## Medicare Basics Overview

## **Today's Topics**

- Original Medicare
- Eligibility requirements
- The four parts of Medicare
- What Original Medicare doesn't cover
- Plan Comparisons
- Enrollment dates & facts



#### **Boomers and Beyond:**

About **62 million people** are covered by Original Medicare in the United States today - and baby boomers are turning 65 at the rate of 10,000 a day!





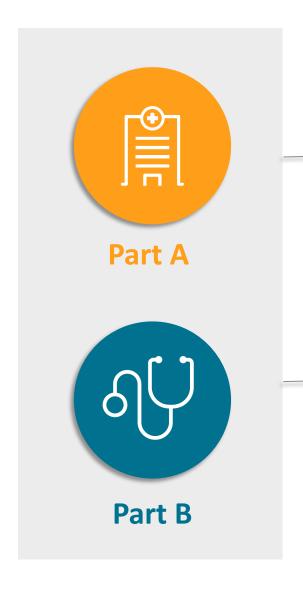
## **The Four Parts of Medicare Coverage**



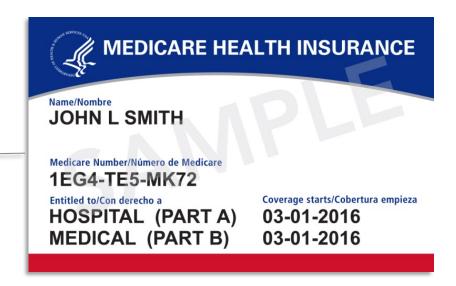
Note: Part C & D are offered through private insurance companies



#### **How Medicare Works | Government Provided**



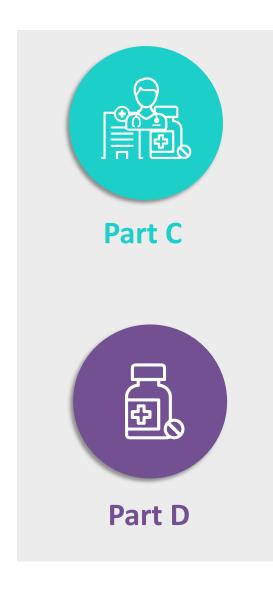
#### **Original Medicare**



- Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people age 65 and older, regardless of income or medical history, and now covers approximately 62 million Americans.
- Medicare was expanded in 1972 to include people under age 65 with permanent disabilities.



## **How Medicare Works | Covered By Private Insurers**



#### Part C: Medicare Advantage Plan

- Assigns Part A and Part B benefits to a private plan that administers benefits on behalf of Medicare
- May include Part D prescription drug coverage

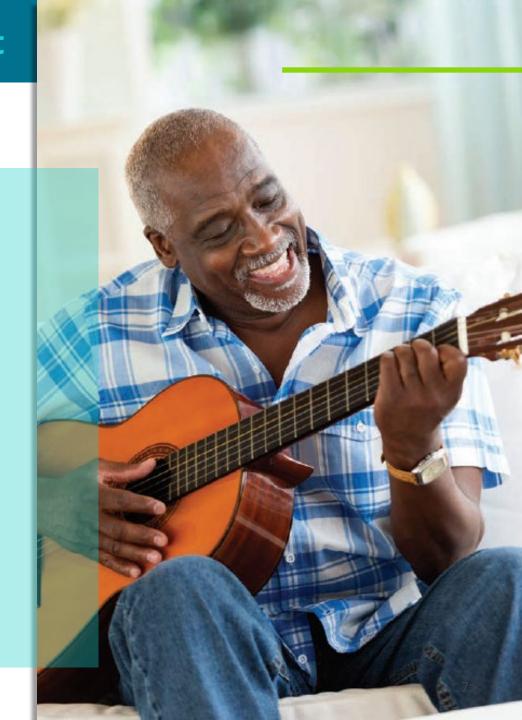
#### **Part D: Prescription Drug Coverage**

