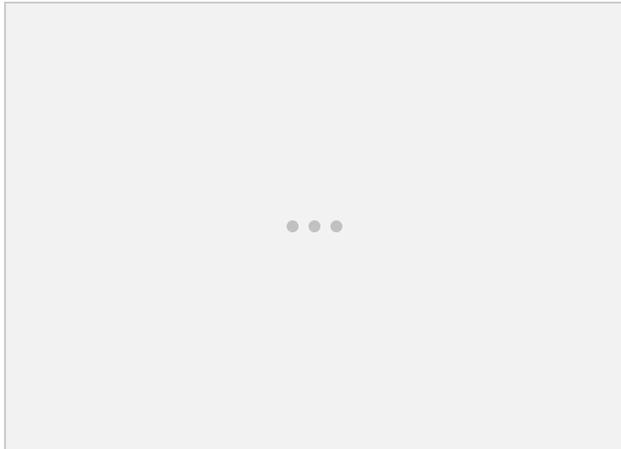


The Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program provides Medicare beneficiaries



with the most current information on Medicare benefits and educates them on ways to identify and prevent errors, waste, fraud and abuse of the Medicare system.

Medicare statements can be challenging to read and understand. Sometimes beneficiaries don't even look at them, and consequently never know if Medicare has been charged for a service that was not performed.

Usually discrepancies in the statements between the services received and the services charged, are due to simple mistakes. But sometimes it can be actual Medicare fraud. Either way, it adds up to millions of dollars a year charged to the government.

Eastern Area Agency on Aging's SMP program is taking steps to help beneficiaries be aware of the charges on their statements as well as letting them know where to call if they find a mistake.

SMP also has specially trained volunteers who go out into the community to spread the word about Medicare benefits and problems.

Our SMP coordinator works with these volunteers and with Medicare beneficiaries one-on-one. He also speaks to groups.

SMP services include:

- Individual and community education on Medicare including the benefits available
- How to read and understand a Medicare statement
- Other Medicare issues

· Web and informational resources

We maintain a number of current Medicare related publications and can mail them upon request

Also, check out the consumer Medicare website at www.medicare.gov for information about benefits and services offered by Medicare.

What Is Health Care Fraud?

<http://www.stopmedicarefraud.gov/aboutfraud/index.html>

How Do I Know If I Am a Victim of Health Care Fraud?

You DON'T unless you carefully review your Medicare statements to see if someone is STEALING your benefits. You have worked for your benefits and it is a crime for someone to take them from you. FRAUD can lead to increased Medicare premiums so we should all do our part to detect it.

What Should I Do If I Discover Health Care Fraud?

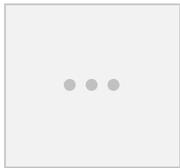
<http://www.stopmedicarefraud.gov/reportfraud/index.html>

Please call Eastern Area Agency on Aging at 1 800 432 7812

How Can I Prevent Health Care Fraud?

<http://www.stopmedicarefraud.gov/preventfraud/index.html>

Report Medicare Fraud Now



Office of Inspector General

Call: 800-447-8477

TTY: 800-377-4950

Online: [Report Fraud](#)

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

Call: 800-633-4227 / TTY 877-486-2048

<http://www.stopmedicarefraud.gov/preventfraud/scams-identity-theft/index.html>

