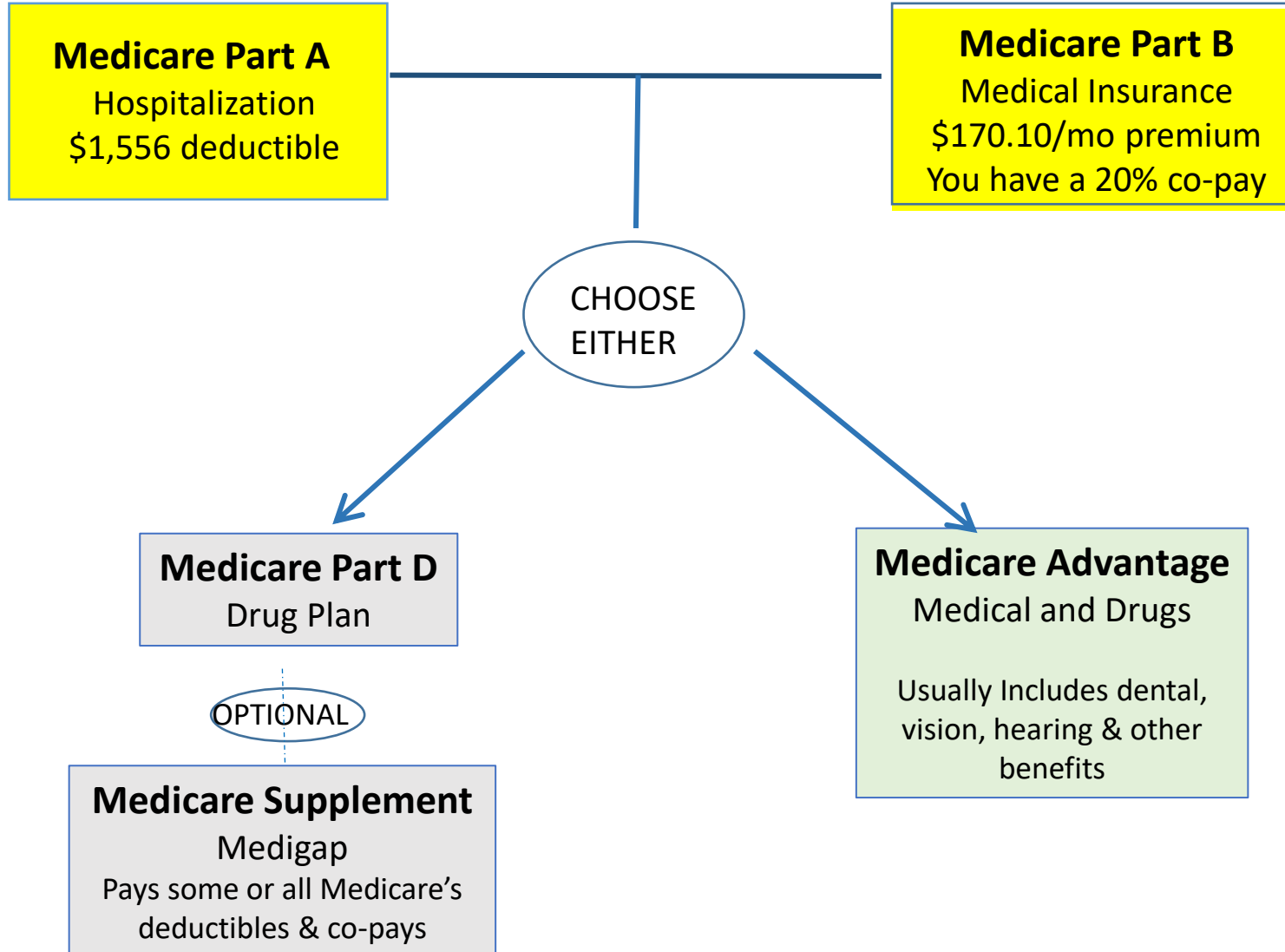


Medicare Choices



MEDICARE PART A

- Covers hospitalization, nursing home, hospice and home health care.
- Premiums are free for most individuals.
- You can see any provider accepting Medicare.
- Do not have to receive Social Security to enroll. Once you start receiving Social Security benefits, you are automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A if you are 65.
- The in-patient hospital deductible is \$1,556 deductible in 2022.
- Nursing home – the first 20 days are free; the next 80 days have a \$194.50 per day co-pay (for 2022). Must be a qualifying stay.

