



'Care Share

What is Behind Telemarketing Scams

Have you received an unsolicited call from “Medicare”, or a “Montana Medicare” provider, asking about your health and talking about how Medicare will pay for genetic test kits? Or have you had anyone call and tell you they’re going to send you a swab kit on Monday and that Medicare records show you’re eligible for this?

Firstly, Medicare will never call you. Secondly, your provider will never order a telemarketer to call you to sell you supplies.

Behind medical telemarketing calls you’ll find the purpose is to sell you healthcare plans, medical equipment, or services that exploit your health concerns. They use misleading tactics, supposedly confirming your information or knowing your history, with the intention of making a profit by either selling your data to others, or by billing for services in your name.

When anyone calls you out of the blue and tries to get personal information such as your Medicare card or your Social Security number, simply hang up. All the better, don’t pick up unrecognized calls to begin with. Let those go to your voice mail where you can screen calls.

If you’ve registered your phone number

with the Do Not Call Registry and are still receiving a lot of unwanted calls, the calls are most likely from scammers. Numbers don’t expire. Call 1-888-382-1222 or go to [DoNotCall.gov](https://www.donotcall.gov) to register your phone.

Health care scams tend to spike during open enrollment, because the scammers know you’re being inundated with information already and are more apt to fall for their pitch. They often also falsely claim to be a well-known company or government agency to earn your trust. January through March is an open enrollment period for Medicare Advantage plans, so you can expect more calls.

Don’t answer calls from numbers you don’t recognize, and if you receive a call you are interested in, contact the company from a line you looked up independently, not the number they provide. Beware of any “free” offers, and never give personal information out over the phone to a call you didn’t instigate.

If you think you may have given your Medicare number out to a scammer, call MT SMP today to report it. 1-800-551-3191. See the following page for a case example of how fraudulent genetic testing kit scam calls end up when they are reported.

Press Release

Telemarketer Sentenced for \$67M Health Care Fraud and Money Laundering Scheme

Friday, December 6, 2024

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of Florida

MIAMI — A Florida man was sentenced today to 15 years in prison for his role in a wide-ranging conspiracy to defraud Medicare by billing over \$67 million for medically unnecessary genetic testing.

According to court documents and evidence presented at trial, Jose Goyos, 38, of West Palm Beach, was employed at a call center that engaged in deceptive telemarketing calls targeting thousands of Medicare beneficiaries and their physicians. Goyos managed the so-called “doctor chase” division of the call center, which contacted the primary care physicians of targeted Medicare beneficiaries and tricked these medical providers into ordering medically unnecessary genetic tests based on medical paperwork that the call center created. For example, Goyos directed call center employees to falsely represent to providers that the Medicare beneficiaries were “mutual patients” who had requested these genetic tests and that the beneficiaries had medical conditions justifying genetic testing, when neither statement was true.

Goyos and his co-conspirators then used those doctors’ orders to submit claims to Medicare for expensive and medically unnecessary genetic tests. The results of these tests often were not sent to the Medicare beneficiaries’ primary care physicians and were not used in the treatment of the beneficiaries.

In total, between May 2020 and July 2021, Goyos and his co-conspirators submitted over \$67 million in false and fraudulent claims to Medicare, of which Medicare paid over \$53 million.

In October 2023, [a jury convicted](#) Goyos of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and conspiracy to commit money laundering.

Nine additional Florida residents were previously sentenced for their roles in the conspiracy:

- Daniel M. Carver, 38, of Boca Raton, was sentenced to 16 years and eight months in prison.
- Thomas Dougherty, 42, of Palm Beach, was sentenced to 14 years in prison.
- John Paul Gosney Jr., 42, of Parkland, was sentenced to seven years and 11 months in prison.
- Galina Rozenberg, 42, of Hollywood, was sentenced to four years in prison.
- Michael Rozenberg, 61, of Hollywood, was sentenced to four years in prison.
- Ethan Macier, 25, of Boynton Beach, was sentenced to three years and nine months in prison.
- Louis “Gino” Carver, 33, of Boca Raton, was sentenced to two years and eight months in prison.
- Ashley Cigarroa, 32, of North Lauderdale, was sentenced to two years and six months in prison.
- Timothy Richardson, 31, of Lantana, was sentenced to two years in prison.

U.S. Attorney Markenzy Lapointe for the Southern District of Florida; Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Nicole M. Argentieri, head of the Justice Department’s Criminal Division; Special Agent in Charge Jeffrey B. Veltri of the FBI Miami Field Office; and Special Agent in Charge Stephen Mahmood of the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General (HHS-OIG) Miami Regional Office made the announcement.

The FBI and HHS-OIG investigated the case.

More information can be found at www.justice.gov/criminal-fraud/health-care-fraud-unit.



Follow Montana Senior Medicare Patrol – SMP Facebook page and stay two steps ahead of Medicare fraud.

The Senior Medicare Patrol (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 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 provides information and educational presentations. To reach Montana Senior Medicare Patrol, call 1-800-551-3191 or visit www.smpresource.org.