



ask Medicare

Information to Help You Care for Others



You Can Drop Your MA Plan Until Feb 14

If you want to leave your Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan, you have until February 14, 2011 to drop your plan and switch to Original Medicare. If you do switch to Original Medicare and you had drug coverage through your Medicare Advantage plan, you have until February 14 to also join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.

The next Medicare open enrollment period when most people can make changes starts October 15, 2011. See ["Understanding Medicare Enrollment Periods"](#) for more details.



New to Medicare? 4 Things to Do NOW

1. Schedule a free ["Welcome to Medicare"](#) exam with your doctor.
2. Register at www.myMedicare.gov for easy access to your benefits and claims information.
3. Mark open enrollment on your calendar: Oct. 15 - Dec. 7, 2011
4. Visit www.medicare.gov to make sure you get the most out of your benefits.

Get a jump start on your healthy future with Medicare.



National Alzheimer's Project Act

Good news for Alzheimer's caregivers: the National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA) was passed by Congress in December. NAPA will help coordinate national efforts in Alzheimer's research, clinical care, institutional, and home- and community-based programs and their outcomes.

More than 5 million Americans are afflicted with Alzheimer's, and that number is likely to double in the coming years. The [Alzheimer's Association](#) was instrumental in moving NAPA through Congress.



The Alzheimer's Association

If you're caring for someone with Alzheimer's, it may be difficult for you to manage alone. [The Alzheimer's Association](#) [CareSource](#) has information on home care, assisted living and more.

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Their [online tools](#) can give you more care options and help you cope.

Tell us what YOU care about.
Email: caregiver_comments@cms.hhs.gov



Visit www.medicare.gov/caregivers for the latest news and broadcasts.

Not a subscriber?

TIP:

Save Your Receipts

Saving the receipts from your pharmacy or doctor is ALWAYS a good idea.

You may need these receipts later to ask for reimbursement or file a claim.