Medicare Services and Alameda County HICAP Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program

HICAP: Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program Alameda County		
PROGRAM	PHONE – ADDRESS - WEBSITE	
HICAP – Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program Legal Assistance for Seniors Alameda County	510-839-0393 Main Office	
 Who does HICAP serve? Current Medicare beneficiaries Adult children and other representatives of Medicare beneficiaries People 65 years and over who are: eligible for Medicare; about to begin receiving Medicare benefits; contemplating the purchase of Medicare related health insurance; or planning for 	1970 Broadway, Suite 300 Oakland, CA www.lashicap.org/hicap Locations throughout Alameda County: http://www.lashicap.org/hicap/hicap -counseling-sites/hicap-counseling-	
 retirement People younger than 65 years who are eligible for Medicare due to disability 	sites-list-oct2015	
People needing information on Long Term Care Insurance HICAP counselors can meet with you one-on-one to help you understand your benefits and options. Our counselors are registered by the California Department of Aging	What To Bring To Your Appointment • Your Medicare card. • Any other health insurance	
HICAP counselors can explain: • Medicare benefits • Health insurance terminology • Supplemental insurance • Billing and claims procedures • Long term care insurance HICAP counselors can: • Help you evaluate policies • Assist on your behalf with providers • Help with medical record keeping • Provide the information you need to make informed decisions	or prescription drug plan cards. List of your prescription medications (including the strength and dosage). Your pharmacist can usually print this for you. Information on your income and assets such as Social Security statements, pay stubs, or bank statements. Any other related mail you received from Medi-Cal, Social Security, Medicare, or your employer.	
• Charge for any service • Sell any product • Make your decisions for you		

Medicare		
PROGRAM	PHONE – ADDRESS - WEBSITE	
Medicare A federal system of health insurance for people over 65 years of	1-800-633-4227 1-800-MEDICARE	
age and for certain younger people with disabilities	https://www.medicare.gov/	
What's Medicare? Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people who are 65 or older, certain younger people with disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a transplant, sometimes called ESRD).	Spanish website: https://es.medicare.gov/	
The different parts of Medicare help cover specific services:		
Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) Part A covers inpatient hospital stays, care in a skilled nursing facility, hospice care, and some home health care.		
Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance) Part B covers certain doctors' services, outpatient care, medical supplies, and preventive services.		
Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage Plans) A type of Medicare health plan offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide you with all your Part A and Part B benefits. Medicare Advantage Plans include Health Maintenance Organizations, Preferred Provider Organizations, Private Fee-for-Service Plans, Special Needs Plans, and Medicare Medical Savings Account Plans. If you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, most Medicare services are covered through the plan and aren't paid for under Original Medicare. Most Medicare Advantage Plans offer prescription drug coverage.		
Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage) Part D adds prescription drug coverage to Original Medicare, some Medicare Cost Plans, some Medicare Private-Fee-for-Service Plans, and Medicare Medical Savings Account Plans. These plans are offered by insurance companies and other private companies approved by Medicare. Medicare Advantage Plans may also offer prescription drug coverage that follows the same rules as Medicare Prescription Drug Plans.		

Medicare – Prescription Resources		
PROGRAM	PHONE – ADDRESS - WEBSITE	
Get help paying costs:	1-800-633-4227	
https://www.medicare.gov/your-medicare-costs/help-paying-	1-800-MEDICARE	
costs/get-help-paying-costs.html		
	https://www.medicare.gov/	
Save on drug costs:		
https://www.medicare.gov/your-medicare-costs/help-paying-	Spanish website:	
costs/save-on-drug-costs/save-on-drug-costs.html	https://es.medicare.gov/	
Other ways to lower your prescription drug costs:		
Other ways to lower your prescription drug costs.		
 Look into generic drugs. Ask your doctor if there are generics 		
that will work as well as your current brand-name drugs.		
 Ask your doctor about less expensive brand-name drugs. 		
Consider using mail-order pharmacies.		
Use the Medicare Plan Finder to compare Medicare drug plans		
to find a plan with lower costs.		
Find out if the company that makes your drug offers help		
paying for it.		