

HELP FIGHT MEDICARE FRAUD

The Medicare fund loses billions of dollars each year by being used for services not rendered, or to other errors or fraud. Medicare errors, abuse, and fraud deprive the Medicare fund of much needed money to continue helping you with the healthcare you need. Medicare beneficiaries and their caretakers can prevent the loss of much needed funds for Medicare coverage by doing some of the following:



- Treat Medicare, and Social Security, cards, and their numbers, with the same privacy and security measures as credit cards. Identity theft and medical insurance information theft are big business in the criminal world.
- Only carry your Medicare card with you when you are going to a doctor's appointment, or other medical appointment, or to the pharmacy to pick up a prescription.
- Know that Medicare will not ever call to solicit business, or send someone door to door to sell you any products or services.
- Do not give any personal or card information over the phone unless you know and trust the person on the other end of the line.
- Keep a personal healthcare journal or calendar, listing which doctors you have seen and when and what services you received.
- Thoroughly review your Medicare Summary Notices (MSN), and compare services listed with your personal healthcare journal.
- Always contact your care provider for clarification or explanation of charges that do not appear to be correct. If the explanation is not satisfactory, contact a local Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) member by dialing 1-877-808-2468.

Please visit www.StopMedicareFraud.gov for more helpful information.

Area Agency on Aging of North Idaho

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