Basics of Medicare

Medicare is government-sponsored health insurance that provides health coverage to qualified U.S. citizens and legal residents. Typically, Medicare pays 80% of your coverage and you are responsible for paying the remaining 20%. You are covered under Medicare at any age if you have end stage renal disease (ESRD) and one of the following applies to you:

- You have collected enough work credits (usually 10 years of work) under Social Security or the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB).
- You are already receiving, or are eligible for, Social Security or RRB benefits. If you received Social Security Disability or certain RRB benefits for 24 months prior to being diagnosed with ESRD, you are already enrolled in Medicare and do not need to reapply.
- You are the spouse or child of someone who has met either of the requirements above.

Additional resources are available to help with your coverage.

**Medicare Supplemental Insurance—Medigap**

Medigap is sold by private insurance companies to supplement healthcare costs that are not covered by Medicare, such as the 20% Medicare does not cover, as well as deductibles and co-payments. Medigap coverage for Medicare beneficiaries who are under the age of 65 is not available in all states.

**Medicare Savings Program**

A Medicare Savings Program may be able to help cover the costs of Medicare. States offer these savings programs to those who have a limited income to help offset the cost of Medicare premiums, deductibles and co-insurance. For more information and to see if you may qualify in your state, call your local Medicaid office.
Medicare Parts A & B—Original Medicare

Medicare Parts A & B are usually chosen together.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Premium</th>
<th>Deductible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hospital coverage</td>
<td>Covers 80%</td>
<td>Usually no premium</td>
<td>Annual deductible that resets at the start of every calendar year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical coverage</td>
<td>Covers 80%</td>
<td>A monthly premium</td>
<td>Annual deductible that resets at the start of every calendar year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Medicare Part C—Medicare Advantage

Medicare Advantage plans are offered by private companies and provide both hospital (Part A) and medical (Part B) coverage and may offer additional types of coverage. If you are diagnosed with ESRD, you cannot join a Medicare Advantage plan unless:

- You were already on the Medicare Advantage plan when you were diagnosed.
- You get existing benefits through a private insurance company that offers Medicare Advantage.

Medicare Part D—Prescription drug coverage

Part D is for prescription drug coverage. While many drugs needed for dialysis treatment or kidney transplant procedures are covered by Medicare Part B, other prescribed drugs are not. Medicare Part D plans usually require a standard initial deductible and some cost-sharing payments.

Talk to your Fresenius Kidney Care insurance coordinator for guidance in understanding the benefits and costs associated with your plan.