



5 COMMON SCAMS

Grandparent Scams

Fraudsters claim your grandchild is in trouble and needs money to help with an emergency such as getting out of jail, paying a bill or leaving a foreign country. They prey on your emotions and trick you into wiring money.

Imposter Scams

Con artists pose as government agencies (IRS, Medicare and Social Security) and get personal information from you, such as Social Security Numbers, credit card info, etc.

Sweepstakes/Lottery Scams

Scammers tell you to wire money (to pay for taxes or fees) for a prize you won. You never have to pay fees to collect a prize from a legitimate sweepstakes. Foreign lotteries are illegal.

Robo Calls/Unwanted Phone Calls

Computers can make thousands of calls per minute. If you answer the phone, it confirms that it's a working number, and they sell your number.

ID Theft/Medicare Fraud

Fraudsters try to get Medicare and Social Security numbers. Don't give out personal information to unsolicited callers. Information is the commodity of the 21st Century.

TO REPORT CONSUMER FRAUD

Contact the **Indiana Attorney General's Office**, **800-382-5516** or **317-232-6330** or the **Federal Trade Commission**, **877-FTC-HELP**.

To Report Medicare Fraud: Contact the **Indiana Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)**, **800-986-3505** or **317-205-9201**.

PREVENTION TIPS & RED FLAGS

Don't answer the phone if you don't recognize the number. If it's legitimate, they'll leave a message.

Screen your calls or let them go to voice mail if you don't recognize the number. Incoming phone numbers can be spoofed (falsified). Use call screening and blocking services on landlines and apps for smart phones.

Don't give info over the phone. Most government agencies will provide information in written form—they don't call you. Don't answer questions or say "yes" to unsolicited callers.

Don't wire/send money unless you are certain that your friend or family is actually abroad and needs it.

Don't make decisions under pressure. Check with trusted persons or agencies before making decisions that affect your finances or well-being.

Check your bank, Medicare, and credit card statements for unauthorized charges.

Don't Keep Secrets. Fraudsters don't want you to tell your family or friends. Before making a decision, check with trusted advisors, or call SMP.

Treat your Medicare card like a credit card. Your Medicare number has value to a fraudster.

Contact Indiana Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)
if you suspect Medicare fraud.

800.986.3505

or 317.205.9201



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