

The Senior Medicare Patrol is.....

LOOKING OUT FOR YOU

DATE: 10/1/15

2015-10

SUBJECT: Medicare Open Enrollment Scams

October 15-December 7 is Medicare Open Enrollment and open season for scams. Watch out for the following schemes to steal your identity and your money:

- 1. A person claims to be from Medicare or another health plan or agency and says they want to send you a new I.D. card and need your I.D. number.**
- 2. Someone calls to say you're getting a refund. To get the refund, you need to give them your Medicare or Social Security number.**
- 3. A sales agent misleads you or pressures you to sign up for a plan that you don't need or isn't right for you – just to get money from you.**

What You Should Do:

- **Protect** your Medicare and Social Security Number. Don't give it out to strangers.
- **Detect** attempts to scam you.
- **Report** scams and unethical insurance sales agents to the Hawaii Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP Hawaii) at 1-800-296-9422. For help with comparing Medicare plans, call the Hawaii SHIP at 1-888-875-9229 or 1-866-810-4379 TTY.

SMP Hawaii provides group education presentations, information displays at fairs, and counseling about medical billing errors and possible fraud. Call SMP Hawaii or go to our website at <http://smphawaii.org> to ask for our services and alternate formats.



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