

Be on the Lookout: Contact Tracing Scams



Contact tracing is key to slowing the spread of COVID-19 and helps protect you, your family, and your community by:

- Letting people know they may have been exposed to COVID-19 and should monitor their health for signs and symptoms of COVID-19,
- Helping people who may have been exposed to COVID-19 get tested, and
- Asking people to self-isolate or self-quarantine to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 infection to others.

Green flags

- Contact tracers will:
 - Be state or local Department of Health employees or their contractors,
 - Ask about your personal symptoms to gauge for possible COVID-19 infection,
 - Ask about others you may have come into contact with recently,
 - Be able to refer you to other medical and social resources, and
 - Ask whether you have insurance so they can connect those who are not insured with resources.

Red flags

- Be cautious of anyone who:
 - Asks for specifics about your health insurance, like your Medicare number,
 - Claims they need a credit card or cash to pay for a COVID-19 test, or
 - Wants your personal information to help you set up a COVID-19 test.

How Can Your Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Help?

Your local SMP is ready to provide you with the information you need to **PROTECT** yourself from Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse; **DETECT** potential fraud, errors, and abuse; and **REPORT** your concerns. SMPs and their trained teams help educate and empower Medicare beneficiaries in the fight against health care fraud. Your SMP can help you with your questions, concerns, or complaints about potential fraud and abuse issues.

It also can provide information and educational presentations.

For more information, contact the Senior Medicare Patrol at your local Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-994-9422 or visit www.smpresource.org.

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