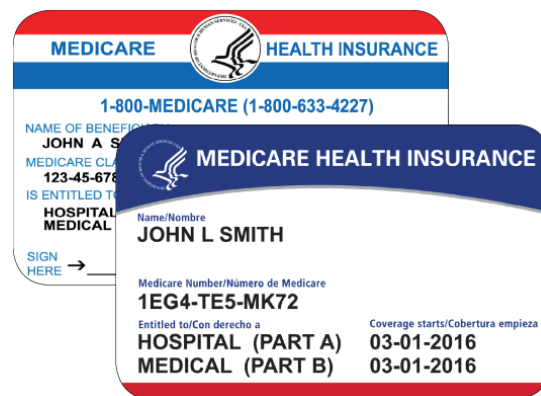


What About Original Medicare?

My Care, My Choice is designed to help people with both Medicare and Medi-Cal (sometimes called Medi-Medi or dual eligibles) learn about local health care coverage choices that meet their needs. Many of these options connect Medicare + Medi-Cal benefits together into one simple package.

What Is Original Medicare?

Many people have “original” or “traditional” Medicare. They have a card that looks like one of these:



With original Medicare, you don’t have a health plan for your doctor and hospital care. You can see any provider that accepts Medicare. But with original Medicare, it’s up to you to get the right care. You must find your own doctors, hospitals, and other care providers.

With original Medicare, you also need a separate plan for prescription drugs.

How Does Original Medicare Work With Medi-Cal?

If you have original Medicare + Medi-Cal, you shouldn’t be charged for any care you get. Medi-Cal pays your Medicare co-pays and deductibles, so you shouldn’t get a bill from doctors or other providers.

Medi-Cal also covers some things that Medicare doesn’t, like some medical equipment and services that help you live independently (like in-home help).

Why Learn About Other Medicare Options?

Some people like having original Medicare. They are happy to figure out for themselves how to use their Medi-Cal coverage to add to Medicare.

Other people like having coverage choices that put Medicare + Medi-Cal benefits together. These choices can make sure you are getting the care you need.

Using our Find My Care tool at MyCareMyChoice.org, answer some simple questions about your care to find options available to you.