

## Navigating the Medicare Maze to Save Money on Blood Sugar Testing Supplies!

Here are three ways to ensure you are getting the best price on your testing supplies! Choose the option that works best for you:

## *Option #1:* Go to your supplier and ask:

- o "Are you enrolled in Medicare?"
- o "Do you accept assignment?" (meaning they agree to the Medicare approved amount for supplies)
- The answer to both these questions should be "yes" to ensure you are getting the best price on your supplies

## **Option #2:** Visit www.medicare.gov and follow these steps to find suppliers in your area:

- Select "What Medicare covers"
- o Select "Find suppliers of medical equipment & supplies"
- o Enter the zip code for your area and select "Go"
- For mail-order and competitive bidding testing supplies and lancets (this program only applies to traditional Medicare, not advantage plans)
  - Under "Competitive Bid Categories,"
  - Check "Mail-Order Diabetic Supplies"
- o For pick up or mail-order non-competitive supplies
  - Under "Non-Competitive Bid Categories,"
  - Check "Blood Glucose Monitors & Supplies." You can chose to have your supplies delivered at home or picked up at a store.
- Click "Search"
- Click "Show All Results"
  - This is the directory of suppliers enrolled in Medicare near the zip code you entered
  - Select a supplier that accepts assignment, indicated by this symbol after the name of the supplier

## Option #3: Call Medicare at 1-800-633-4227 (have your Medicare number ready)

- Ask for a list of suppliers of diabetes testing supplies that:
  - Are enrolled in Medicare and
  - Accept assignment

It's important to note that Medicare participating suppliers may only cover certain meters. If you prefer your current meter, try shopping around to find a mail order contract supplier or local supplier that can provide the supplies you need.

Visit Medicare's "Get help paying costs," which helps people identifying multiple supporting programs, or contact 1-800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227) to learn more.

This information is accurate as of March 2018 and is subject to change. An annual update will be provided.