

## **ND SMP Scam of the Month – May 2025**

## AI (Artificial Intelligence) Scams & Medicare

What is AI? It is the study and creation of computer systems that can do things people usually do, like seeing, understanding speech, making decisions, and translating languages. Some scammers use AI to trick people with Medicare. These scams can lead to money loss, stealing personal information, and problems with healthcare. Examples of scams include fake bills, stealing medical records, and charging for treatments that aren't needed or never happened.

This is an example of an AI scam:

An AI robot tells you about "new Medicare laws" that make you "eligible for a flex card, a food card, lower medical bills, and \$180 cash back every month—all for free!" Does that sound too good to be true? That's because it is, and it's a scam.

The AI robot then says, "Since you have Medicare Parts A and B, I will now transfer you to our Senior Medical Supervisor to process this change." The robot sends the call to a scam call center, often located in other countries. There, a person on the phone tells you they need to verify your information for the program that will give you all those benefits. They ask for your name, address, and Medicare number, while pretending they are calling from Medicare.

If you encounter this, HANG UP! Remember:

- Medicare, or any other government agency like Social Security, will never call and ask for your Medicare or Social Security number.
- Medicare is not offering flex cards, food cards, or any \$180 cash back benefits.
- If you feel unsure about a call, hang up right away. If you can, write down the caller's name and/or organization to report it.
- Never give out your Medicare number, Social Security number, or personal information to anyone who calls, texts, or emails.

## If you come across suspected Medicare phone scams or other healthcare fraud, report it. **Reporting Medicare fraud:**

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. ND SMP will help Medicare beneficiaries prevent, detect, and report fraud.

The information provided is intended to be a general summary only. Source of information: NCOA. (2024, October 31). *What are AI scams? A guide for older adults*. Scam and fraud prevention. National Council on Aging.

## 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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