- Optional plan, but penalties for late enrollment
- Not included in Original Medicare; additional monthly premium when purchased alone
- Each prescription drug plan is different; formularies identify which drugs are covered
- You could qualify for Extra Help with prescription costs
- Regulated by Medicare, but provided by private insurance companies

#### Original Medicare: what's covered/what's not

#### **Original Medicare Facts:**

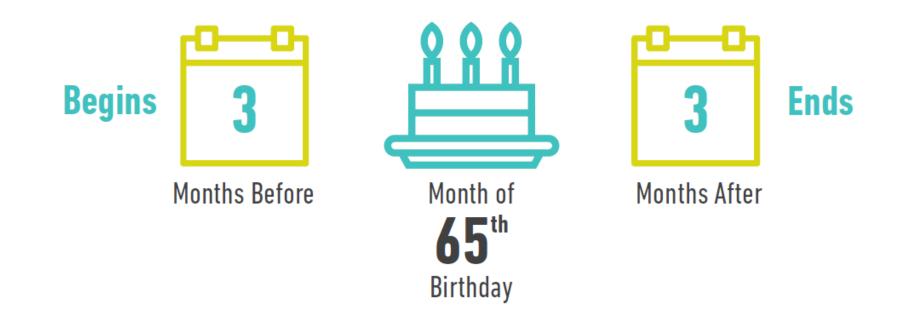
- Original Medicare only covers about <80%> of all Medicare approved services
- Does not include coverage for dental care, contacts/eyeglasses, hearing aids, over-the-counter benefits
- Does not include prescription drug coverage
- Does not offer coverage for most healthcare received outside the U.S.
- Offers coverage for inpatient hospital and skilled nursing services but limits apply
- With Original Medicare, there is no limit to how much you could pay out of your own pocket for your healthcare in any given year





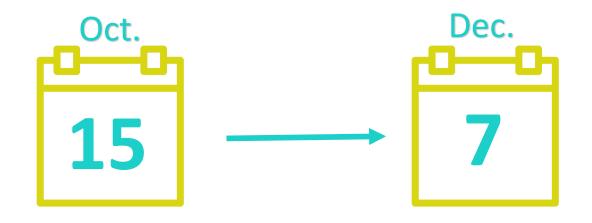
## Qualifying for Medicare | Turning 65

#### **Original Medicare Initial Enrollment Period (IEP)**

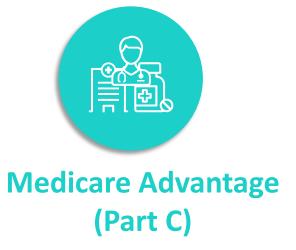


## **Annual Election Period (AEP)**

This is the best time of year to make changes.





