

# MEDICARE MADE SIMPLE

## A Quick Guide to the Basics

### WHAT IS MEDICARE?

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people aged 65 and older, and for some younger people with disabilities. It helps cover hospital care, doctor visits, and prescription drugs. But it can be confusing to sort out.

## THE 4 PARTS OF MEDICARE

### Part A – Hospital Insurance

- Covers inpatient hospital stays, skilled nursing facilities, hospice, and some health care
- Most people don't pay a premium for Part A (if you or your spouse paid Medicare taxes while working)

### Part C – Medicare Advantage

- Offered by private insurance companies approved by Medicare
- Combines Parts A and B, often including Part D
- Many plans also include dental, vision, hearing and wellness programs
- You still pay your Part B premium, plus any plan premium

### Part B – Medical Insurance

- Covers doctor visits, outpatient care, preventive services, lab tests, x-rays, and durable medical equipment
- You pay a monthly premium for Part B

### Part D – Prescription Drug Coverage

- Helps cover the cost of prescription medications
- Offered through private insurance companies
- You can get Part D as a stand-alone plan (if you have Original Medicare) or bundled into a Medicare Advantage Plan.

### Other Coverage Options

#### Medigap (Medicare Supplement Insurance)

- Private plans that help pay the out-of-pocket costs not covered by Original Medicare, like copays, coinsurance, and deductibles
- Works only with Original Medicare (not Medicare Advantage)

### IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

**Enrollment:** You can sign up 3 months before/after or during your birth month

**Costs:** Medicare isn't free – there are premiums, deductibles, and copays

**Choice:** You can choose to stay with Original Medicare (Parts A & B, with optional Part D and/or Medigap) or join a Medicare Advantage plan – Part C

PREMIER INSURANCE GROUP | 208.614.3505

Larry@PremierInsGroup.Com