

# Medicare Fraud Prevention Week



## Actions Everyone Can Take

### THE WEEK OF 6/5



#### **Beneficiaries**

Learn how to read your Medicare statements.



#### **Caregivers**

Educate yourself and loved ones on how to prevent and detect health care fraud.



#### **Families**

Talk to loved ones about protecting their Medicare number.



#### **Partners & Professionals**

Share SMP information on social media.  
Invite the SMP to speak.



#### **Health Care Providers**

Talk to patients about health care-related scams.



#### **Community**

Look out for your older neighbors.

### ABOUT SMP

Your local Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) is ready to provide you with the information you need to **PROTECT** yourself from Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse; **DETECT** potential fraud, errors, and abuse; and **REPORT** your concerns.



# SMP

Senior Medicare Patrol

Preventing Medicare Fraud

[www.smpresource.org](http://www.smpresource.org)

1-877-808-2468

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## BENEFICIARIES

The most effective way to stop fraud from occurring is to prevent it in the first place.

Remember the three steps from the SMP:  
Prevent, Detect, Report!

- **Prevent:** Learn how to read your Medicare statements.
- **Detect:** When reviewing your MSN or EOB, look for services, products, or equipment you didn't receive, double charges, or items your doctor didn't order.
- **Report:** Call or email your local SMP if you believe that you have experienced health care fraud, errors, or abuse.



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## CAREGIVERS

Help by educating yourself and your client or loved one on how to prevent and detect health care fraud, errors, and abuse.

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Be on the lookout for items such as durable medical equipment (like boxes of knee braces) lying around the house that may have been shipped to the beneficiary without their or their doctor's approval.

Remind your client or loved one to never give out their Medicare number or other personal information over the phone.



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## FAMILIES

Help by talking to your loved ones about protecting their Medicare number just as they would a credit card number.

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Encourage them to check their Medicare statements for fraud, errors, or abuse and never give out their Medicare number over the phone for any reason.

Help your loved ones create a Medicare.gov account to access their Medicare claims online or remind them to open and review their statements when they come in the mail every three months.



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## PARTNERS & PROFESSIONALS

Celebrate Medicare Fraud Prevention Week by sharing SMP information on social media, referring clients and consumers to the SMP, and inviting the SMP to speak during an event. Identify ways to collaborate on mission-related topics and information.



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## HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Celebrate Medicare Fraud Prevention Week by talking to patients about health care-related scams such as those related to durable medical equipment and genetic testing schemes.

Remind patients that products and services should only be ordered by physicians they regularly see. Needed medical items should never be ordered through TV ads or unsolicited calls.



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## COMMUNITY

Celebrate Medicare Fraud Prevention Week by looking out for your older neighbors. When in public, be aware of older individuals purchasing gift cards in large amounts. If you overhear someone talking about Medicare, don't be afraid to offer information for the local SMP and SHIP.

Encourage those you know to talk to a trusted source about their Medicare questions and tell your neighbors about the most recent Medicare scams. Consider volunteering with your local SMP!



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