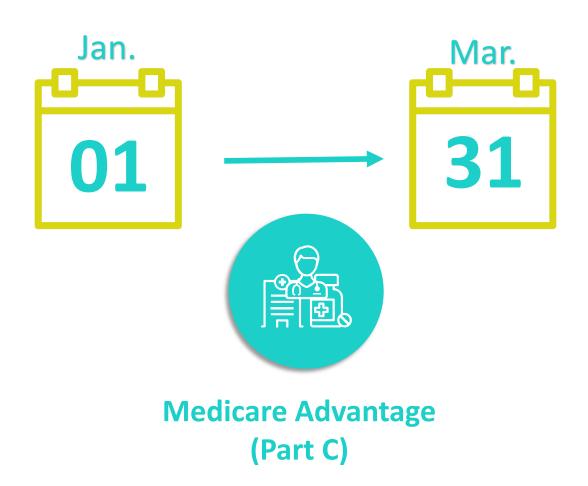




Part D



#### **Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period (OEP)**



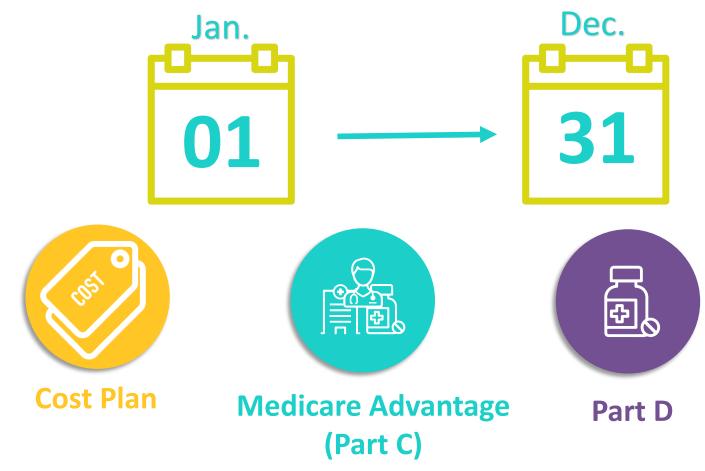
# Allows those enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan to make a one-time election to change to:

- A MA-PD or MA-only plan
- Original Medicare with or without a stand-alone
  Medicare Part D plan
- Add or drop Medicare Part D coverage
- Enroll in Medicare Cost-only
- Enroll in Medicare Cost with Medicare Part D
- Enroll in Medicare Cost with stand-alone Medicare
  Part D



## **Special Election Period**

There are many reasons you may qualify for a Special Election Period (SEP). These life events can happen throughout the entire year.



#### **SEP EVENTS\*:**

- Moving out of service area
- Losing employer coverage
- Working past age 65
- Qualifying for Extra Help with Part D coverage

## **Part B Late Enrollment Penalty**

Late enrollment in Part B coverage may mean penalties down the road.

#### You'll pay the penalty for as long as you have coverage

- <10%> for each year you were eligible and did not enroll
- Based on that year's Part B Premium
- Amount can change every year

#### You may have to pay more if you wait to enroll

- Exceptions include:
  - you are actively working with health insurance coverage
  - you have health insurance coverage through your spouse's employer



Part B

## **Part D Late Enrollment Penalty**

## Waiting to enroll in Part D coverage may mean penalties down the road.

#### You'll pay the penalty for as long as you have coverage

- Multiply 1% of the base beneficiary premium times the number of full, uncovered months without Part D or creditable prescription drug coverage
- Base beneficiary premium may change each year, so penalty amount may also change each year

