

SNAPSHOT OF MEDIGAP VS. MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

SUBJECT	MEDIGAP/MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE
HOW IT RELATES TO ORIGINAL MEDICARE PARTS A AND B	Private supplemental coverage that pays for all or most of your Part A and Part B Out-of-Pocket Expenses.	In Essence this is Original Medicare provided by Private Insurance Companies instead of the Government.
PREMIUMS	Premiums average higher as you age and where you live and your health history. Typical range is \$80- \$120 when first eligible and by age 74 averages \$140 - \$200. Month.	Most HMO Plans are \$0 - \$50 and most PPO Plans are \$40-\$100 depending on the plan and the plan benefits. Everyone enrolled in a MA Plan pays the same price.
OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS	Low to None, not counting the cost for your Monthly Premium. You should view your total cost for premiums as your Maximum Out-of-Pocket cost. With Plan G everything is covered except your Part B Deductibles.	In-Network medical deductibles and co-pays that typically run \$3,300 - \$5,700 per year. Maximum Out-of-Pocket Expenses average \$6,500 every year.
CHOICE OF DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS	Free to choose any doctor or hospital that accepts Medicare. (Nearly 93% of ALL Doctors & Hospitals accept Medicare)	HMO'S: Must go to a Plan Provider. PPO'S: Can normally see any provider but it will cost considerably more if they are not in your network.
WHEN CAN YOU BUY A PLAN?	Anytime in the first six months once you have enrolled in Medicare Parts A & B and you are at least 65. After that, you can apply any time, however; not everyone will pass Medical Underwriting. Once you have a Medigap Plan you can never be cancelled!	When you first enroll in both Medicare Part A and Part B then, annually from October 15th until December 7th (AEP) you have to re-enroll or change plans for the next Calendare Year.
DOES IT HAVE MEDICARE PART D (PDP) COVERAGE	NO Medigap Plans come with a Prescription Drug Plan Included. If you want one you can easily enroll in a Stand-Alone Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan.	The majority of Mdiccare Advantage Plans come with a PDP (Prescription Drug Plan). You CANNOT get a Stand-Alone Part D Prescription Drug Plan if you have an MA Plan.
QUALITY INFORMATION AVAILABLE	There are no standardized ratings for Medicare Supplement/Medigap Plans. The MOST popular plans are Plan F, Plan G and Plan N.	Yes. Each Fall Medicare posts their Star Ratings for each plan at Medicare.gov. Ratings range from 1-5 Stars.
CARDS NEEDED IN YOUR WALLET OR PURSE	THREE CARDS. 1. Your Red, White and Blue Medicare Card. 2. Your Medicare Supplement/Medigap Plan Card. 3. Your Part D Prescription Drug Card.	In most cases all you need to carry is your Medicare Advantage Plan ID Card. You can leave your Red, White and Blue Medicare Card safely in a desk or file at home..
PAPERWORK	Little to none and most cases it is ZERO . Medicare pays its share first and the Insurance Company pays their remaining costs.	There is quite a fair amount of paperwork because you pay deductibles and co-pays directly to the doctors/hospitals.