MEDICARE PART B

- Covers doctor office visits, x-rays, CT scans, outpatient surgery and others.
- Premium is \$170.10/month for most people.
- There is an annual deductible of \$233 (for 2022).
- You pay a 20% co-insurance for most Part B expenses.
- Do not have to receive Social Security to enroll.
- You can see any provider accepting Medicare.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (MA)

- Sold by insurance companies and take the place of Medicare A & B. Medicare pays these companies to insure you.
- You must be enrolled in Medicare, parts A&B and you continue to pay applicable premiums.
- Most plans have network of providers. If you go outside of this network:
 - HMO plan - you generally pay the entire amount.
 - PPO plan - you will pay more, but not the entire amount.
- Plans must cover the same services as Medicare although qualifications for coverage may differ.
- Majority of plans include drug coverage, also include dental, vision and hearing aid coverage.
- Co-pays are required for majority of medical expenses.
- Your co-pays are limited to a maximum of \$3,350 to \$7,550 per year - if you use in-network providers.
- You may be eligible for low-income assistance in helping to pay for your costs. If eligible, you can switch plans quarterly.
- Use www.medicare.gov plan finder to find least expensive plan for your drugs & see overview of plans' health benefits.
- Also compare plans by referring to the "Medicare Advantage Plans" section in FortWayneSHIP.com.
- Enrollment period same as Medicare.
- You can switch plans during Fall Open Enrollment period of Oct 15 - Dec. 7.
- You can switch MA plans or switch back to Original Medicare + a Drug plan from Jan 1 – Mar 31. This is the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment period.

MEDICARE PART D- DRUGS

- Must have Medicare Parts A and/or B.
- Drug coverage obtained either through a Part D plan or a Medicare Advantage plan.
- Plans may have monthly premiums and deductibles.
- Co-pays vary by company. Choose a preferred in-network pharmacy.
- You may be eligible for low-income assistance in helping to pay for your costs. If eligible, you can switch plans quarterly.
- Use www.medicare.gov plan finder to find least expensive plan for your drugs.
- If you are past age 65 and lose employer coverage, you have 2 months to enroll in a Medicare plan.
- You can switch plans during Fall Open Enrollment period of Oct 15 - Dec. 7.
- You may delay enrollment in a Part D plan without penalty if employer coverage is considered “Creditable Coverage”. Check with your HR department to determine this. Do not go 63 days or more in a row without creditable coverage.
- Penalty is \$0.33 per month times the number of months you didn’t have a Part D plan or have creditable coverage. You’ll generally have to pay the penalty for as long as you have Medicare drug coverage.
- Penalty waived if you qualify for Extra Help, and for those on Medicare due to disability when they’re 65.

MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT (MEDIGAP)

- Sold by insurance companies which pays some or all deductibles & co-pays of Medicare parts A & B.
- Works only with Medicare A & B, not Medicare Advantage
- Does not include drug coverage.
- If enrolled in Medicare due to disability, only Medigap plan 'A' is available. Plan A covers the 20% Medicare part B copay. No guarantee of coverage since you are subject to medical underwriting.
- There are 9 plan choices with each plan providing a different level of coverage.
- Once you determine which type of plan you want, use the plan finder in www.medicare.IN.gov. Select "Medicare Supplement Plans" and "compare Medicare Supplement Policies". Enter your zip code, gender, plan choice to view estimated premium costs by company.
- Premiums vary by company, however coverage will not. Premiums will likely increase over time.
- Contact the insurance company for exact pricing and recent rates of increases.
- You have a 6 month guaranteed enrollment period starting when you're 65 and enrolled in Medicare Part B.
- If you want to switch plans beyond the guaranteed enrollment period, your health may be a consideration and you may not be able to purchase a plan.
- There is no annual open enrollment period to switch plans.