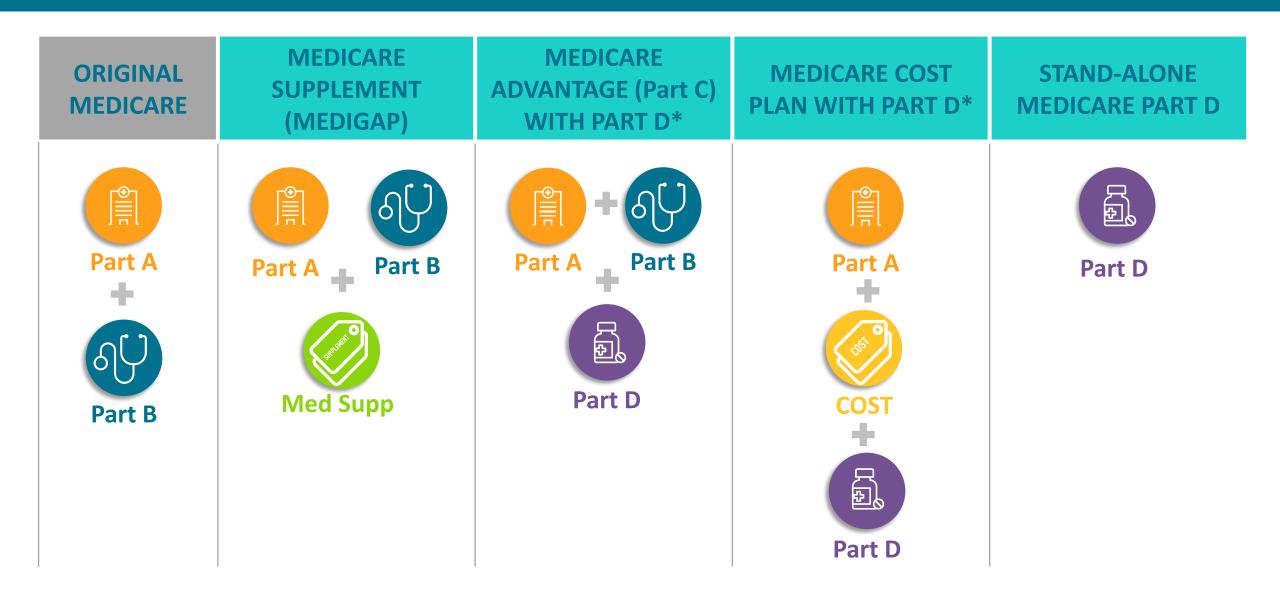
#### **Exceptions include:**

- you have creditable drug coverage from another source, such as an employer
- you qualify for the Extra Help program





## **Medicare Private Insurance Plan Comparisons**



<sup>\*</sup>Plan may also be available without Part D.

#### **Medicare Advantage Plans**

#### What to know about Medicare Advantage plans:

- Offered by private insurance companies
- Many offer \$0 monthly premium plans, but you pay any deductibles, copayments or coinsurance for services used
- You must reside in the plans county service area to be eligible
- If you join an MA-PD Plan, your Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance) coverage is bundled all-in-one with your MA-PD
- MA-PD plan benefits and pricing varies, but all offer limits on how much you could spend on your healthcare.
- Most MA-PD plans offer savings if you use in-network doctors for your care



#### **Medicare Advantage Plans**

#### In a Medicare Advantage plan you:

- Are still in Medicare with all rights and protections
- Still get those services covered by Part A and Part B, but the MA Plan covers those services



- Can be charged different out-of-pocket costs
- Can't be charged more than Original Medicare for certain services, like chemotherapy, dialysis, and skilled nursing facility (SNF) care
- May choose a plan with extra benefits like vision, dental or fitness and wellness benefits
- Have a yearly limit on your out-of-pocket costs



#### **Medicare Cost**

#### What you need to know about Medicare Cost plans:

- Offered by private insurance companies
- Premiums vary by plan and are not age or gender-based
- Works with Medicare Part A & Part B
- There is no medical underwriting
  - Eligibility includes not having End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)
- Extra benefits may include eye exams, hearing exams and fitness club memberships
- Only available in certain counties
- Lots of choices for care: you can use any Medicare covered doctor or healthcare professional
- Nationwide coverage (if provider is Medicare approved)



#### **Medicare Supplement (Medigap)**

#### What you need to know about Medicare Supplement plans:

- Offered by private insurance companies
- You pay a monthly premium plus any deductible, coinsurance or copayments for services used
- Pays the 20% not covered by Original Medicare for Medicare approved services
- Plans vary by state
- They do not include Part D prescription drug coverage
- Acceptance requires underwriting if you enroll after your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) should you decide to switch health plan companies or go from a Medicare Advantage plan or Medicare Cost plan to a Medicare Supplement plan.



