



November 1, 2019

Dear Medicare Patient:

At Piedmont Internal Medicine we strive to provide the best care that we can for our patients. Our Medicare patients are an important part of our practice. We have plans to indefinitely provide care to all our patients however Medicare Advantage plans provide some uncertainty with respect to benefits and eligibility. We do not and have not participated as providers in any of the plans. This recently became an issue for our Medicare Advantage HMO patients as out of network services were not covered and we were unable to provide services to those patients. Fortunately, many of our patients in those plans were able to switch to plans with out of network benefits.

Moving forward toward open enrollment we continue all our present policies, so no changes are occurring from our perspective. However, since Medicare Advantage Plans may alter their benefits, we wish for you to consider any changes to an Advantage Plan carefully as it may potentially have consequences. We will continue to be out of network for HMO Advantage plans.

While PPO Medicare Advantage plans don't require in-network providers at present to provide service there may be increased restrictions on PPO plans that limit the benefits to patients such as prior authorization for procedures and radiologic studies. Traditional Medicare plans don't have restrictions of this sort and there are no network restrictions. Because of this we will continue to be participating in traditional Medicare plans for the indefinite future.

Please keep these considerations in mind for upcoming open enrollment periods.

As always it is a pleasure to continue to be a part of your healthcare at Piedmont Internal Medicine!

Sincerely,

The Physicians of Piedmont Internal Medicine, PC

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