

From: NCOA Center for Benefits Access <centerforbenefits@ncoa.org>

To: Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov

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Subject: What's Happening with Medicare in 2017

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What's Happening with Medicare in 2017

Join us on Friday, Oct. 28 for our annual webinar that looks at what changes are happening in Medicare in 2017, including an overview of the 2017 plan landscape and what your clients will pay for coverage.

Register

Sept. 21, 2016

5 things to know about Medicare & hospice

Medicare has special rules for how it covers hospice care. Get five key facts about this benefit in a new consumer tip sheet (available in English and Spanish) developed for us by the Medicare Rights Center (MRC). MRC has created an accompanying PowerPoint that counselors can use to train staff/volunteers and consumers on the hospice benefit.

Get the tip sheet [in English](#) and [Spanish](#) | Download the PowerPoint [for consumers](#) and [professionals](#)

New helpline for Administrative Law Judge appeals

Pursuant to the settlement agreement in a class action lawsuit, *Exley v. Burwell*, the Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) has established a new helpline to troubleshoot beneficiary appeals at the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) level. The toll-free Beneficiary Help Line is: (844) 419-3358. The line, staffed by OMHA representatives, will address inquiries about ALJ appeals being pursued by Medicare beneficiaries. ALJ decisions are required by law to be issued within 90 days of the receipt of the request for a hearing.

[Learn more \(scroll to 2nd blurb\)](#)

Reminder: SNAP cost of living adjustment starts Oct. 1

As a reminder, USDA adjusts the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) maximum allotments, deductions, and income eligibility standards at the beginning of each Federal fiscal year, which takes effect Oct. 1. Download your state's SNAP application from our website--and be sure to share our new video and blog post about how your clients can use their SNAP benefits at the farmers' market!

[Find the new income adjustments](#) | [Download SNAP applications](#) | [Watch the video](#)

Flu season is here and Medicare covers the flu shot

Our updated *Flu + You* resources provide the latest information on the seriousness of influenza, the importance of getting an annual flu vaccination, and available vaccine options. And don't forget—Medicare Part B covers the flu shot every season!

[Get Flu + You materials](#) | [See Medicare's vaccine coverage](#)

Don't miss this...

- **Part D costs in 2017:** Download our donut hole illustration and cost chart.
- **Guide to Open Enrollment mailings and key events:** See what your clients may get in the mail in anticipation of Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period for Parts C & D.
- **Share a story of malnutrition:** Malnutrition Awareness Week is Sept. 26-30. Our partner, Defeat Malnutrition Today, is looking for stories about how malnutrition has affected someone you know.

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NCOA | 251 18th Street South | Suite 500 | Arlington, VA 22202