

The Senior Medicare Patrol is.....

LOOKING OUT FOR YOU

DATE: 10/8/14 **2014-4**
SUBJECT: MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT IS PRIME TIME
 FOR SCAM ARTISTS

During Open Enrollment (October 15-December 7) know what to look for and how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of fraud.

Look out for the following schemes to steal your identity and your money:

1. A person claiming to be from Medicare, your health plan, or another organization says they want to send you a new ID card and need your number for confirmation.
2. Someone calls about a refund from last year's premiums or your drug plan costs. To get the refund they need your Medicare or Social Security number.
3. A person tries to get you to sign up for a plan that you don't need, isn't right for you, or doesn't even exist – just to collect money from you.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

1. **PROTECT YOUR MEDICARE ID NUMBER**
 A) Medicare or your current health plan will NOT call you to confirm your ID number or your health plan number.
 B) If you get a call, especially from a number you do not recognize or anyone requesting personal information, hang up immediately.
2. **REPORT FRAUD**
 If someone scammed you or tried to scam you, report it to Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP Hawaii) at 586-7281 or 1-800-296-9422 or your police department.
3. **GET HELP TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE**
 For free counseling, call the Hawaii SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) at (808) 586-7299 or 1-888-875-9229 or 1-866-810-4379 (TTY).



The production of this bulletin was supported by Grant # 90MP0180 from the Administration for Community Living (ACL). Its contents are solely the responsibility of SMP Hawaii and do not necessarily represent the official views of ACL.