

COVID 19 Scams and Healthcare Fraud

Self Defense Tips

- Don't give your Medicare number to anyone over the phone or to door to door solicitors offering to test for the Coronavirus COVID 19
- Beware of door to door solicitors, robocalls selling virus test kits, supplies, vaccines or treatments
- Do not give out your Medicare number, social security number or other personal information in response to unsolicited emails, calls, texts, home visits or booths at health fairs
- Know that Medicare will never call you for your Medicare # or Social Security #
- Watch out for fraudulent cures, therapies - Check with www.ftc.gov
- Ignore offers for vaccines and scam contact tracing calls
- Watch out for phishing emails, texts claiming to be from experts
- Hang up on robocallers
- Carefully research charities, investment opportunities www.charitynavigator
- Be cautious when ordering medical supplies
 - Do not give your Medicare # to strangers
 - Ask your own doctor to assess your condition and prescribe equipment
 - Refuse equipment, supplies received from unknown source
- Beware telemarketers selling health plans
 - Insurance companies with no former relationship can't initiate a call
 - Contact HICAP/SHIP for unbiased, free information about Medicare, MA plans
- Verify telehealth appointments with your own doctor
- Review medical statements for errors, fraudulent billing
 - Check for date of service; provider name; service description
- Keep current with Medicare, COVID 19 scams and healthcare fraud (www.cahealthadvocates.org)
- Report fraud to Senior Medicare Patrol – 855-613-7080

