



Preventing Medicare Fraud

ND SMP Scam of the Month – April 2024

Are You Being Billed for Unneeded Urinary Catheters?



Some people on Medicare are getting bills for urinary catheters they never ordered or received. Scammers are taking advantage of Medicare by charging for things people don't need or didn't order, and it's causing problems.

Nicole Liebau, director of the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Resource Center, said they became aware of the false billing in May 2023, and complaints went up a lot by August. SMPs continue to get a staggering number of complaints from Medicare beneficiaries.

How do scammers get away with this? SMP warns that scammers hope Medicare won't notice these fake charges among the millions of claims they process daily. They also hope people on Medicare won't check their statements to see these false claims.

To stay safe, SMP advises checking your Medicare statements often. If you see charges for supplies or services you didn't ask for, contact ND SMP. They can help you get a new Medicare number and report the fake charges.

Reporting Medicare fraud: 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 (27 Feb 24). PR Newswire: *Scam Alert: Scammers are billing for unneeded urinary catheters.*

North Dakota Senior Medicare Patrol Phone: 833-818-0029 or (701) 858-3580

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

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