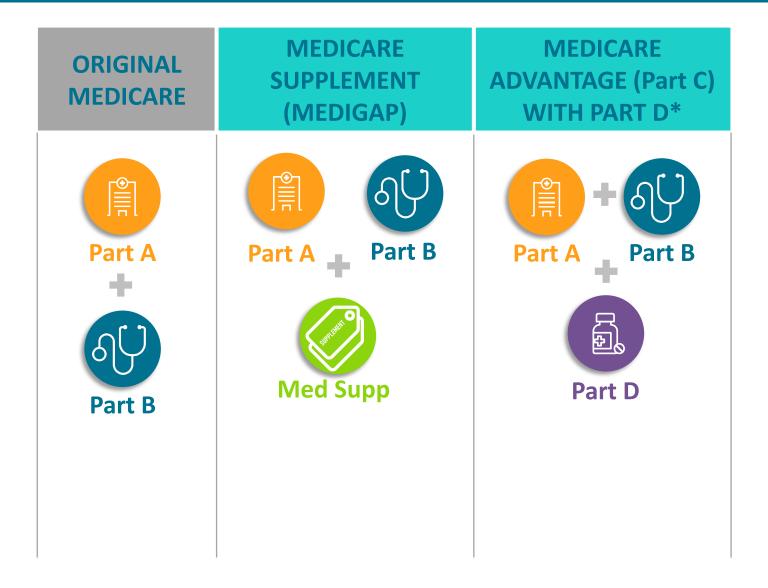
#### Part D Prescription Drug Plan (PDP)

#### What you need to know about Part D prescription drug plans:

- Offered by private insurance companies
- Monthly premiums vary by plan but you pay any deductibles, copays or coinsurance for your prescriptions
- Drugs included on the plan's drug list (formulary) varies by plan
- Large nationwide pharmacy network, including major chains and independent pharmacies

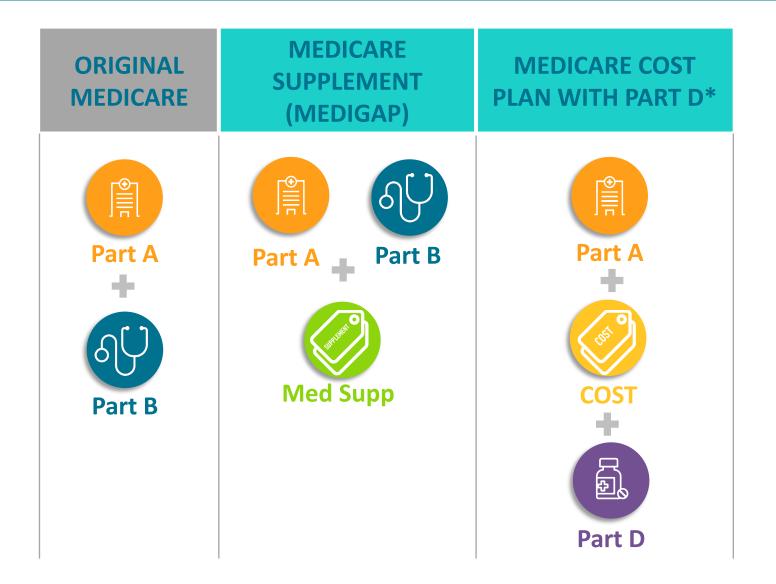






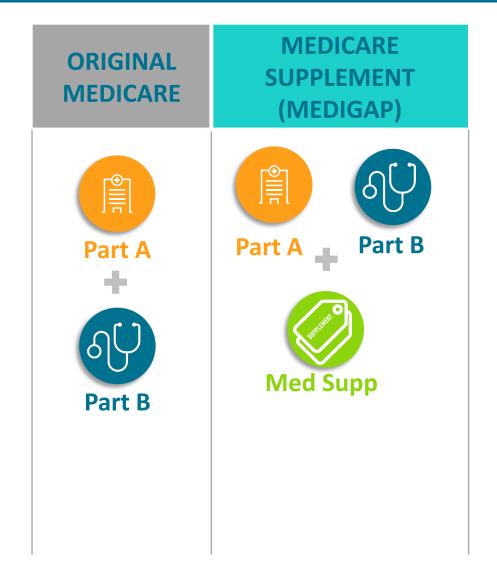
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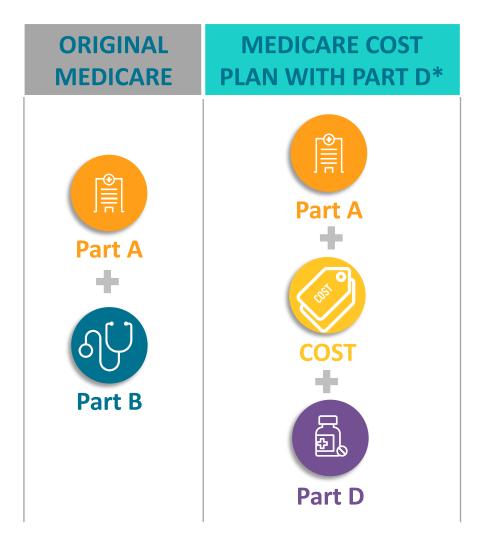


