



Medicare Minutes Peer-to-Peer Presentations for Communities Nationwide

Through the Medicare Minute program, the Medicare Rights Center works with host organizations nationally to enlist, train, and track the outcomes of Medicare Minute presenters as they help their friends and neighbors understand Medicare and related health insurance coverage. Currently available to millions of older audience members in all 50 states, the Medicare Minute model builds camaraderie among older adults, strengthens community-based organizations, and encourages participants to become advocates for their own health care and that of their peers.

What is a Medicare Minute? Medicare Minutes are short, engaging presentations on timely Medicare topics that are presented at local sites on a monthly basis. Each month, presenters from a Medicare Minute host organization receive and discuss a new Medicare Minute (consisting of a three-point script, a set of teaching materials, and an audience handout), which they then present at local sites, offering valuable information to their peers, strengthening presenter participation at host organizations, and establishing programming that has a track record of securing funding from foundation, government, and individual sources.

Recent Medicare Minute topics have included the following:

- Medicare enrollment periods
- Appealing denials of coverage
- Medicare's coverage of preventive care
- Coordinating Medicare with other types of insurance
- How to read Explanations of Benefits (EOBs) and Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs)
- Programs that help pay Medicare costs

Following presentations, Medicare Minute audience members have the opportunity to ask questions, discuss the content of the presentation, and share their own experiences with Medicare and health care generally.

How is the Medicare Minute good for my organization? Medicare Minutes are exceedingly replicable and adaptable to host organization content. Scripts can easily be combined with other topics and presented in a variety of formats, including telephone, radio, and podcasts. In addition, supplemental teaching materials can be used to expand on the Medicare Minute, and Medicare Minute handouts provide audiences with useful information to take home.

What happens when we become a Medicare Minute host organization? The innovation of the Medicare Minute model is in its flexibility. Once you become a Medicare Minute host organization, we will talk to you about your needs and, as needed, schedule a short orientation for your staff and volunteers. Following this orientation, Medicare Rights will each month

supply your organization with a general Medicare Minute script, teaching materials, and an audience handout. Each Medicare Minute includes key points related to the Medicare issue of the month, and most scripts offer a Take Action point to further activate audience members.

How do we begin? Interested hosts should have access to volunteers or staff members who are enthusiastic about leading presentations in the community. Host organizations are also encouraged to identify a point person to serve as the Medicare Minute coordinator, responsible for scheduling Medicare Minute presentations at local sites, communicating with presenters, and tracking presentation data for monthly reports.

For more information on how you can begin offering Medicare Minutes in your community, please contact Jay Johnson, Director of Education & Outreach, at jjohnson@medicarerights.org, or 212-204-6234.

We also encourage you to find answers to your Medicare questions on Medicare Interactive, Medicare Rights' compendium of expert Medicare guidance and materials. **Register for a free MI profile today!** www.medicareinteractive.org/register

ABOUT THE MEDICARE RIGHTS CENTER

The Medicare Rights Center (www.medicarerights.org) is a national, nonprofit consumer service organization that works to ensure access to affordable health care for older adults and people with disabilities through counseling and advocacy, educational programs, and public policy initiatives.