

Understanding Medicare

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for:

- People 65 years or older
- Certain individuals under 65 with disabilities
- Someone of any age diagnosed with end-stage renal disease (ESRD)

Part A



WHAT IT COVERS & WHAT YOU PAY:

- Inpatient hospital services
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Hospice care
- Some home healthcare
- \$0 premium if you have paid 40 quarters (10 years) worth of Medicare taxes. If fewer, premiums are determined by Social Security

Part B



WHAT IT COVERS & WHAT YOU PAY:

- Doctor visits
- Outpatient care
- Medical supplies
- Chemotherapy
- Preventive services
- Standard premium: \$174.70 (income-based variations), deducted from Social Security.
- Higher income may lead to an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA).
- If no Social Security benefits are taken, Medicare premiums are paid independently.

Part C



WHAT IT COVERS & WHAT YOU PAY:

- All Original Medicare services, plus sometimes extra benefits:
- Gym memberships
 - Dental/Vision Coverage
 - Rx Plans
 - Most Medicare Advantage plans do not have a premium.
 - Part C limits your out-of-pocket expenses for covered medical costs.

Part D



WHAT IT COVERS & WHAT YOU PAY:

- Often included in a Medicare Advantage plan at no additional cost.
- Part D covers Medicare-approved prescription drugs.
- You may pay a monthly premium to a private plan.
- A Part D plan can be purchased separately to go with Original Medicare.

Medigap



WHAT IT COVERS & WHAT YOU PAY:

- Offered by private insurers to help with costs not covered by Original Medicare.
- Can help with deductibles and coinsurance
- You pay a monthly premium to a private plan and also to the federal government for Part B,
- Part C limits your out-of-pocket expenses for medical costs.