

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Making Sense of the Medicare Maze

Are you or a loved one getting phone call after phone call, pressuring you to sign up for something for Medicare? You are not alone, every day, 10,000 Americans become Medicare eligible, but many do not understand health insurance or Medicare. Insufficient or inaccurate information can lead to late enrollment penalties, gaps in coverage, strained finances and delayed health-care treatment.

K-State Research and Extension, Wildcat District, will offer a free class to help you make sense of the Medicare Maze! Join us on Thursday, Oct. 18th, 6-7pm, at the Pittsburg Public Library, 308 N. Walnut Street.

Our evening together will clarify in detail the following common questions:

Q: How long do I have to sign up for Medicare initially?

A: For most people, this is the three months before your 65th birthday month, your birthday month, and the three months after. The date you enroll affects the date your Medicare starts.

Q: What is the difference between Part A, B, C, D, and Medigap?

A: This question will be explained in detail and with visual aids on Oct. 18th! In short, there are two ways to have your Medicare.

1. Original Medicare:

- Part A Hospital Insurance
- Part B Medical Insurance
- Part D Prescription Drug Plan
- Medigap or Supplemental Coverage

-OR-

2. Part C Medicare Advantage Plans (HMOs, PPOs, PFFs)

- This options combines hospital, medical, and possibly prescription drugs

Q: When can I make changes to my prescription drug plan?

A: Each year, you can make changes to your Part D Medicare Prescription Drug coverage for the following year. This takes place from Oct. 15th - Dec. 7th. The Wildcat District can provide one-on-one assistance in reviewing your medications and plan to see if it is still the best fit for you!

Our Medicare Basics Workshop will also cover eligibility, enrollment process and timeline, information for those 65+ and still working, and much more! Don't tackle this alone, come and find out some great, unbiased resources to help you in your decision making.

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