

# DON'T LET SCAMMERS CASH IN ON YOU

## Genetic Testing Scams

In genetic testing scams, fraudsters offer “free” DNA or genetic tests and claim they are covered by Medicare. Victims are often asked for their Medicare number or personal information to qualify. The test may be unnecessary, never performed, or used to bill Medicare fraudulently. These scams can lead to misuse of benefits and identity theft.

### RED FLAGS

- Unsolicited offers for free genetic testing.
- Requests for your Medicare number outside of a doctor’s office.
- Claims that testing is required or urgent without medical consultation.

### BE SCAM SMART

- Only undergo genetic testing ordered by your trusted healthcare provider.
- Never share your Medicare number with unsolicited callers or marketers.
- Discuss any testing offers with your doctor before agreeing.



## Catheter Scams

Catheter scams involve suppliers billing Medicare for catheters or medical equipment that is not needed or never requested. Victims may receive large shipments of supplies they did not order. These scams exploit Medicare benefits and can limit coverage for legitimate future needs. Often, the victim is unaware until benefits are denied or questioned.

### RED FLAGS

- Receiving medical supplies, you did not request or need.
- Calls offering free equipment in exchange for your Medicare number.
- Pressure to accept recurring shipments or automatic refills.

### BE SCAM SMART

- Only accept medical equipment prescribed by your healthcare provider.

- Review Medicare statements regularly for unfamiliar charges.
- Report suspicious suppliers to Medicare immediately.

## Hospice Scams

Hospice scams occur when providers enroll patients who are not eligible for hospice care in order to bill Medicare. Victims may receive services they do not need or were not fully informed about. These scams can interfere with proper medical care and

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exhaust Medicare benefits. The fraud is often hidden behind legitimate-looking paperwork.

### RED FLAGS

- Being enrolled in hospice care without clear explanation or consent.
- Pressure to sign medical forms quickly.
- Services provided that do not align with your medical condition.

### BE SCAM SMART

- Ask detailed questions before agreeing to hospice care.
- Consult your primary doctor before signing any hospice paperwork.
- Review Medicare statements and report unfamiliar services.

### Where to Report a Suspected Scam:

- The Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP):  
[1-800-963-5337](tel:1-800-963-5337)
- General fraud (FTC):  
[reportfraud.ftc.gov](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov)
- National Elder Fraud Hotline:  
[833-FRAUD-11 \(833-372-8311\)](tel:833-FRAUD-11)
- FL Office of Inspector General:  
[legacy.myfloridalegal.com/contact.nsf/contact?Open&Section=Citizen\\_Services](https://legacy.myfloridalegal.com/contact.nsf/contact?Open&Section=Citizen_Services)  
[1-866-9-NO-SCAM](tel:1-866-9-NO-SCAM)
- U.S Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General:  
[oig.hhs.gov/fraud/report-fraud](https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/report-fraud)  
[1-800-447-8477](tel:1-800-447-8477)
- SHINE: [1-800-963-5337](tel:1-800-963-5337)  
[floridashine.org](https://floridashine.org)