

# Hospice Fraud



## WAYS TO AVOID

\*Never give your Medicare number to someone offering "free" services like housekeeping or cooking. Medicare doesn't offer free services like that.

\*Never agree to sign up for hospice care in exchange for perks or gifts like money, gift cards, or groceries.

\*Know that Medicare will never come to your home to sign you up for services. If someone comes to your door, says they're from Medicare, and tries to get you to sign up for services, they're lying. Don't give them any information.

## DID SOMEONE REACH OUT AND OFFER FREE, IN-HOME PERKS LIKE COOKING, CLEANING, AND HEALTH CARE...

in exchange for your Medicare number?

**DON'T GIVE IT !!!**

That is a scammer trying to commit hospice fraud. Scammers target older adults with calls, texts, emails, fake ads, and even door-to-door visits claiming they'll set you up with services. What they won't tell you is how. They sign you up for Medicare hospice - that's right, hospice care. Then they bill Medicare for all kinds of services in your name. If you're signed up for hospice and don't need it, this will affect your Medicare coverage in the future.

**Here's what to know:** Hospice care is a specialized service, often done at home, for people with a terminal illness approaching the end of life. Only your doctor can certify that you're eligible for hospice (meaning your life expectancy is 6 months or less).

If you think you've spotted or experienced hospice fraud, report it as soon as possible. Call 1-800-MEDICARE