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## **Side-by-Side Comparison of Various Medicare Plan Types\***

	Original Medicare (Part A + B)	Medicare Advantage Plans	Medicare Cost Plans	Medicare Supplement Plans (Medigap)
\$0 Monthly Premium Plans		✓	✓	
\$0 Medical Deductible		✓	✓	<b>√</b> ***
Includes Part D Coverage		✓	Optional	
\$0 Part D Deductible		✓		
Meal Delivery Program**		✓		
Over-the-Counter Benefit Allowance		✓		
Dental Services Reimbursement		✓	✓	
Transportation to Medical Appointments**		✓		
Fitness Club Membership		✓	✓	✓
Eyewear Reimbursement		✓	✓	
Hearing Benefits		✓	✓	
Worldwide Emergency Care		✓	✓	✓

<sup>\*</sup>Not all benefits apply to all members within these plan types.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Medical criteria/conditions may be required for this benefit.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Available to non-newly eligible individuals.

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Meal Delivery Program**		✓	
Over-the-Counter Benefit Allowance		✓	
Dental Services Reimbursement		✓	
Transportation to Medical Appointments**		✓	
Fitness Club Membership		✓	✓
Eyewear Reimbursement		✓	
Hearing Benefits		✓	
Worldwide Emergency Care		✓	✓

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Includes Part D Coverage		optional	
\$0 Part D Deductible			
Dental Services Reimbursement		✓	
Fitness Club Membership		✓	✓
Eyewear Reimbursement		✓	
Hearing Benefits		✓	
Worldwide Emergency Care		✓	✓

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## Medicare Cost Plans\* Compared to Original Medicare

	Original Medicare (Part A + B)	Medicare Cost Plans
\$0 Monthly Premium Plans		✓
\$0 Medical Deductible		✓
Includes Part D Coverage		optional
\$0 Part D Deductible		
<b>Dental Services Reimbursement</b>		✓
Fitness Club Membership		✓
Eyewear Reimbursement		<b>✓</b>
Hearing Benefits Included		✓
Worldwide Emergency Care		✓



## **Medicare Supplement Plans Compared to Original Medicare\***

	Original Medicare (Part A + B)	Medicare Supplement Plans (Medigap)
No Provider Network	✓	✓
<b>Guaranteed Issue</b>	✓	✓
<b>Guaranteed Renewal</b>	✓	✓
<b>Comprehensive Benefits</b>	✓	✓
Accepted Nationwide	✓	✓
Fitness Club Membership		✓
Worldwide Emergency Care		✓





## **Avoid Paying a Penalty**

- Talk with your benefits administrator at work to see if your health plan's drug benefits are considered "creditable" drug coverage.
  - If so, you can postpone your Medicare Part
    B enrollment until you lose that coverage
- Note: You have up to 8 months after retiring or losing your employer coverage to sign up for Part B, without paying a late enrollment penalty.





#### **Helpful Resources**



**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** 

1-800-MEDICARE (TTY: 711)

(1-800-633-4227)

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

medicare.gov



**Social Security Administration** 

1-800-772-1213 (TTY: 1-800-

325-0778)

8 am to 7 pm, Monday - Friday

socialsecurity.gov

# Questions?