



WHAT IS A MEDICARE SCAM?

In a **Medicare scam**, criminals pretend to be from Medicare, a doctor's office, or even a pharmacy. Their goal is to trick people into sharing their Medicare number. Most often, scammers use this information to commit identity theft. They submit bogus Medicare claims in the beneficiary's name to obtain health care services, supplies, or even prescription drugs.

You Are Smarter Than A Scammer

The easiest way to **prevent a Medicare scam** is to stay skeptical. Remember:

- A surprise call from any government agency is always a scam.
- Hang Up! Before you give out any information, simply hang up.
- Never give out your Medicare number over the phone, email or text. Hand your card in person to your medical providers.



DETECT Medicare Scams

Regularly review your Medicare Summary Notice for claims that don't make sense. For example, **catheter kit claims** are showing up on statements of people who don't use them! Here's what to look for:

- Intermittent urinary catheter
- Coude tip urinary catheter
- Tube to drain bladder



REPORT THEM!

Call the **Ohio Senior Medicare Patrol** if you suspect fraud on your Medicare account. We can help you report these claims and will help you keep your account safe.

Our reports also go to the HHS Office of the Inspector General to help track down scammers and put them in jail!



800-293-4767
www.proseniors.org/ohio-smp