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Healthy Insights

INFORMED • ENGAGED • EMPOWERED

2018 Issue 2

Did you get your new Medicare Card?

Medicare started mailing the new Medicare cards in April 2018 and will continue to mail them through April 2019. If you did not receive a new card yet, it is coming, and it is available in English and Spanish!

Your new card will be sent to you automatically. You don't need to request it; just be sure that Medicare has a record of your current address. If you need to update your address contact your local Social Security office or visit www.ssa.gov.*



You'll see that with the new card, you have been given a new Medicare identification number. Your Social Security Number (SSN) is no longer your identification number.



MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE

Name/Nombre
JOHN L SMITH

Medicare Number/Número de Medicare
1EH2-ND4-LK73

Entitled to/Con derecho a
HOSPITAL (PART A)
MEDICAL (PART B)

Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza
03-01-2018
03-01-2018

Why?

Identity theft affects a large growing number of people age 65 or older. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has taken action to protect people with Medicare by removing their SSNs from Medicare cards.

Things to Know About the New Medicare Card

Mailing takes time.

Your card may arrive at a different time than your neighbors.

Destroy your old Medicare card.

When you receive your new Medicare card, your old card should be discarded and you should start using your new one right away.

New Medicare Number

Give your new Medicare Number ONLY to doctors, pharmacists, other healthcare providers, your insurers, or people you trust to work with Medicare on your behalf.

continued

Keep your card with you.

Carry your new card and show it to your healthcare providers when you need care. You will no longer need to carry the ID card issued by your health plan, unless you have a Medicare Advantage Plan.

If you are in a Medicare Advantage Plan (an HMO or PPO), your Medicare Advantage Plan ID card is your main card for Medicare. You should still keep and use the Medicare Advantage Plan ID card whenever you need care.

However, you may be asked to show your new Medicare card, so you should carry both cards with you.

Your doctors know about the new card.

Your doctors and other healthcare providers and facilities are aware that new Medicare cards are being issued and will ask you for the new card when you need care.

Watch out for scams.

If someone calls you and asks for your Medicare number or other personal information, hang up, and call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) to report the call.

*Medicare is managed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Social Security works with CMS by enrolling people in Medicare.



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If you have any questions about your Medicare card, or if you do not receive it by April 2019, please call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

IPRO Healthy Insights is authored by Dr. Clare Bradley, IPRO's Senior Vice President/Chief Medical Officer, and a nationally recognized public health advocate.

IPRO is a non-profit organization that works with government agencies, providers and patients to measure and improve healthcare for all. For over 30 years we've made creative use of clinical expertise, emerging technology and data solutions to make the healthcare system work better.

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