MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS
Disclaimer

- The information provided in the presentation is general information.
- There are exceptions and special circumstances that may affect how this information may apply to you.
- Specific amounts mentioned in this presentation are for 2020.
- This presentation does not include temporary waivers and adjustments due to COVID-19.
Brief Overview of Medicare

Focus on Medicare Advantage Plans

www.seniorpharmassist.org  
919-688-4772
Medicare Advantage Plans

■ Also called
  – Medicare Health Plans
  – Medicare Part C
Medicare Advantage Plans

- Offered by Medicare-approved private companies
- Federal Government pays Medicare Advantage Companies to cover you
- You must still enroll in Medicare Parts A & B
- You must pay Part B premiums ($144.60 in 2020)
Medicare Advantage Plans

- You are still in the Medicare program and still have Medicare rights and protections
- Coverage will be the same as if you had Original Medicare though the prices may vary
- You are always covered for emergency and urgent care
Medicare Advantage Plans – With or Without Drug Coverage

- Medicare Advantage Plans without drug coverage (MA)
- Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug coverage (MAPD)
- Most choose MAPD to avoid drug penalties
Medicare Advantage Plans - HMO

- Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO)
  - Must use providers in network
  - Should choose a primary care physician
  - Most require referrals
  - Cost for care outside network may be 100%
Medicare Advantage Plans - PPO

- Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO)
  - Offer more flexibility in choosing providers
  - Provides services by both in network and out of network providers
  - In network services are usually priced lower than out of network prices

Senior PharmAssist - www.seniorpharmassist.org - 919-688-4772
Medicare Advantage Plans – HMOs & PPOs

- HMO’s offer in network coverage only
  - Cost for out of network care is 100%
- PPO’s offer both in and out of network coverage
  - Cost for out of network care is higher than in network
Medicare Advantage Plans

- Other Medicare Advantage Plans
  - Private Fee For Service
  - Special Needs Plans
  - Medical Savings Accounts (High Deductible)

- Details provided at the end of this video
Medicare Advantage Plans - Costs

- Part B premium is $144.60 in 2020 (or higher depending on your income)

- Medicare Advantage plans may also have a premium (in addition to your monthly Part B premium)
Medicare Advantage Plans - Costs

- Copayments - fixed dollar amount you pay before receiving health services

- Coinsurance - based on a percentage (%) of the cost for a covered health service usually paid after care is provided
Medicare Advantage Plans - Costs

- Yearly out of pocket maximum on your costs for health related services

- Once you reach your out of pocket maximum in a year, covered health services are at no charge until the end of the year
Medicare Advantage Plans - Costs

- Each plan can have a different yearly out of pocket maximum, and the limit can change each year

- There is **no out of pocket limit** for prescription drugs when you have an MAPD
Medicare Advantage Plans - Extra Benefits

Some Medicare Advantage plans include extra benefits such as some, but usually not all, of the following:

- Vision
- Hearing
- Dental
- Wellness Programs

Senior PharmAssist - www.seniorpharmassist.org - 919-688-4772
Medicare Advantage Plans - Possible Extra Benefits

- Transportation to doctor visits
- Over the counter drugs
- Adult day-care services
- Other related services

Check with the plan for details
Medicare Advantage Plans – Private Fee for Service (PFFS)

- Insurance company not Medicare determines costs
- Providers can choose to accept PFFS fees on a service-by-service, patient-by-patient basis
- Must check before each visit to confirm service you are asking for is covered
Medicare Advantage Plans – Private Fee for Service (PFFS)

- PFFS must cover any service considered medically necessary under Original Medicare
- Pay Part B premium and PFFS premium
- Most often pay when receive services
- Not all cover drugs
- If drugs not covered, must get a Part D plan
Medicare Advantage Plans – Special Needs Plans (SNP)

- Limited to those with specific diseases or with dual eligibility
- Tailor benefits to meet specific needs
- Must use SNP network of providers
- Must provide drug coverage
Medicare Advantage Plans – Medical Savings Account (MSA)

- High Deductible
- Special Savings Account – plan deposits money for you to use for health care
- Can go to any provider
- Don’t provide drug coverage, will need Part D plan
Where to Find More Information

✓ Call Senior PharmAssist: 919-688-4772
Or check our website: www.seniorpharmassist.org

✓ Call Seniors’ Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP): 1-800-408-1212
Or check their website:
https://www.ncdoi.gov/consumers/medicare-and-seniors-health-insurance-information-program-shiip

✓ Call Medicare 24/7 at 1-800-633-4227 (TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048)
Check the Medicare Website: www.medicare.gov
Other Videos / PowerPoints Available

- Enrolling in Medicare
- Medicare Part A
- Medicare Part B
- Medicare Part D
- Medicare Supplements
- Medicare Advantage
- Medicare Costs & Penalties
- Lower Income Information
- Original v Advantage