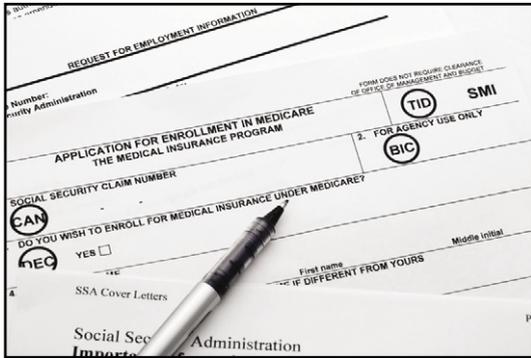


Osteopathic Family Physician

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PATIENT HANDOUT

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Family Physicians
Advocacy • Education • Leadership

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DIFFERENCES IN MEDICARE PARTS

In the United States, Medicare is the health insurance program for people 65 years and older. Some people, younger than 65 years, like people with disability benefits also can be on Medicare. Though Medicare helps with the cost of health care, it does not pay for all health care costs.

Medicare is paid for in part by payroll taxes, and it is supported by monthly money taken from Social Security checks. Medicare has four parts: Part A -Hospital, B- Medical (doctor visits), and C -Medicare Advantage, and D -Prescription drug plan.

MEDICARE PARTS C & D

Under Medicare Part C, people with both Medicare Parts A and B can choose to get all of their health care services through one of the Medicare Advantage plan organizations. Medicare Advantage plans are offered by private companies and approved by Medicare. You may need to pay a monthly bill for this plan because of the extra benefits it has to offer. Part D helps pay for prescription drugs. Any person who has Medicare Part A, B or C can pay for this drug coverage. Please check with Medicare regarding enrollment periods.

MEDICARE PARTS A & B

Medicare Part A helps pay for care in a hospital or nursing home care after a hospital stay. Part A also pays for some home health and hospice care.

Part B helps pay for care at doctor visits along with many other medical services and supplies. People who get free Medicare Part A can get Part B by paying a monthly bill.

LEARNING THE FACTS:

To learn more about Medicare, speak with your Osteopathic Family Physician or call your local social security office. Your doctor may answer your questions about Medicare. If you cannot pay your Medicare bills, or other medical costs, you may be able to get help from your state. If you have another health insurance plan, please speak with your agent or retirement office, to see how your plan fits with Medicare.

Source(s): Medicare. gov, Social Security Administration.

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