

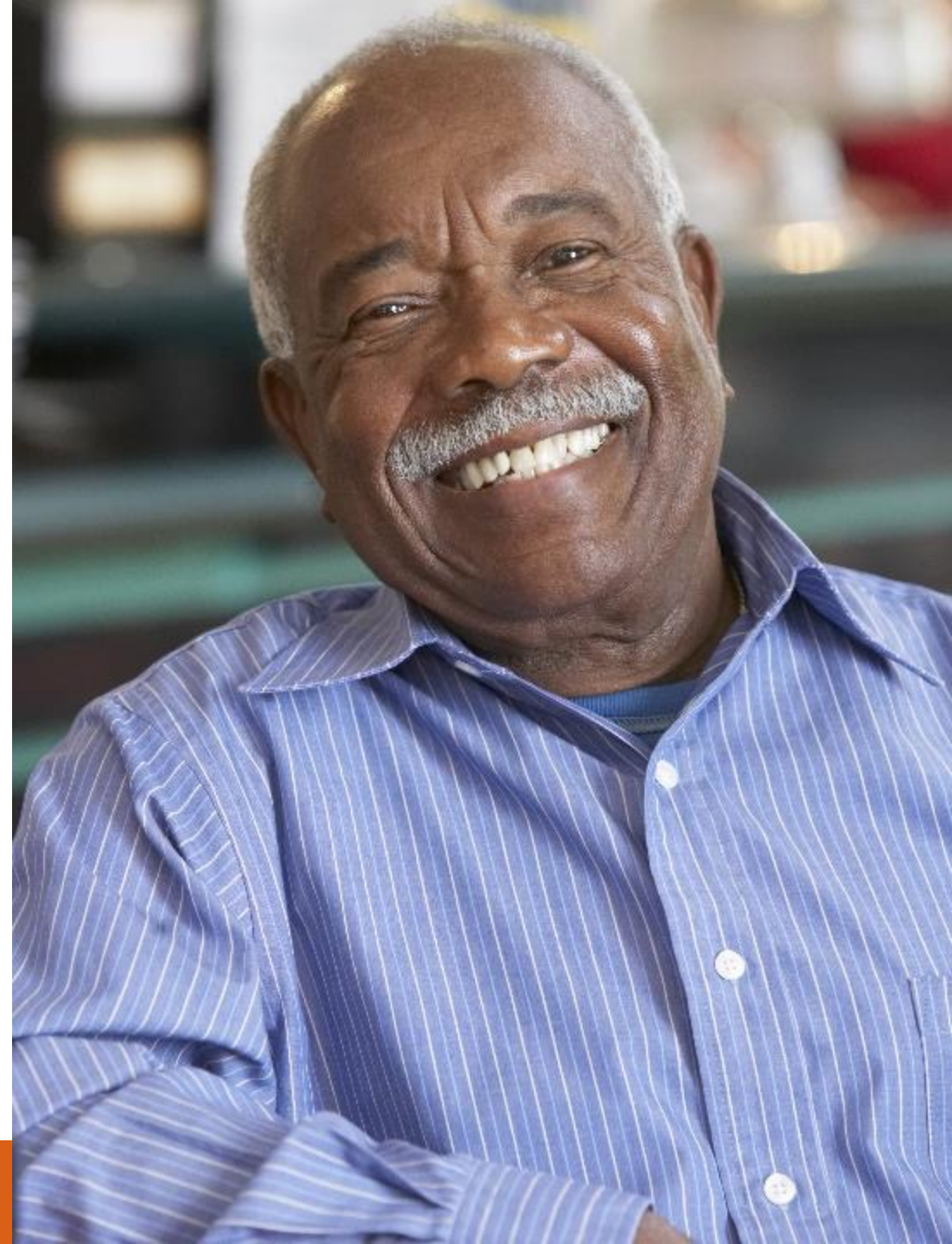


The Importance of Annual Check Ups For People on Medicare

Patricia Bennett, CLTC
603-427-0101
Longevity Planning

What Is Medicare?

- ▶ National health insurance program for people 65+
- ▶ Administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- ▶ Enrollment through the Social Security Administration (SSA)



Who Is Eligible for Medicare?

- ▶ **Everyone over 65**
 - All U.S. citizens
 - Legal residents who have lived in the U.S. continuously for at least 5 years
- ▶ **Some people under 65 who are eligible for Social Security disability benefits**



Four Parts of Medicare



Part A
Hospital
Insurance



Part B
Medical
Insurance



Part C
Medicare
Advantage



Part D
Medicare
Prescription Drug
Coverage

Provided by Medicare

Provided by private insurer that
contracts with Medicare

Option 1: Original Medicare

(See pages 61–64)

This includes Part A and B.



