

Calendar of Webinars in Partnership with

- Illinois Department on Aging
- Illinois Division of Insurance, Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)
- Medicare Rights Center

December 2007 through April 2008

**December 4
10:00 A.M.**

Medicare Plan Options

Medicare beneficiaries need to consider all of the health insurance plans which provide extra benefits and more options than traditional “fee for service Medicare.” This webinar will discuss the different types of plans, which include Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare supplemental insurance, and employer provided coverage. Advantage plans available in Illinois, including Medicare Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs), Private Fee-for-Service Plans (PFFS), and Medicare Special Needs Plans (SNPs) will be discussed in detail. Additionally, there will be explanations on how these plans work including the cost involved for co-pays, deductibles and co-insurance.

**December 18
10:00 A.M.**

Medicare 2008 and Medicare Fraud

December is the time of year that Medicare beneficiaries review and select their Medicare Choices for *2008*. In addition to highlighting the annual Medicare changes, this webinar will also address issues and concerns pertaining to **Medicare Fraud**. As advocates, it is important that we monitor and report suspicious marketing activities. It is in the best interests of our seniors to help them become better healthcare consumers.

**January 8
10:00 A.M.**

Money Saving Programs: Low Income Subsidy, Medicare Savings Programs and Illinois Cares Rx

This web based training will explain the programs available to help pay for Medicare health costs. The session will provide useful information regarding eligibility and enrollment for Medicare Savings Programs (QMB, SLMB, & QI). In addition, there will be an overview of the assistance available through the Low Income Subsidy for Part D (LIS or Extra Help) and Illinois Cares Rx.

**January 22
10:00 A.M.**

Illinois Cares Rx and Circuit Breaker Application

Mark Huston from the Illinois Department on Aging’s Circuit Breaker Pharmaceutical Assistance Division will walk participants through the new 2007 Illinois Cares Rx and Circuit Breaker Application (IL Form-1363). This annual review will address common concerns and discuss application issues line by line. All levels of staff and advocates in the Aging and Disability Networks will benefit from this webinar if they are unable to attend a regional training or want another review.

**February 5
10:00 A.M.**

Medicare Supplement Insurance Plans

Medicare supplemental insurance plans, or Medigap plans, are sold by private insurance companies to fill the “gaps” in original Medicare. There are high deductible plans, select plans and new plans K and L. In addition, a new law effective June 2008, will greatly expand Medigap coverage for those who are on Medicare due to disability. Learn more about Medigap policies and beneficiary rights and guarantees.

**February 19
10:00 A.M.**

Medicare for Caregivers

Caregivers may be unaware of the Medicare benefits available to assist their loved ones. Questions on a range of issues will be addressed from Medicare eligibility, the types of health care services covered, to the options available for long-term care. The new web-based resource, MyMedicare.gov, will be highlighted as a helpful resource for those caring for a person on Medicare.

**March 18
10:00 A.M.**

Medicare Preventive Health Benefits

Did you know that Medicare coverage includes certain potentially life-saving preventive benefits including smoking cessation programs, vaccinations, and screenings for various diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancer? Find out more about Medicare Preventive Health Benefits by attending this comprehensive webinar.

**April 15
10:00 A.M.**

Medicare Long Term Care Options

Individuals with advanced illnesses and chronic conditions may have long term care needs. Medicare offers home health care and hospice benefits to help meet some of those needs including skilled nursing services, occupational, physical and speech therapy, and pain management. There are other options to help cover long term care costs. Private insurance companies offer long term care policies that expand coverage of these services beyond what Medicare offers. Participate in this webinar and learn more about who is eligible, how to obtain services, and what specific services are covered.

Copies of each of the presentations will be posted on www.illinoisbenefits.org the day of the session.

All webinars are approximately 90 minutes in length.

No pre-registration is required.

Follow the dial-in procedure to participate in the session.