



Protect Your Medicaid Card and Number

Protect Yourself

Sharing your Medicaid card or number is one type of Medicaid fraud. Medicaid fraud affects everyone.



Protect your Medicaid card and number like you protect your social security number, credit cards, or checkbook.

- **Don't give** your card or number to anyone other than your doctor, clinic, hospital, or other Medicaid health care professional.
- **Don't share** your card with someone who really needs care but doesn't have health care coverage.
- **Don't sell** your card or trade it for anything.
- **Don't share** your Medicaid card, Medicaid number, or other medical information with anyone unless you initiate the contact.



Strangers may ask for your Medicaid information pretending to help you but they may not be who they say they are. They may be identity thieves who want your Medicaid number to file false claims and get money from the Medicaid program.

- **Don't give** your Medicaid card or number to anyone you don't know, especially door-to-door or telephone sales people.
- **Don't give** your Medicaid card or number to a stranger who offers you free medical tests or exams.



What might happen if you share your Medicaid card or number?

- Someone else's information could be in **your medical records**. This could lead to treatment errors when you need care.
- You may have to **pay money back** to Medicaid.
- You may have to **pay a fine** or **spend time in jail** if found guilty of fraud.

How Do You Report Fraud?

Call the State Medicaid agency or Medicaid Fraud Control Unit in your State. For more information on Medicaid Program Integrity and who to contact if you suspect fraud, visit https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Fraud-Prevention/FraudAbuseforConsumers/Report_Fraud_and_Suspected_Fraud.html on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services website.



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