

**Open Enrollment is between October 15th and December 7th of each year.** If a patient enrolls in a new Part D plan, their coverage will begin January 1st of the following year.

## › **Newly Eligible Patients**

- They become eligible to sign up for Part D three months before they turn 65.

- The Initial Enrollment Period lasts seven months: the three full months before the month they turn 65, the month of their 65th birthday, and three full months after the month of their 65th birthday.

- If they sign up for a Part D plan before the month of their 65th birthday, their coverage will begin on the first day of their birth month.

- If they sign up during their birth month or the three months after, their coverage will begin the first day of the following month.

- If they do not sign up during this seven month window, and they don't have other creditable drug coverage, they will have to wait until Open Enrollment and pay a monthly penalty when they do sign up. This monthly penalty will continue indefinitely, as long as they are on Medicare Part D.

## › **Patients over 65 who are losing creditable coverage**

- Many people over 65 may have coverage through a job or a former employer. If they lose this coverage, they have a two month special enrollment period.

- The special enrollment period begins the month patients are told of the loss of creditable coverage. The enrollment period ends two months after the loss of coverage or two months after patients are told, whichever is later.
- If they do not enroll during this period, patients must wait until Open Enrollment and pay a monthly penalty when they do sign up.

### ➤ **Other patients who can change plans outside of Open Enrollment**

- Dual Eligible patients (have both Medicare and Medicaid, or Extra Help through Social Security) can change plans once every quarter between January and September which adds up to a total of three times per year (outside of the annual Open Enrollment period).

Q1: January-March

Q2: April-June

Q3: July-September

### ➤ **How to help your patients enroll**

- After consulting with the patient and reviewing options together, the patient may request your help enrolling in a plan. You can complete the online enrollment form together, with their permission.
- The Amplicare comparison print outs include an enrollment phone number for each plan. If enrolling by phone, the patient or their legal representative must make the call.