

## Fight Fraud by Guarding Your Medicare Number

Medicare is fighting fraud and abuse in the health care system. If you have Medicare, you can help by guarding your Medicare number— treat it like a credit card.

Follow these important steps to protect yourself from fraud:

- Don't share your Medicare number with anyone who contacts you by telephone, email or in person, unless you've given them permission in advance. Medicare will NEVER contact you for your Medicare number or other personal information.
- Don't ever let anyone borrow or pay to use your Medicare number.
- Review your Medicare Summary Notice to be sure you and Medicare are only being charged for actual services.

If you're looking to enroll in a Medicare plan:

- Remember there are no "early bird discounts" or "limited time offers."
- Don't let anyone rush you to enroll by claiming you need to "act now for the best deal."
- Be skeptical of free gifts, free medical services, discount packages or any offer that sounds "too good to be true."

Call 1-800-MEDICARE to report suspected fraud. To learn more about protecting yourself from health care fraud, visit [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov) or contact your local Senior Medicare Patrol ([www.smpresource.org](http://www.smpresource.org)).

*This message is brought to you by the  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.*