



NYS Senior Medicare Patrol FRAUD ALERT!



Genetic Testing Scam - Be Aware!

AT HEALTH FAIRS AND EVENTS

- Older adults at senior centers are targeted by companies promoting “free” genetic testing, cancer screening, or DNA testing.
- During the event, older adults are asked to swab their cheek to collect a DNA sample which will be sent to the lab for analysis.
- They are then told that the test will be covered completely by Medicare, and all that is needed to process it is their Medicare number.

BY PHONE

- Medicare beneficiaries are contacted at home by phone. They are told that they will be sent a DNA testing kit in the mail.
- The person is asked to perform the cheek swab at home and then return the kit in the mail for DNA analysis.
- The caller then asks for the person’s Medicare number and reiterates that there will be no charge to the beneficiary.

REMEMBER:

- Medicare only pays for DNA or genetic testing in rare circumstances when all of these things happen:
 - ➔ The test is medically necessary for treatment.
 - ➔ The test is ordered by the patient’s doctor.
 - ➔ Doctor documents the need for the test.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

- If you are contacted by phone, hang up! **DO NOT** answer any questions, give out any personal information or your Medicare number.
- Contact StateWide, your NYS Senior Medicare Patrol at **800-333-4374** to report suspicious activities or requests for your Medicare number.
- Medicare **WILL NOT** call you to confirm your personal information, your Medicare number, or ask questions about your health.
- To schedule a presentation about Medicare Fraud call **800-333-4374**. Visit our Website at **nysenior.org** for more information.

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STATE WIDE

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New York State
SMP
Empowering Seniors To
Prevent Healthcare Fraud