

Important Information **About Drug Coverage** **For Nursing Home* Residents on Medicare**

While you live in a nursing home you can enroll in, or change, Medicare drug plans at **ANY TIME**. You should consider reviewing your drug coverage:

When You Are Admitted to the Nursing Home:

- It is a good idea to review your Medicare drug plan to be sure that it is accepted by the nursing home's pharmacy and covers any new drugs you are taking.

Any Time Your Drugs Change:

- You should compare Medicare drug plans to see if your current plan is still the best for you.

October 15-December 7 Every Year:

- This is when plans announce the drugs they will cover and your costs for the next year. There can be significant changes to your current plan. Comparing plans every year is important.

If You Become Eligible for Medicaid:

- You will qualify for \$0 co-payments for drugs covered by your Medicare drug plan and a lower premium.
- Your employer drug plan, if you have one, needs to be evaluated immediately. It may be to your advantage to switch to a Medicare drug plan to receive the benefit of \$0 co-payments and a lower premium.

If You Leave the Nursing Home:

- You have another opportunity to change Medicare drug plans. You should evaluate your plan to be sure it is accepted by your local pharmacy.

Who Can Help?

The Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP), a service of the State of Iowa, can help you compare drug plans, enroll in a new drug plan and evaluate your drug plan when you qualify for Medicaid. SHIIP's services are free, confidential and objective. To contact SHIIP:

Call: 1-800-351-4664
(TTY 1-800-735-2942)

E-mail: shiip@iid.iowa.gov



*This does not include assisted living facilities or residential homes.