



MedStar Medicare Choice

September 28, 2017

Dear Participating Provider:

MedStar Medicare Choice has decided to discontinue our Medicare Choice plans in certain counties for 2018. **Effective January 1, 2018, MedStar Medicare Choice will no longer offer a Medicare Advantage product in Baltimore, Anne Arundel, St. Mary's, Calvert, and Charles counties.** This change may affect the health coverage for some of your patients; however, it **does not** affect your provider contract with MedStar Medicare Choice/MedStar Family Choice.

In which counties will MedStar Medicare Choice operate for 2018?

Effective January 1, 2018, MedStar Medicare Choice will offer a Medicare Advantage Plan for patients living in the following counties: Baltimore City, Harford, Howard, Prince George's, and Washington D.C.

How does this affect your patients?

MedStar Medicare Choice will no longer be a Medicare Advantage plan option for your patients residing in Baltimore, Anne Arundel, St. Mary's, Calvert and Charles counties in 2018. This means their coverage through MedStar Medicare Choice will end December 31, 2017. Your affected patients need to make a decision about how they want to proceed with their health and prescription drug coverage. They must choose a different Medicare Advantage Health Plan, or revert back to Original Medicare. If they do not take action by **December 31**, they will lose their prescription drug coverage and only be covered by Original Medicare starting **January 1, 2018**. Affected members can join a new plan anytime between October 15, 2017 and February 28, 2018. If they don't join a plan with prescription drug coverage by February 28, 2018, they won't have prescription drug coverage in 2018 and may have to pay a lifetime Part D late-enrollment penalty if they join a Medicare prescription drug plan later. For patients who are enrolled in MedStar Dual Advantage (D-SNP) and also have coverage through Medicaid, their coverage through Medicaid is not affected. Affected members may contact their Sales Broker or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) to determine which option is best for them.

Per CMS guidance, members will receive notification regarding this change on October 2, 2017. We ask that you please refrain from discussing this with your patients until they have been formally notified.

We will work with you and your patients to ensure continuity of care until the end of the year and, when applicable, through to the next year.

If you have further questions about the Plan, please call our Provider Relations Department at (800) 905-1722.

We thank you for your commitment to the Medicare population and look forward to our continued partnership.

Sincerely,



Lesley Wallace
V.P., Government Contract Management and Oversight
MedStar Family Choice