

# Medicare

## HEALTH SUPPORT

August 14, 2008

Dear Beneficiary,

I am writing to thank you for participating in Medicare Health Support (MHS). The MHS program was created by Congress to test new services to help Medicare Beneficiaries manage their health conditions and stay as healthy as possible. This three year pilot, launched by Medicare in Western Pennsylvania in August 2005, is scheduled to end as planned on August 14<sup>th</sup> of this year.

Please be assured that you will continue to have access to all MHS services through August 14<sup>th</sup>. This includes talking to your Health Coach and receiving health information and other special services that help you manage your health. On August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 the MHS services will end, but your Medicare benefits will remain the same. Over the next several years, Medicare will report the findings from the MHS pilot to Congress.

Even though the MHS pilot is ending, you should continue to use the tools and information your Health Coach has provided to help manage your health. For example, you should work with your pharmacist to track your medicines using the Medicine Tracker form. You should continue to follow your doctor's recommendations and use your Symptom Response Plan if you have one. Remember, if something does not seem right or you are having difficulty following the treatment plan—ask your doctor!

If you have any questions for your Health Coach, please call 1-800-574-8475. You may also call Medicare about your benefits toll-free at 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227).

We have enjoyed serving you over the past three years and wish you the best of health in the future.

Sincerely,



Patrick H. Mattingly, M.D.  
Pennsylvania Medicare Health Support