



STATE OF WISCONSIN
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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DON'T FORGET YOUR ANNUAL MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD

Each year Medicare beneficiaries need to check their prescription drug and health plan coverage to assure they have the best possible coverage. This year, beginning October 15 and ending December 7, individuals have the opportunity to review their coverage and, if needed, choose a new plan. Any plan or coverage changes that you make will become effective on January 1, 2014.

There is no cost to switch plans; but there may be much higher costs for your prescriptions or health care scheduled to take effect in the new year, so it is very important that you check your current coverage. Be sure to avoid unexpected:

- ✓ Monthly premium increases
- ✓ Higher co-pays or deductibles
- ✓ Changes to the list of covered prescription drugs
- ✓ New quantity limits
- ✓ Some of the current Medicare Advantage Plans or Part D Plans may no longer provide coverage in your area
- ✓ There may be new and more cost efficient Medicare Plans available

Call a Wisconsin SHIP Counselor (State Health Insurance assistance Program) if you have questions or if you want to discuss your options.

You can get assistance by contacting your local Aging & Disability Resource Center, or calling the Disability Drug Benefit Helpline (if you are under age 60) at 1-800-926-4862, or calling the Medigap Part D and Prescription Drug Helpline (if you are 60 or over) at 855-677-2783, or calling the Medigap Helpline at 1-800-242-1060.

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