

MEDICARE ENHANCEMENT: POINTS TO PONDER



Enhancement Choose Medicare Supplement or Medicare Advantage, but not both	Medicare Supplement/ Medigap Plans (A, B, C, D, F, High F, G, K, L, M, N)	Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C)
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pay Part B premium ▪ Higher plan premiums ▪ Little or no out-of-pocket costs when getting medical services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pay Part B premium ▪ Lower plan premiums, some at \$0 ▪ Member has cost share that tracks toward an out-of-pocket maximum
Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pays second to Medicare Parts A and B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan pays in place of Medicare Part A and B
Doctors/ Hospitals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generally any provider that accepts Medicare ▪ Some Supplement plans are known as 'select plans' that require staying in a network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must use plan network of doctors and hospitals ▪ Cost is generally higher if the provider is out-of-network ▪ Some plans will not pay anything if the provider is out-of-network
Drug Coverage/ Part D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not included ▪ Must purchase a Part D Plan (PDP) separately or have creditable drug coverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Most Advantage plans include drug coverage or Part D ▪ You cannot purchase a Medicare Advantage plan and a stand-alone PDP; only one or the other
How to Purchase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Purchase from agent/ insurance company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Purchase from agent/insurance company or Medicare.gov

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When to Enroll	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any month ▪ Guaranteed issue is the best time to purchase to avoid answering medical questions (more information is available on Medicare.gov) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ICEP (Initial Coverage Election Period): 7 month window surrounding 65th birthday ▪ AEP (Annual Enrollment Period): Oct. 15 - Dec. 7 ▪ MAOEP (Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period): Jan. 1 - March 31, allows a one-time change if member is already on an Advantage Plan ▪ SEP (Special Election Period): Change in address, income or leaving employer coverage ▪ 5-Star Special Enrollment Period: Switch from your current Medicare Advantage plan to a 5-star Medicare Advantage plan
Which is the Best Enhancement for Me?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Important to have access to any provider (generally) ▪ Use numerous health services or have chronic illness ▪ Able to afford premiums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Willingness to change providers ▪ Looking to potentially save money monthly and prefer to pay copays as needed (pay as you go) ▪ Willingness to review/change plans each year
Notes of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The letter designation of the Supplement plans has the same coverage regardless which insurance company offers it ▪ Cannot have Medicare Supplement and Medicare Advantage at the same time ▪ Some Medicare Supplement plans include fitness programs ▪ Must carry 3 cards: Medicare Card, Supplement Plan Card, Part D Card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medicare Advantage plans have more restrictions such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » May only change coverage if you have an election » Required to reside in the plan's service area ▪ Advantage plans may include dental, vision, hearing aids and fitness programs ▪ Medicare Part C designates a Medicare Advantage plan, not to be confused with Medicare Supplement Plan C ▪ Only required to carry Medicare Advantage card

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Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. From Oct. 1 through March 31, we are available seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.