



SMP

Senior Medicare Patrol

Preventing Medicare Fraud

'Care Share

Remote Patient Monitoring Scams

Hello, Medicare Beneficiaries!

In this month's 'Care Share, we're looking at a new scheme making its way to our state: Remote Patient Monitoring scams.

Knowing the "who, what, and why" is the best way to keep your information secure.

How the Scam Works

1. The Bait

It starts with a surprise call. These companies reach out of the blue, acting like they are providing "necessary" medical gear to monitor your health from home.

- **The Truth:** Legitimate providers won't call you unexpectedly to ask for a credit card for "Medicare-approved" gear.

2. The Fast Talk

Scammers will try to trip you up by insisting you need this equipment immediately.

- **The Truth:** In a neighboring state, a company charged a person's personal credit card for rehab equipment that was never used. If they're rushing you for a payment over the phone, it's a tall tale.

3. The Paperwork Shuffle

Even if you don't give them a credit card, they may use your Medicare number to bill for "Remote Patient Monitoring" (RPM) services you never agreed to or received.

- **The Truth:** If you see these claims on your statement from a doctor you've never met, that's a red flag.

4. The Sting

This can cause a headache when you actually need a service later because the scammer used your benefits on fake claims.

How to Protect Yourself

Keeping your benefits safe takes a little bit of grit and a watchful eye:

- **Guard your numbers:** Never give out your credit card or Medicare to anyone who calls you unexpectedly.
- **Check your mail:** When your Medicare Summary Notice arrives, look for “Remote Patient Monitoring” charges.
- **Verify the Source:** If your doctor didn’t discuss this during your visit, hang up and call your doctor directly.

How can your local SMP help?

If you see a suspicious charge or if someone has been pestering you for your information, reach out.

Give us a call at (800) 551-3191.

We can help you report potential fraud and protect your benefits. We’re all in this together!

Follow us for local updates and alerts:
Instagram: [@smpresource](https://www.instagram.com/smpresource)



Scam Watch
Remote Patient Monitoring

Check your MSN or EOB for claims that reference “remote monitoring” or office visits that didn’t take place.



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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.