

*If it sounds too good to be true, it may be a scam*



*To help protect your seniors from Medicare Fraud and Consumer scams, here is a fraud prevention tip from your local Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP).*

### NEW MEDICARE CARDS

According to the Federal Trade Commission, one of the top consumer frauds in 2017 was Imposter Scams. Nearly 1 in 5 people who reported an imposter scam lost money to someone pretending to be a loved one in trouble, a government official, tech support, or someone else who's not who they say they are<sup>1</sup>.



New Medicare Cards will be issued to beneficiaries in Connecticut starting after June 2018 through April 2019. With the new Medicare cards coming out, this is an opportunity for scam artists to contact Medicare beneficiaries pretending they are from Medicare or Social Security asking for personal information. They will use tactics such as asking you to confirm your current Medicare number, telling you there is a charge for the new cards or threatening to cancel your health benefits if you don't provide your Medicare number or other personal information.

***If someone calls you asking you for your Medicare Number, hang up and call your local Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) 1-800-994-9422 or Medicare 1-800-633-4227.***

While you do not need to take any action to get your new Medicare card, make sure your mailing address is up to date. If not, contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213.

<sup>1</sup> Federal Trade Commission - [ftc.gov/sentinel2017](http://ftc.gov/sentinel2017)

*If you would like to learn more about Medicare fraud and consumer scams, call your local Senior Medicare Patrol at 1-800-994-9422 or 1-203-757-5449 ext.160.*

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**Lets Work Together !**



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