

Medicaid Beneficiary Fraud Concerns:

Based on information from Medicaid and Medicare Program Integrity personnel, including personnel from CMS, concerns have been raised with various fraud schemes taking advantage of beneficiaries concerns during these unprecedented times surrounding the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Fraud schemes have involved identity theft, billing for services not needed, and billing for services not provided. Examples include selling fake COVID-19 test kits, the delivery of not requested and medically unnecessary medical supplies, and marketing unapproved treatments through telemarketing calls, unsolicited text messages, social media platforms and door to door visits.

Beneficiaries can protect themselves and the Medicaid program by not sharing their personal information (i.e. Social Security Number) or Medicaid Member number with anyone other than a trusted healthcare provider or those who should have the information and by not letting anyone persuade you to see a doctor or other medical provider for care or services you don't need.

If you receive unsolicited contact from any individual seeking this type of information or want to report any concerns regarding COVID-19 fraud and scams please contact:

Department of Health Care Finance

Division of Program Integrity

441 4th Street NW, 10th Floor

Washington, DC 20001

Phone: (202) 698-2000

Fraud Hotline: (877) 632-2873

On-line complaint form: <https://www.dc-medicaid.com/dcwebportal/nonsecure/reportFraud>

Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MCFU) of DC Office of DC Inspector General

717 14th St., NW, 5th Floor

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: (202) 727-8008

Fax: (202) 727-5937

Hotline: (202) 724-TIPS (8477) and (800) 521-1639

Email: hotline.oitg@dc.gov

RED FLAGS: Scammers and fraudsters may exhibit one or more of the following behaviors:

- Contact with no existing or prior relationship with you,
- Offers to pay you for signing up for services or supplies,
- Demands or requests for cash only payments for services or calls.

Healthcare fraud can negatively impact you by:

- Compromising your personal identifying information and medical information,
- Delivering services or supplies, which are useless, or may cause you harm,
- Creating an inaccurate medical history,
- Delaying needed treatment by providing an ineffective or non-existent service, and potentially
- The loss of benefits when billing caps are reached due to claims for unwanted/unneeded services.

Additional information on COVID-19 Fraud is available on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General website: <https://oig.hhs.gov/coronavirus/>