

COVID-19 Health Care Fraud Alert!

On 3/23/2020, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued a message from the Principal Deputy Inspector General, Christi A. Grimm, warning about several health care fraud scams taking place that are related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Scammers are preying on unsuspecting patients and their family members by marketing fake COVID test kits, and unapproved treatments through telemarketing calls, social media platforms and door-to-door visits while attempting to steal personal and medical information such as Medicare numbers, social security numbers and financial information.

Here are some ways you can protect your personal information:

- **Do not give out your personal information** to someone soliciting door-to-door, over the phone or by email unless you initiated the contact and have verified who you are communicating with.
- **If you are unsure about sharing your personal information with someone– DON'T.** Contact the company, medical facility, or insurance company directly to ensure you are reaching out to the correct place or health representative.
- **Treat your medical information with the same caution you do with any of your other sensitive information.** Don't share your information with strangers. Shred and dispose any medical documents you no longer need.

For more information on how to protect yourself against COVID-19 testing fraud, please click [here](#).

If you think you may be a victim of the COVID-19 testing fraud, please report your concerns to the OIG immediately.

Office of Inspector General:

800-HHS-TIPS (800-447-8477)

-OR-

National Center for Disaster Fraud Hotline:

866-720-5721

<https://oig.hhs.gov>