

Medicare Card Scams - Tips for Protecting Yourself and Medicare

In 2018, Medicare updated the Medicare card by removing the Social Security number and using a random identifier that includes numbers and letters. That was the last time the card was updated and **there is no plan to update it again.**

By this time many of you are thinking, not again, SMP is still talking about Medicare card Scams! This is one scam that doesn't go away. So SMPs will keep educating beneficiaries on how to protect their information.

What Does the Card Look Like?

- The card from Medicare is a paper card that has a blue banner on the top, a white middle, and a red banner on the bottom. If you want, you can print your own in black and white.

Examples of Medicare Card Scams

- Someone calls you claiming:
 - You are getting a new, plastic Medicare card.
 - Medicare is switching to a card with a chip in it.
 - It's a new year so you need a new card.
 - You need a black and white card.
 - They need your Medicare number to see if you have received your new card yet.
 - They need you to verify your Medicare number so they can confirm you have the correct Medicare card.



What Can You Do to Stop New Medicare Card Scams?

- **Do not** answer calls from numbers you do not recognize, let the call go to voicemail.
- **Do not** confirm your Medicare number or answer “Yes” to any question.
- **Guard your Medicare card** and number like a credit card! Don't share your number, laminate it, make copies, or let anyone else make a copy.

How Can Your Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Help?

If you think you have spotted fraud, report it right away. ND SMP will help seniors prevent, detect and report Medicare fraud. If you see anything suspicious, contact the ND SMP at ndsmp@minotstateu.edu or call 1-833-818-0029. For non-Medicare fraud issues, contact the ND Attorney General's Office at 1-800-472-2600.

The information provided is intended to be a general summary only. Source of information: SMP National Resource Center Library.
www.smpresource.org/Content/Medicare-Fraud/Fraud-Schemes/Medicare-Card-Scams.aspx

North Dakota Senior Medicare Patrol Phone: 833-818-0029

For more information or to locate your SMP, visit <https://ndcpd.org/smp/>

This project was supported, in part, by grant number 90MPPG0021, from the Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services. Points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official Administration for Community Living policy.



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