company



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDIGAP (MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE)



Call Maryland Insurance Administration at **410-468-2244** for a Medicare Supplement (MEDIGAP) Premium Booklet.

The booklet changes every six months, January–June and July–December.

WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE PART B (MEDICAL INSURANCE) UNDERSTANDING PARTICIPATION & ASSIGNMENT

Doctor/Provider Participates in Medicare & Accepts Assignment:

- ✓ **“Takes Assignment”:**
Accepts the Medicare-approved cost for service
- ✓ **Medicare will pay 80%**
- ✓ **Beneficiary will be billed for 20% co-pay**



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE PART B (MEDICAL INSURANCE) UNDERSTANDING PARTICIPATION & ASSIGNMENT

Non-participating Doctor/Provider Accepts Medicare But Does NOT Take Assignment:

- ✓ **Accepts Medicare**
- ✓ **May charge up to 15% more** than the Medicare-approved amount
- ✓ **May ask you to pay the full amount for services up front**
- ✓ **Beneficiary will pay 20% + 15%**



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE PART B (MEDICAL INSURANCE) UNDERSTANDING PARTICIPATION & ASSIGNMENT

Opt-out Doctor or Provider:

- ✓ **DOES NOT accept Medicare**
- ✓ **Can charge whatever they want**
- ✓ **Requires FULL PAYMENT at the time of service**



If you use an Opt-out doctor or provider, **Medicare WILL NOT reimburse you!**

WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE PART D (PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE)

Covers your Rx drug costs.

- ✓ Available to all people with Medicare Part A and/or Medicare Part B
- ✓ Available either through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage Plan



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE COVERAGE LIMITATIONS

**Original Medicare (Part A & Part B)
DOES NOT cover the following items:**

- ✓ Long-Term Care
- ✓ Routine Dental Care
- ✓ Dentures
- ✓ Hearing Aids & Exams for Fitting Hearing Aids
- ✓ Routine Eye Exams and Glasses
- ✓ Cosmetic Surgery
- ✓ Acupuncture



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

OPTION 1: ORIGINAL MEDICARE



Part A

Part B

You can add:



Part D

You can also add:



Medigap

OPTION 2: MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (PART C)



Part A



Part B

+



Part D

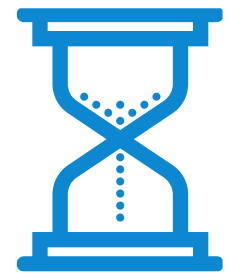
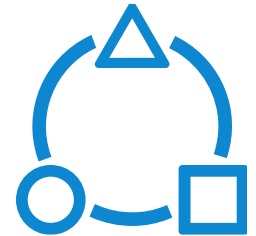
May cover vision, dental and hearing

WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (PART C) IS AN ALTERNATIVE TO ORIGINAL MEDICARE

Plans feature:

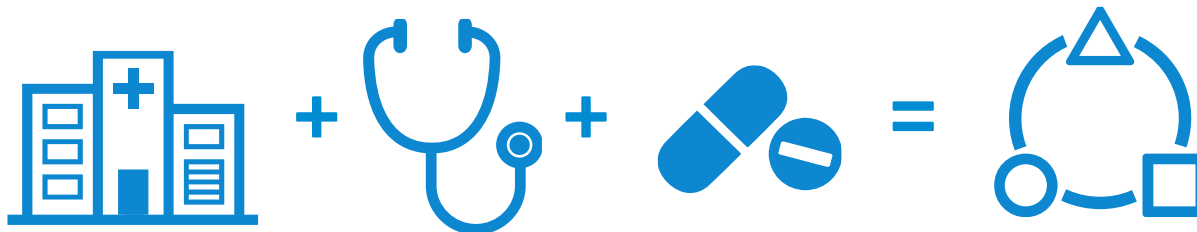
- ✓ **All the benefits & services** covered under Part A & Part B
- ✓ Medicare-approved, private insurance companies that follow Medicare rules
- ✓ A Medicare Advantage Plan insurance card



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (PART C)

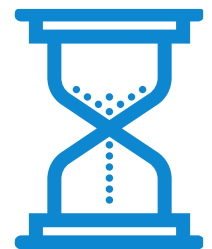
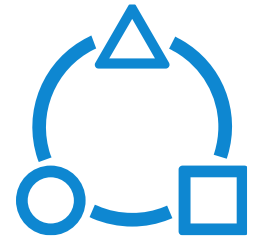
- ✓ **You must** have Medicare A and B to enroll in Medicare Advantage.
- ✓ You will have to pay for this coverage since you are not receiving Original Medicare coverage.
- ✓ Medicare A, B and D are **bundled** in Medicare Advantage Part C.



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (PART C) INCLUDES:

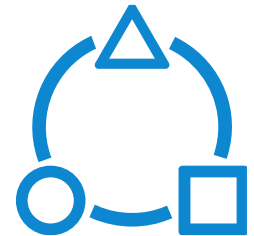
- ✓ Choice of different plans, and different network of providers
- ✓ Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D)
- ✓ Extra benefits not covered by Original Medicare, such as:
 - vision, hearing, dental work, routine physical exams
- ✓ Low premiums
- ✓ Annual out-of-pocket limits



WHAT IS MEDICARE?

WHEN DECIDING BETWEEN ORIGINAL MEDICARE OR MEDICARE ADVANTAGE, ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS:

- ✓ Do I travel often?
- ✓ How often do I see doctors or specialists?
- ✓ What healthcare services do I need?
- ✓ Do I want to purchase a Medigap policy?
- ✓ How will my medicines be covered?



It's important to check whether your doctors, providers, specialists, hospitals, and other facilities participate in the plan you are researching.

ORIGINAL MEDICARE VS. MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

ORIGINAL MEDICARE

Covers Parts A & B; may need stand-alone Part D Rx drug coverage

Can see any Medicare-accepting provider in the US

No specialist referral needed

Costs: Part A hospital deductible, coinsurances and premium (for some people)+ Part B deductible, premium, coinsurance

Medigap supplemental

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

Covers Parts A & B; usually includes Part D benefits

May be restricted to in-network providers

May need referral to see specialist

Costs and rules vary depending on plan; usually fixed amount (copayment) for most services

Cannot have Medigap

ENROLLMENT PERIODS



Initial Enrollment Period

- Part A
- Part B
- Part D
- Part C Medicare Advantage
- Medigap



General Enrollment Period

- Part A
- Part B
- Part D



Special Enrollment Period

- Part B



Open Enrollment Period

- Part D
- Medicare Advantage

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



**Qualified
Medicare
Beneficiary**



**Specified
Low Income
Medicare
Beneficiary**



**Low
Income
Subsidy
“Extra
Help”**



**Maryland
Senior
Prescription
Drug
Assistance
Program**

HELP PREVENT MEDICARE FRAUD & ABUSE

- ✓ **Fraud:** the **intentional** deception or misrepresentation made **knowingly and willingly** in order to secure some unauthorized benefit.
- ✓ **Abuse:** engaging in practices that are **inconsistent with accepted medical/business practices.**



Carefully review your **Medicare Summary Notice** when it arrives quarterly.

Three Steps to Prevent Health Care Fraud



1) Protect

2) Detect

3) Report



Carefully review your **Medicare Summary Notice** when it arrives quarterly.

QUICK SUMMARY



- ✓ **Begin your research now**
- ✓ **Decide** whether you want Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage Plan
- ✓ **Plan** for your needs and situation
- ✓ **Ask SHIP for help**

MEDICARE OVERVIEW

Understanding Your Choices



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WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

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Medicare Overview

