



MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

The Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) will add new prescription drug coverage to the Medicare program. To receive this coverage, you must enroll in a drug plan. Each plan has a list of drugs they cover, also called a formulary. It is important to choose a plan that meets your needs. If you do not have high prescription costs now, you should still consider enrolling. Enrollment between November 15, 2005 – May 15, 2006 means you will pay a lower monthly premium than if you join after this period.

Fraud Awareness

Be Alert to:

- Companies making cold calls trying to sign you up for a plan before October 1, 2005
- Telemarketers asking for personal information, such as your Medicare, Social Security and bank routing numbers
- Healthcare providers billing for brand name drugs and dispensing generics or expired prescriptions
- > Door-to-door marketing from people claiming to work for Medicare or Social Security
- > Strangers who ask for your Medicare number when they offer FREE services
- > Telemarketers pressuring you to make a decision regarding your healthcare and benefits

Q. How will I know if a call is from the Social Security Administration (SSA) and not a scam from companies soliciting fraudulent drug benefit plans?

A. SSA may call you if some questions on the application were not answered or if they cannot read the answers you provided. They may also call you to check any differences between your answers on the application and information they receive from other Federal agencies about your income or resources. However, when SSA calls you for more information, they should never ask you for bank account numbers, credit card numbers, or life insurance policy numbers. The only time SSA will ask for your Social Security number is if the number on the application is not valid and they need the correct number.



Keep track of your doctor visits and always check your Medicare Summary Notice. If you suspect fraud, call *GeorgiaCares* Senior Medicare Patrol at 1-800-669-8387.

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