Part A
Hospital Insurance



Part B
Medical Insurance

You can add:

(See pages 83–96)



Part D
Medicare Prescription
Drug Coverage

You can also add:

(See pages 79–82)



Medigap
Medicare Supplement Insurance
*(Medigap policies help pay your
out-of-pocket costs in Original Medicare.)*

Option 2: Medicare Advantage (Part C)

(See pages 65–78)

These plans are like HMOs or PPOs, and
typically include Part A, B, and D.



Part A
Hospital Insurance



Part B
Medical Insurance



Part D
Medicare Prescription
Drug Coverage

*(Most plans cover prescription drugs.
If yours doesn't, you may be able to join a
separate Part D plan.)*

Medigap

Private health insurance for individuals
Sold by private insurance companies
Supplement Original Medicare coverage
Parts A and B

Follow federal/state laws that protect you

- ▶ Medigap insurance companies can only sell standardized policies
 - Identified in most states by letters
 - MA, MN, and WI standardize their plans differently
- ▶ Does not work with Medicare Advantage
- ▶ You pay a monthly premium
- ▶ Costs vary by plan, company, and location



Medicare Part D – Prescription Coverage

1 Decide if you want

Original Medicare

(Parts A & B + D)

If original Medicare, **shop for standalone prescription drug plan** (PDP) offered through a private insurer.

OR

Medicare Advantage Plan

(Part C)

If enrolling in **Medicare Advantage plan with drug coverage** (MAPD), shop for plan.

2 Apply for Part D through the private insurer or through Medicare at www.medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE (633-4227).

Medicare Advantage Plans

- ▶ Health plan options approved by Medicare
- ▶ Also called Medicare Part C
- ▶ Run by private companies
- ▶ Medicare pays amount for each member's care
- ▶ May have to use network doctors or hospitals
- ▶ Plan may include prescription drug coverage
- ▶ May include extra benefits like vision, dental, hearing aids and fitness
- ▶ Benefits and cost-sharing may be different



The Importance of Doing an Annual Check Up on Benefits

Plans Change each year – review
your annual notice of changes
(ANOC) – Mailed in September

Your plans formulary (list of covered
drugs) may have changed even if your
medications did not



How to Check your Plan Options



Go to www.medicare.gov

OR

Call 1 -800-MEDICARE

Call Your State Health Insurance
Assistance program

Call Your local Broker

Medicare and Private Insurance



Out-of-Pocket Costs Paid by Medicare Beneficiaries

► Premiums

- Part B premiums paid to Medicare
- Private insurance premiums for
 - Part D drug plan plus Medigap policy or
 - Medicare Advantage plan

► Other out-of-pocket costs

- Deductibles
- Portion of doctor bills not paid by Medicare
- Services not covered by Medicare

Monthly Premiums



Paid to Medicare

- ▶ **\$0** if self or spouse paid into Social Security ≥ 40 quarters (10 years)
- ▶ \$278/mo. if 30–39 quarters SS
- ▶ \$506/mo. if < 30 quarters SS



Paid to Medicare

- ▶ **\$174.70/mo.** in 2024
- ▶ Plus income-related adjustment if applicable



Paid to Private Insurer

- ▶ Varies with plan
- ▶ Plus income related adjustment paid to Medicare if applicable

Monthly Premiums for Parts B & D Including Income Related Adjustment Amounts

MAGI Single	MAGI Joint	MAGI Married filing separately	Part B monthly premium paid to Medicare	Part B income-related adjustment amount paid to Medicare	Part D monthly premium (average) paid to insurer	Part D income-related adjustment amount paid to Medicare	Total Parts B & D premium
≤\$103,000	≤\$206,000	≤\$103,000	\$174.70	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$214.40
\$103,000–\$129,000	\$206,000–\$258,000		\$174.70	\$69.90	\$40.00	\$12.90	\$297.50
\$129,000–\$161,000	\$258,000–\$322,000		\$174.70	\$174.70	\$40.00	\$33.30	\$422.70
\$161,000–\$193,000	\$322,000–\$386,000		\$174.70	\$279.50	\$40.00	\$53.80	\$548.00
\$193,000–\$500,000	\$386,000–\$750,000	\$97,001–\$402,999	\$174.70	\$384.30	\$40.00	\$74.20	\$673.20
≥\$500,000	≥\$750,000	≥\$403,000	\$174.70	\$419.30	\$40.00	\$81.00	\$714.70

These do not include premiums for Medicare Advantage or Medicare supplement plans

Deductibles For 2024 (Amount You Pay)



\$1,632

per spell of illness



\$240

per year

- ▶ Waived for some preventive services such as flu shots, some mammograms and Pap smears, bone mass tests, prostate screening, diabetes tests, some others



