

HEALTH CARE SCAMS

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

You see an ad on TV, telling you about a new law that requires you to get a new health care card. Maybe you get a call offering you big discounts on health insurance. Or maybe someone says they're from the government, and she needs your Medicare number to issue you a new card.

Scammers follow the headlines. When it's Medicare open season, or when health care is in the news, they go to work with a new script. Their goal? To get your Social Security number, financial information, or insurance number.

So take a minute to think before you talk: Do you really have to get a new health care card? Is that discounted insurance a good deal? Is that "government official" really from the government? The answer to all three is almost always: No.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1 Stop. Check it out.

Before you share your information, call Medicare (1-800-MEDICARE), do some research, and check with someone you trust. What's the real story?

2 Pass this information on to a friend.

You probably saw through the requests. But chances are you know someone who could use a friendly reminder.

PASS IT ON!

Want to know more?
Sign up for scam alerts
at ftc.gov/subscribe.

PLEASE REPORT SCAMS

If you suspect a health care scam.
Please report it to the Federal Trade
Commission.

Call the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP
(1-877-382-4357) or TTY
1-866-653-4261

Go online: ftc.gov/complaint

Your complaint can help protect
other people. By filing a complaint,
you can help the FTC's investigators
identify scam artists and stop them
before they can access to a friend's
hard-earned money. It really makes a
difference.

