

## **Seniors with Advantage Plans Now Get Statements**

Information provided by Louisiana Senior Medicare Patrol

If you are a member of a Medicare Advantage Plan, you can now help us in the fight to prevent, detect and report healthcare fraud!

In the past, Medicare Advantage Plans were not required to send out an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) to their members each month. These means it was almost impossible for a senior to know if his or her plan number was being used to file false claims to Medicare. Seniors with original Medicare have always received a Medicare Summary Notice with a complete list of all services and supplies that Medicare paid. But, Advantage Plan members did not always receive a listing of the charges that had been paid by the Advantage Plan.

During the fall of 2013, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) instructed the Medicare Advantage Plans to begin mailing itemized statements to their members. If you have an Advantage Plan (Medicare Part C) and you have not received a statement yet, you should see one in your mailbox in the near future. Louisiana Senior Medicare Patrol is asking you to please look at this statement. Check the dates, the name of the providers and the addresses. Look for anything that doesn't make sense. This is the best way for you to find out if a provider has been using your Medicare information to get money for services you didn't receive or that you didn't need.

If you see anything that seems wrong, please call Louisiana Senior Medicare Patrol at 877-272-8720. We can help you find out if the items listed are correct. We will also report any problems we find to the agencies that can investigate possible fraud, waste or abuse. If we all work together, we can keep our Medicare benefits safe from persons trying to steal from the system.

If you have questions or want more information visit our web site at [www.stopmedicarefraudla.org](http://www.stopmedicarefraudla.org) or call Louisiana Senior Medicare Patrol at 877-272-8720.

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