\$545

per year

Part D Coinsurance

Medicare's standard benefit design; individual plans vary and may pay more

- ▶ Under the standard drug plan design, beneficiary pays:

Deductible: \$545 (up from \$505 in 2023);

Then Co-pays and Co-insurance

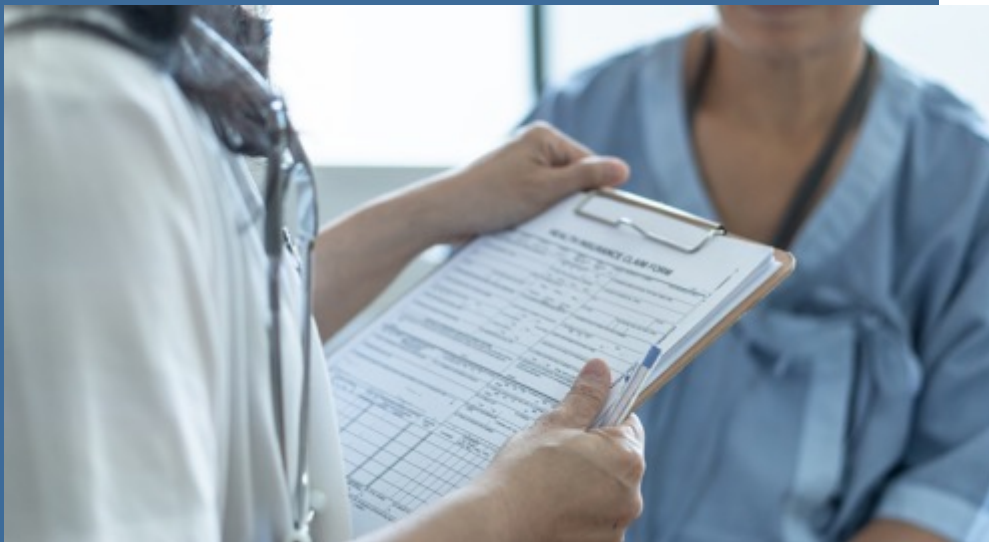
Initial coverage limit: \$5,030 (up from \$4,660 in 2023);

Then 25% of cost till you reach

Out-of-pocket threshold: \$8,000 (up from \$7,400) Then \$0 in 2024

- ▶ **But...drug plans vary widely**
 - Some will pay more
 - It will be important to find a plan that covers the drugs YOU take

Do Your Annual Check Up Each Year



**Review Your
Medical and
Prescription
Coverage**



**Have A Yearly
Wellness Visit or
Physical Exam**



**Schedule your
Preventive
services**
(flu shots, certain
screenings)

See “Medicare & You – 2024 for up-to-date information
For a complete list of covered services,
Call 800-633-4227 or go to www.medicare.gov.

What Can You Do During the Annual Enrollment Period Oct 15 – Dec 7th



- ▶ You can change your prescription drug plan to another prescription drug plan
- ▶ You can change your Medicare Advantage plan for another Medicare Advantage Plan
- ▶ You can go from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage Plan
- ▶ You can go from a Medicare Advantage plan back to Original Medicare

Annual Enrollment Period for Medicare Advantage Plans Jan 1 – March 31



What Medicare Does Not Cover

- ▶ Long-term care
- ▶ Care delivered outside the U.S.
- ▶ Dental care
- ▶ Vision care
- ▶ Hearing aids
- ▶ Cosmetic surgery
- ▶ Acupuncture and other alternative care
- ▶ Amounts over Medicare-approved amount
- ▶ Amounts not covered by deductibles and coinsurance (20%)



What Private Insurance May Cover in Full or Part

- ▶ **Deductibles and coinsurance amounts, such as:**
 - The Part A deductible
 - Hospital costs after 60 days
 - The 20% of doctor bills that Medicare doesn't pay
 - Amounts the doctor charges over the Medicare-approved amount
- ▶ **Prescription drugs**
 - The deductible (maybe)
 - Most of the cost of certain drugs during initial benefit period and catastrophic coverage period (but not donut hole)

Shop Carefully for Private Insurance



- ▶ **Medigap policies are standardized but premiums vary considerably**
 - ✓ Choose the policy that offers the coverage you need (A-N)
 - ✓ Choose a reputable company offering that policy at the lowest price
 - ✓ Make sure your health care provider processes the billing for the company you choose
- ▶ **Drug plan benefits vary considerably**
 - ✓ Choose the plan offering the coverage you need for the medicines you take
- ▶ **Medicare Advantage plans vary considerably**
 - ✓ Choose the plan offering the coverage you need for the medicines you take

**Take The Time
To Compare Your
Options and
Have A Healthy
2024!**

