



## Important Information from Medicare about Paying for Prescription Drugs

Beginning January 1, 2006, all people with Medicare can get Medicare prescription drug coverage.

Our records show that you currently have Medicare and Medicaid, and Medicaid now pays for your prescription drugs.

(Medicaid is the program in your State that pays health care costs for people with limited income and resources. It may be called something different in your State.)

**Starting January 1, 2006, Medicare will pay for your drugs instead of Medicaid.**

Medicaid will stop paying for your prescription drug coverage after December 31, 2005. Medicaid will still pay for your other health care costs.

**Medicare will help pay the cost of your Medicare prescription drugs. You will need to pay a small copayment for each prescription.**

Other people will get mail from the Social Security Administration (SSA) telling them that they can apply to get help from Medicare to pay the cost of Medicare prescription drugs. **You won't get this mail from SSA, because we already know you will get this help.**

This fall your "Medicare & You 2006" handbook will include information about how Medicare will pay for your drug costs and what you will need to do. Remember, you don't need to do anything now. If you have questions about the information in this letter:

- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).
- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) on the web.
- Look for your "Medicare & You" Handbook in the fall.