



The Medicare Map . . .

Medicare expands coverage of Alzheimer's drugs . . . with some restrictions

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently announced a new proposal to cover certain Alzheimer's medications under Part B of Medicare.

"If the FDA grants *traditional* approval CMS is prepared to ensure anyone with Medicare Part B who meets the criteria is covered", according to a statement by CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure.

NOTE: The drug Leqembi looks to be the first in this class to potentially be covered, possibly as soon as July. Leqembi and Aduhelm have received *accelerated* approval from the FDA. This new proposal requires *traditional* FDA approval.

Additional Medicare eligibility is based on CMS' National Coverage Determination criteria:

1. Be enrolled in Medicare Part B
2. Be diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment or early dementia caused by Alzheimer's disease, **and**
3. Have a qualified physician participating in a *registry*, that collects and reports how the drug works in the real world (through a CMS-facilitated portal)

(The Alzheimer's Association has called the registries "an unnecessary barrier" and extra red tape for patients to access the drug)

Given over 5 million Medicare beneficiaries suffer from Alzheimer's disease, all eyes will be tracking this proposal and looking for positive outcomes for this deserving population.

Click here for the CMS press release

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-plan-ensure-availability-new-alzheimers-drugs>

Getting Started with MEDICARE

HBS can assist you with enrolling in Medicare whether you're joining at age 65 or older (coming off employer coverage). There is no cost or obligation for the services provided by the team of Medicare Specialists at HBS.

STEP 1 Contact HealthCare Benefit Services . . . a local firm in Littleton

Due to Medicare rules, you **must** initiate contact with HBS by

- o Email: advisors@medicarehbs.com or
- o Calling their office: 303-973-6636 or
- o Completing forms on their website: medicarehbs.com and clicking on the "How To Get Started" tab

STEP 2 Appointment to Review ALL Your Options

An experienced Medicare Broker will prepare a thorough analysis of ALL the plans and options you are entitled to

- o They'll review detailed plan information and help guide you to the best plan for you
- o They offer flexible meeting options
 - A very simple Screen Share process; you just have to be able to open an email or
 - In person meetings at their office in Littleton or you can meet at your financial advisor's office

STEP 3 Enrolling in Your Plan

HBS utilizes a streamlined electronic application process to submit your plan application. Their office will monitor your application and call you once you're enrolled and let you know when to expect your new insurance cards.

STEP 4 Ongoing Customer Service

The HBS support staff has more than 15 years of Medicare experience

- o They answer their phones - no phone tree
- o Every Fall HBS will send you a newsletter about Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period (October 15 to December 7), and reviewing your plan.
- o This annual review can save you \$100s to \$1000s per year on your medications.

Medicarehbs.com | HBS HealthCare Benefit Services | 303-973-6636

Referring Clients To HBS . . .

How We Support Advisors and Help Their Clients

- We represent all plans (Medicare Supplement, Drug Plans, and Medicare Advantage), and all major companies
- Our process is thorough, no obligation and no pressure
- We're available to conduct Medicare webinars for your clients
- We are NOT your competition - Medicare and Long Term Care are all we do

Click on the "Getting Started with MEDICARE" flyer to print and share the steps of working with HBS.

To learn more about our process, visit [our website](#) or call our office 303-973-6636.

Feel free to forward The Medicare Map monthly newsletter to other advisors you think would benefit from the services of Tammy and her team.



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