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Subject: Help for services Medicare does not cover

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Help for services not covered by Medicare

Routine dental, vision, and hearing care are not covered under Original Medicare. We've updated our fact sheet that explains where you can send clients for financial assistance to receive these services.

Get the facts

April 6, 2016

CMS releases tool to map Medicare disparities

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Office of Minority Health has released a new interactive map to increase understanding of geographic disparities in chronic disease among Medicare beneficiaries. The map is an excellent starting point to understand geographic, racial, and ethnic differences in health outcomes. It is also a useful supplement to NCOA's visualization tools that map concentrations of low-income Medicare beneficiaries who are American Indians/Alaskan/Hawaiian Natives, living with disabilities, and have limited English proficiency.

[Explore the disparities](#) | [Use NCOA's visualization tools](#)

Be advised of disability benefits fraud

The Social Security Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is warning citizens to be aware of phone calls from unknown people who claim to have information about a citizen's application for disability benefits.

The callers appear to be "phishing" for personal information—such as Social Security numbers—from citizens who may have applied for disability benefits and thus might be inclined to provide information in furtherance of his or her claim.

[Read the full OIG advisory](#) | [Get tips to avoid scams & protect your money](#)

How Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) work with Medicare

After receiving several questions about our new fact sheet on HSAs and Medicare, we've clarified several points and included a few additional scenarios to help you advise your clients on when to cease contributions to HSAs before enrolling in Medicare.

[Download the revised fact sheet](#)

Participate...

- [CMS National Training Program Webinar](#), April 14 at 1 p.m. ET: Learn about Medicare coverage for individuals with mental health and substance abuse issues.

Did you miss this?

- **Benefits 101 fact sheets and slides:** Find updated fact sheets and PowerPoints that provide an introduction to the core benefits for people with Medicare.
- **Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey:** Use this public data source to find information about health disparities, access to and satisfaction with health care, and medical conditions for community-dwelling Medicare beneficiaries.
- **Medicare-Medicaid State & County Enrollment Snapshot:** Find the latest data (June 2015) from CMS regarding how many people are enrolled in Medicare/Medicaid in your geographic area.
- **How to Stop Volunteers from Leaving Before They Start:** Get excellent tips for retaining volunteers in this article from the SHIP TA Center.
- **How Not to Shop for Medicare:** Share this video with your clients to get advice on what not to do when choosing Medicare coverage.

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