

**South Florida Medicare Infusion Fraud Hotline**  
(Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties)

The Department of Health and Human Services is conducting an initiative designed to protect Medicare beneficiaries in South Florida from fraudulent providers of infusion therapy or intravenous medication. This two-year demonstration project, which is backed by the Department of Justice, brings together a multi-agency team of federal, state and Medicare contractor investigators to combat Medicare fraud by focusing on preventing deceptive providers from operating in South Florida.

The Medicare infusion therapy scam often involves the recruitment of patients by paying them to come to clinics and doctors' offices to receive non-rendered or medically unnecessary services. These fraudulent clinics and doctors' offices then bill Medicare for drug infusions or injections that patients do not receive or do not need. This scam also involves identity theft, where Medicare beneficiaries' and some performing physicians' identities are compromised when their identification numbers are used without their knowledge or consent.

In order to put a stop to these practices, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is now instituting enhanced provider enrollment and validation and will now require infusion providers who operate in several South Florida counties to immediately resubmit applications, upon request, to be qualified Medicare infusion therapy providers. Raising awareness among Medicare beneficiaries in South Florida about these illegal practices, how to protect themselves from fraud, and how to identify possible fraudulent billing practices, is critical to combating infusion scams.

Fraud costs Medicare billions of dollars each year. The Department of Health and Human Services and its partners ask residents of South Florida to help stop fraud by reporting any suspicious infusion, injection or medication charges by doctors offices or clinics on their Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs) by calling the **South Florida Medicare Infusion Fraud Hotline at 1-866-417-2078**. We are requesting your assistance in this critical initiative to get the word out to protect people with Medicare.

Here is a link to a promotional flyer that we hope you will copy and distribute to people with Medicare: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/partner.asp>. The flyer can be found in the "Additional Resources" section of the Partner Center.

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