

MAKING MEDICARE MAKE SENSE

Answers To Some of The Most Commonly Asked Medicare Questions

Q: How do I search for a doctor who accepts Medicare?

A: The federal Medicare agency, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has an easy to use search tool on their website at www.medicare.gov. Scroll down the page and under the category “Search Tools” you will find the option, [Find a Doctor](#). By clicking on this option, you can follow the instructions to search for a doctor who accepts Medicare. You will be able to search by a physician’s last name, by state, county, city or zip code and by specialty group and/or type.

This directory contains many of the names, addresses, phone numbers, and specialties of physicians who are enrolled in Medicare. Your search results will include: physician profiles, maps to practicing locations and also driving directions to practicing locations.

Some physicians agree to accept assignment on all Medicare claims for covered services and supplies. However, some physicians may not be accepting new Medicare patients at this time. Please contact the physicians you are interested in to see if they are accepting new Medicare patients.

In Original Medicare (also known as fee-for-service), accepting assignment means that the physician agrees to accept Medicare’s approved amount as payment in full. You pay your share of the cost (deductibles and coinsurance) and Medicare pays its share to the physician. Coinsurance is the part of the Medicare approved amount that you have to pay after you pay the Part A (hospital) and/or Part B (physician services and outpatient care) deductible. In Original Medicare, the coinsurance payment is usually a percentage of the cost (approved by Medicare) of a service or supply (like 20% for most Part B services and supplies). **services and outpatient care**

Physicians may be listed under their name as accepting assignment, and also belong to a clinic or group that *does not* accept assignment. If the physician sees you at the clinic or group that does not participate, you may be charged more than if you see the physician at his or her private office or at a participating clinic or group.

This directory also contains detailed physician information such as specialties, board certification, medical school, year graduated, gender, foreign language(s), and hospital affiliations.

Who is in this Directory:

The physicians listed in this directory are currently enrolled in Medicare. Under some special circumstances, physicians can become participating physicians in the middle of the year. They will be eventually added to this directory.

This directory contains addresses for physician offices. We have made every effort to ensure the information is up-to-date. However, it would be in your best interest to verify the address when you call the physician to make an appointment.

Who is not in this Directory?

This directory does not include physicians who have been excluded from Medicare, that is, no longer receive payment for items or services from Medicare.

This directory does not include physicians who have opted out of Medicare and who sign private contracts with Medicare beneficiaries. Under private contracts, beneficiaries give up their Medicare benefits and agree to pay the physician’s charges.

As always, if you need help with any Medicare question you can call 1-800-Medicare, which is, 1-800-633-4227, 24-hours a day, seven days a week. A customer service representative can help you navigate the [Find a Doctor](#) search tool on our website, and/or they can also give you the local phone number to your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), where local Medicare volunteers in your State/County provide free help with Medicare questions either in person or over the phone.