**DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE** 

RESEARCH & EXTENSION University of Arkansas System



Sample Alert

United States Department of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, and County Governments Cooperating



# **MEDICARE FRAUD ALERT**

January 2014 Caller Offers FREE Glucose Monitor

# **Caller Offers Free Glucose Monitor!**

#### How the scam works:

The caller, usually having a foreign accent, asks if there is a diabetic in the home. The caller may even say they are with Medicare or give a fictitious name of a diabetic supply company. When the person who answered the phone replies "yes", they offer to send a free glucose talking monitor (or something along on those lines) for a Medicare number. Once the Medicare number is given the victim may or may not receive the free monitor —and may even receive a lot more than that! The caller may continually send unwanted diabetic supplies that are delivered far too often, and the unused supply builds up in a garage or a corner of the house! They are probably using your Medicare number to bill Medicare for these supplies, even if they don't deliver them. *Reminder:* Never give out your Medicare number over the phone to an unsolicited caller!

## Best response?

If you fall victim to this scam and give out your Medicare/Social Security Number, please follow this advice:

- **REFUSE THE PACKAGE WHEN IT ARRIVES IN THE MAIL**—tell the mailman to take it back. If the package is dropped off, take it to the post office and return it and get a return receipt for your records.
- MONITOR YOUR MEDICARE SUMMARY NOTICE (MSN) for charges for items you did not order or receive;
- REPORT CHARGES on your MSN for items you did not order or receive to the Arkansas SMP at 1-866-726-2916.

### REPORT all scams to the Arkansas SMP-866-726-2916



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