



Reeves County
Hospital District

Press Release
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Knowing the Right Medicare Plan Is Important to Get the Care You Need
Reeves County Hospital District offers important information about Medicare

PECOS, Texas (Nov 9, 2020) – Each year during this time is annual Medicare enrollment period is upon us. Knowing your healthcare needs, and understanding the options can help you make an informed choice so you can get the care that you need. For those eligible to enroll, the choices can seem confusing.

“In our community, many people receive Medicare benefits, or they will soon be eligible,” said Brenda McKinney, CEO of Reeves County Hospital District. “It is important to think about what health needs you anticipate over the next year when choosing your plan.”

This year’s fall open enrollment period began Oct. 15 and runs through Dec. 7 for those who want their coverage to begin Jan. 1, 2020. Open enrollment period allows you to make changes to your coverage, such as switching from Original Medicare to Medicare Advantage or enrolling in Medicare Part D, which includes prescription drug coverage.

Under special circumstances, you may be eligible to sign up outside the seven-month initial enrollment period.

Those who are eligible for Medicare have a seven-month period to sign up. This period includes three months before your 65th birthday, the month you turn 65 and ends three months after you turn 65. If you are already receiving Social Security benefits, you will be automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A and Part B (also known as Original Medicare).

In general, services offered through Medicare Part A and Part B (also known as “Original Medicare”) require fewer pre-approvals and result in fewer restrictions than Medicare Advantage plans, also known as Medicare Part C. Despite efforts by insurance companies to sell Medicare Advantage plans, Reeves County Hospital District, prefers Original Medicare.

Although Medicare Advantage plans sometimes offer certain perks not available through Original Medicare, they can also limit your choice of providers and can require more referrals for healthcare

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services. Under Original Medicare, you can see any provider who accepts Medicare. Under Medicare Advantage plans, you may need to ensure that the provider is in the plan's network. Additionally, these plans funnel significant profits back to insurance companies.

With Original Medicare, you can enroll in Medicare Part D, which includes prescription drug coverage. You can also enroll in supplemental insurance or Medicaid to help you cover out-of-pocket expenses.

Reeves County Hospital District is proud to serve those in the community who are on Medicare. Residents can find important healthcare services and compassionate providers near home at the hospital and at Pecos Rural Valley Health Clinic.

Reeves County Hospital District offers a large number of medical services, including 24-hour emergency care; advanced radiology services; a clinical laboratory; surgical services; physical therapy; a swing bed program for recovery near home, and much more.

Local medical providers in a variety of specialties are also available, including those specializing in family practice, obstetrics, internal medicine and surgical services.

"There is a lot of confusing information out there. Knowing your healthcare needs and ensuring that you have coverage that allows you to access the providers in the local community is key to choosing your plan," McKinney said.

To learn more about local healthcare services or to find a provider, visit www.reevescountyhospital.com or call 432-447-3551 to schedule an appointment.

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About Reeves County Hospital District

Since 1963, Reeves County Hospital District has been providing healthcare services for Reeves County and adjacent West Texas communities. The critical access hospital offers a wealth of medical services, including 24-hour Level IV Trauma Center and emergency department, advanced radiology services (including CT scanning and MRIs), an outpatient lab, surgical services, physical rehabilitation, among others. The hospital district also operates a Pecos Valley Rural Health Clinic and American Home Health and Hospice. For additional information, please visit www.reevescountyhospital.com.

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