

REPORT
SUSPECTED
MEDICARE
FRAUD AT
877-272-8720

Healthcare Fraud Alert

JANUARY 21, 2010

The following information was sent to LOUISIANA Senior Medicare Patrol by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The Louisiana Attorney General and the US Department of Health and Human Services want you to be aware of possible Medicare fraud.

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TELEMARKETING:

Section 1834(a)(17)(A) of the Social Security Act prohibits suppliers of durable medical equipment (DME) from making unsolicited phone calls to Medicare beneficiaries. The Office of Inspector General has received credible information that some DME suppliers continue to use independent marketing firms to call seniors in an attempt to sell them durable medical equipment.

Durable Medical Equipment suppliers can not call you unless you have given them written permission to do so or if you are already doing business with the DME supplier.

If you receive an unwanted call from a Durable Medical Equipment supplier, or a company representing the Durable Medical Equipment supplier, write down the name and, if possible, the phone number of the telemarketer. Then call Louisiana SMP and give us the information.

Remember: Do not give your Medicare number to telephone solicitors, sales people and people you are not familiar with – once given, Medicare can be billed time and again with your number for services you do not want and have not authorized.

This alert has been brought to you by the Office of the Louisiana Attorney General, Department of Health and Humans Services – Office of Inspector General and Louisiana SMP.

TO REPORT MEDICARE FRAUD, CALL 1-877-272-8720



www.stopmedicarefraudla.org