

For Immediate Release

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Medicare Urges Kansas Seniors to Join the Fight against Fraud *New health care summaries help seniors identify improper payments*

TOPEKA – Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Secretary Shawn Sullivan wants Kansas Medicare recipients to know they will soon see a redesigned statement of their claims for services and benefits that will help them better spot potential fraud, waste and abuse. These changes are being made in an effort to make the elimination of fraud, waste and abuse in health care a top priority.

“The new statement has been redesigned to make it easier for consumers to identify problems with their claims that may indicate potential fraud or other irregularities,” Secretary Sullivan said. “We are asking that consumers carefully inspect their statements to ensure that the claims match the services and benefits they have been provided.”

“The new Medicare Summary Notice gives seniors and people with disabilities accurate information on the services they receive in a simpler, clearer way,” said Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) Administrator Marilyn Tavenner. “It’s an important tool for staying informed on benefits, and for spotting potential Medicare fraud by making the claims history easier to review.”

Beneficiaries in Kansas will begin receiving the new Medicare Summary Notice this month. The redesigned notice will make it easier for people with Medicare to understand their benefits, file an appeal if a claim is denied, and spot claims for services they never received. The CMS will send the notices to Medicare beneficiaries on a quarterly basis.

Medicare beneficiaries and caregivers are critical partners in the fight against fraud. In April of this year, CMS announced a proposed rule that would increase rewards—up to \$9.9 million—paid to Medicare beneficiaries and others whose tips about suspected fraud lead to the successful recovery of funds.

For more information about the Medicare Summary Notice, please visit: <http://bit.ly/SummaryNotice>.

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The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services’ mission is to foster an environment that promotes security, dignity and independence, while providing the right care at the right time in a place called home.