

SUSSEX COUNTY SENIOR TIMES

A Publication of the Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services

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7 Scams to Be Aware Of When Contracting In-Home Health Care

This information is provided courtesy of the Sussex County Prosecutor's Office.

• Licensing *

Ask the in-home health person to provide their medical/licensing documents from the state.

Ask for reviews/references from previous patients with similar problems.

• Identity Theft *

Some in-home health care services will provide “free” services in exchange for the patient's Medicare card number or other personal information such as a social security number or credit card number. These in-home health care services are looking to steal the identity of the patient to file false claims, to purchase things in their name, or to reroute their social security checks.

• Waiving Deductibles *

Most insurance companies and government care plans do not allow medical professionals to waive the deductible or co-payments.

• Unnecessary Medical Equipment/Treatment *

This is done to collect fees.

• Billing for Services not Provided *

Cases of patients being billed for equipment or treatment the patient did not receive.

There have been known cases of criminal negligence, resulting in the death of an elderly person, but the healthcare provider still collected payment.

• Drug Scams *

A small amount of in-home healthcare providers prefer working with the elderly because it allows them to steal medication the person is being prescribed to either sell on their own or to take for themselves.

• Scam Artists *

There are scam artists looking for nothing other than to gain access to a home to either harm someone financially, steal property, or harm someone physically. Those people who wish to harm someone often have fake nursing badges, fake manager/supervisor credentials, and fictitious identification in general. They may wear medical-related clothing.

*T, R. (2018, February 09). 7 Scams To Be Aware Of When Contracting In-Home Health Care. Retrieved from <https://healthprep.com/aging/7-scams-to-be-aware-of-when-contracting-in-home-health-care/>

2020 Medicare Amounts

Original Medicare Part A (hospital coverage) and Medicare Part B (medical coverage) have premiums, deductibles and copayments for the services they cover, and you will be responsible for these. Each year the Medicare Part A deductible and copayment amounts increase. Also, the Medicare Part B premium, deductible and copayment amounts increase. The Medicare Part B premium is deducted from your Social Security check every month. Please see all of the 2020 Medicare amounts below.

Part A – Hospital Insurance

Part A Standard Premium

- No charge for most people (at least 40 work credits)

Part A Hospital Deductible for Each Benefit Period - \$1,408.00

Hospital Coinsurance

- \$0 for days 1 – 60
- \$352.00 a day for 61st – 90th day
- \$704.00 a day for 91st – 150th day (lifetime reserve days)
- All costs for all days after 150

Skilled Nursing Facility Coinsurance

- \$0 for days 1 – 20
- \$176.00 a day for 21st – 100th day
- All costs for all days after 100

Part B – Medical Insurance

Part B Standard Premium - \$144.60 per month

Part B Deductible - \$198.00 per year

For additional information, please contact the Division of Senior Services at 973-579-0555, ext. 1223.

UPCOMING *NEW VITALITY* PROGRAMS AND CLASSES

New Vitality is your source for health and wellness programs designed specifically for adults 65+, offered through the Community Health department at Newton Medical Center.

EARLY BIRD DINNER/LECTURE

Interventional Options for the Treatment of Chronic Pain in the Post-Opioid Crisis Era

Thursday, February 6, 2020

5:30 p.m. – Light Dinner

6:00 p.m. – Lecture

Newton Medical Center, Romano Conference Center

Lecture is FREE, Dinner is \$3.00 per person

Presenter: Richard Siegfried, MD

To register, please call 1-800-247-958.

CHAIR YOGA

Mondays, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

January 27 through March 16

\$48 for all 8 weeks

Learn ways to calm the mind and nervous system while increasing your range of motion, flexibility and strength with gentle movement and stretching. This class is held at the First United Methodist Church, 111 Ryerson

Avenue, Newton.

To register, please call 1-844-472-8499.

ZUMBA GOLD

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

January 30 through March 19

\$48 for all 8 weeks

Uncover and discover the beauty and wonder of movement that is authentically you. This class is held at the First United Methodist Church, 111 Ryerson

Avenue, Newton.

To register, please call 1-844-472-8499.



SENIOR CLUB TRIP INFORMATION

Hardvyston Seniors – Will host a bus trip on Wednesday, **May 6, 2020**, to Penn's Peak to see *Tribute to Frankie Valli*. The cost is \$73 per person for members and \$78 per person for non-members and includes transportation and lunch.

Hardvyston Seniors – Will host a bus trip on Thursday, **June 25, 2020**, to the Paper Mill Playhouse to see *The Wanderer (Dion)*. The cost is \$86 per person and includes transportation, the show and a bag lunch.

Montague Seniors – Will host a bus trip on Thursday, **February 20, 2020**, to Resorts Casino. The cost is \$25 per person. You will receive \$25 in slot play and a \$15 food coupon.

St. Jude's Seniors – Will host an overnight trip on Tuesday, **May 19, 2020**, to Lancaster Sight & Sound Theatre to see the play *Queen Ester*. The fee includes many extras including the Turkey Hill Tour, breakfast and dinner at the Bird in Hand Market and shopping at the outlets. The cost is \$321 pp single occupancy, \$271 pp double occupancy and \$268 pp triple occupancy.

St. Jude's Seniors – Will host a bus trip on Wednesday, **August 26, 2020**, to the Westchester Theatre to see the play *9 to 5*. The fee is \$79 per person and includes transportation, lunch and the show.

XYZ Club – Will host a bus trip on Tuesday, **April 28, 2020**, to the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City. The cost is \$59 per person. The cost includes general admission, two workshop sessions and a planetarium ticket. A light lunch is also included.

For further details, please call the Division of Senior Services at 973-579-0555, ext. 1277.

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