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# Changes to Medicare Part D

## A Patient's Guide

Medicare patients in the Part D prescription drug program often face significant out-of-pocket costs early in the year while trying to meet their deductible. **Changes to Medicare Part D will help make prescription drug costs more manageable for patients.**

### How is Medicare Part D changing?

Beginning in 2025, Medicare will introduce changes that offer two main benefits for seniors:



Patients' out-of-pocket costs will be **capped at \$2,000** a year.



Through the new Medicare Prescription Payment Plan, patients can **spread their prescription costs** evenly across 12 monthly payments.

## How does the out-of-pocket cap work?

The \$2,000 cap applies to the total out-of-pocket Part D medication costs for each Medicare patient, each year. Patients don't need to take any action to be covered by the cap.

## How will the payment plan work?



**1** A patient will enroll in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan.



**2** The patient's Part D plan sponsor will pay their out-of-pocket costs upfront.



**3** The patient's annual out-of-pocket expense will be divided into 12 installments. Each month the patient will make his or her monthly payment to the Part D sponsor, instead of paying the pharmacy.

## How can I opt in?

Patients can opt in to the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan directly with their Part D sponsor during open enrollment season, which begins October 15, 2024.

## When can a patient opt in to the program?

**October 15, 2024:** Enrollment opens

**January 1, 2025:** Medicare Prescription Payment Plan begins

After initial enrollment opens on October 15, 2024, Medicare Part D patients may opt in at any point during the year.



**Changes to Medicare Part D can make out-of-pocket costs more manageable,** allowing patients to focus on what matters.



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