

YOUR CARD YOUR CARE

Treat your Medicaid card the way you treat your Social Security or credit card—do **not** loan or sell it to anyone. Keep it in a safe place like you do your money or checkbook—out of sight of everyone.

Do not share your Medicaid card, Medicaid number, or other medical information with anyone not authorized to have it. This information should only be shared with your doctor, clinic, hospital, drug store, or other health care provider.

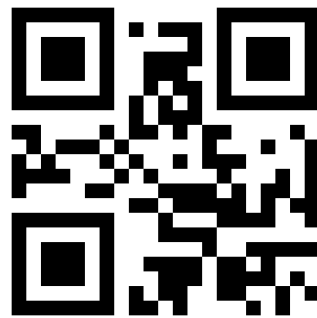
If you suspect someone is attempting to improperly use your Medicaid card or number, report it to the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General. Include in the report who is involved, when it occurred, what wrongdoing occurred and whether there are witnesses to the misconduct.

You can also report suspected fraud anonymously. However, providing your name and other contact information will help investigators if they need more information.

**877-87-FRAUD
(877-873-7283)**



Office of the Medicaid Inspector General



www.omig.ny.gov



Office of the Medicaid
Inspector General

Protecting Your Medicaid Card and Number



Protect yourself. Protect your program. Protect your Medicaid card and number.

Medicaid fraud is not a victimless crime. Intentionally deceiving or misrepresenting others for unauthorized benefits can jeopardize your medical care, waste taxpayer dollars, and is against the law.

Something that can leave you particularly vulnerable to Medicaid fraud is sharing your Medicaid card or number with anyone other than your doctor, clinic, hospital, or other Medicaid provider.

REASONS MEDICAID CARDS OR NUMBERS ARE IMPROPERLY SHARED



- Helping a friend or family member who needs medical care but does not have health care insurance.
- Selling or trading the card or number for money, goods, or non-Medicaid services.
- Improperly using the Medicaid card as a form of personal identification.
- Answering door-to-door or telephone sales people who request a Medicaid card or number.
- Providing the Medicaid card or number to strangers who offer free medical tests, exams, or other gifts.
- Protecting yourself from someone who threatens you or your family if you will not share their Medicaid card or number.

CONSEQUENCES OF IMPROPERLY SHARING A MEDICAID CARD OR NUMBER

- Someone else's personal or medical information could be placed in your medical records, and can lead to mistakes when you need treatment.
- Medicaid may not pay for the care you need if they already paid for the same care for someone else.
- You may have to pay back money to Medicaid.
- You or someone using your card can be penalized up to ten years in prison and a \$500,000 fine for allowing a Medicaid card or number to be misused.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

***IF YOU SUSPECT SOMEONE IS IMPROPERLY
USING YOUR MEDICAID CARD OR NUMBER,***

Report the Fraud!

**Office of the Medicaid Inspector General
Bureau of Medicaid Fraud Allegations**

800 North Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12204

By phone:

**877-87-FRAUD
877-873-7283**

Or on the web:

**[www.omig.ny.gov/medicaid-fraud/file-
allegation](http://www.omig.ny.gov/medicaid-fraud/file-allegation)**