

hospice

Parts and Paths of Medicare — 2025



JOHN L SMITH 1EG4-TE5-MK72 Entitled to/Con derectio a HOSPITAL (PART A) 03-01-2016 MEDICAL (PART B) 03-01-2016

MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE



OUTPATIENT: Medically necessary doctor visits, preventive exams, labs, mental health, x-ray, ambulance, and durable medical equipment.

- Premium = **\$185**/month
- Deductible = \$257/year
- Copay = 20% Medicare approved rate
- Excess = <15% only if MD does not

accept "Medicare Assignment" Penalties if you do not enroll on time *Higher premiums* for income >\$106,000 single or \$212,000 couple (MAGI on 2023 income tax)

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (MA) PLAN:

Private insurance companies contract with Medicare to provide all your Medicare benefits. NOT a Medicare Supplement.

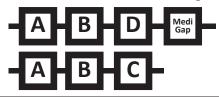
- Low premiums; copays/co-insurance when you use services.
- Most include prescription drug coverage

(with copays).

• Limits to out of pocket costs (not including prescription costs).

- HMO must use plan's network doctors/hospitals.
- PPO network with out-of-network covered, but higher cost.
- Referral required before seeing specialists (except PPO).
- Prior Authorization by plan for some treatments.
- One year contract Plans can change doctors, hospitals, copays, deductibles, premiums and other benefits each year.
- Switch to another MA plan 10/15-12/7 & ONE TIME January-March or a 5-star plan ONCE during the year.
- Includes additional non-Medicare benefits (varies by plan).
- Special Needs Plans for Medi-Medi and Chronic Diseases.

For more information, see HICAP Comparison Chart, How to Shop, and HICAP Part C/Medicare Advantage handout.



Ventura County Area Agency on Aging • Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP)

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provide prescription medication to Medicare beneficiaries. Choose from many non-standardized

plans. • Plans change formulary, premiums,

deductible, copays, and restrictions every year.

• PENALTIES unless you have "creditable coverage" from another source like employer health plan or the VA or a Part C plan that includes drug coverage.

mental health, skilled nursing (SNF), home health, and

Premium = \$0 (if worked 40+ quarters)

First 3 pints of blood (Bank or ~\$900)

• SNF copay (days 21-100) = **\$210**/day

PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN (PDP): Plan to

Deductible = \$1,676/stay of care

Copay (days 61-90) = \$419/day

• Copay (days 91+) = \$838/day

• Copay (days 1-60) = \$0



MEDIGAP (MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT): Optional coverage sold by insurance companies that help pay some or all of the deductibles, copays and other charges that Medicare Parts A & B do NOT pay.

- 10 STANDARDIZED plans/policies with varying coverage.
- Go to any MD, specialist or hospital who accepts Medicare.

• "Guaranteed Right" in IEP and a few other guaranteed issue periods (i.e. SEP) means they cannot refuse to cover you if you have health problems. Underwriting (health questions) can occur later; they can refuse to cover you, charge you more, or make you wait for coverage.

12/6/2024





