



Did You Know if you have Medicare Part D, You Can Get Prescription Medication to Help You Quit Smoking?

What is a Medicare Part D Plan?

Medicare offers prescription drug coverage for everyone with Medicare and pays for prescription drugs instead of Medicaid. Because dual eligibles (those that receive Medicaid and Medicare benefits) have Medicaid, Medicare automatically provides extra help with Medicare drug plan costs. To ensure coverage, Medicare automatically assigns people who are dual eligibles to a prescription drug plan (PDP). Dual eligibles are allowed to switch from their auto-assigned prescription drug plan by enrolling in another PDP.

What plans cover Prescription Tobacco Cessation Medications (Nicotine Replacement Therapies - NRTs)?

Please check the table on the back to find out what plans provide coverage for prescription tobacco cessation medications (NRTs).

If I am dually eligible, what should I do to ensure that I have access to Medicare prescription drug coverage that meets my needs?

Dual eligibles, their families, providers and/or advocates must select and enroll in a plan that meets their needs. No one should assume that the PDP to which a dual eligible is randomly auto-assigned will meet their needs. Each year the plans change and formularies may change, so people must check to make sure their plan still meets their needs.

What are the key things to think about when choosing a PDP?

Individuals or their caregivers will need to evaluate the drug formularies of the various plans to see if the formulary includes all the drugs they need, and to see if there are any restrictions on access to those drugs. Individuals or their caregivers will need to look at the pharmacy network to make sure the pharmacy they use is part of the PDP's network.

Why would I switch from one plan to another?

A PDP may take a drug off its formulary or a dual eligible may be required to take a new drug that is not on the PDP's formulary.

How do I switch to another prescription drug plan (PDP)?

Dual eligibles are permitted to change to another PDP at any time. However, changes in a PDP will go into effect *only* on the first day of each month.

What is the best way to switch PDPs?

Switching PDPs can be done by either enrolling in the new drug plan or by dis-enrolling from the current drug plan and then enrolling into the new PDP. It is strongly recommended that whenever dual eligibles want to switch from one drug plan to another, they simply enroll in the new PDP – without doing a separate dis-enrollment. By enrolling in the new PDP, there will be an automatic dis-enrollment from the previous plan.

