



## Attention Members: New CMS regulation allows you easier access to your health information.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has recently finalized its rule on interoperability.

### **What is interoperability?**

Interoperability allows health information systems to work together within and across organizations. This ability will advance effective delivery of healthcare for individuals and communities. It requires insurance companies to provide patient health information—including claims, clinical information, and pharmacy and provider directories—in an electronic format that can be shared.

### **Why is it important?**

Interoperability allows members access to their health information on a mobile device or other electronic devices in a secure way for personal use. Members can share their data with healthcare providers to coordinate and improve care.

### **How does it work?**

You're in control of your health information. You'll have the ability to authorize the release of your data to a specified application (app) designed for a mobile device of your choice so that you can view your data. Keep in mind, these apps aren't owned or operated by your health plan.

### **What do I need to know?**

Health information is a private matter. Members should be careful to choose apps with strong privacy and security standards to protect it. Mary Washington Medicare Advantage will provide guidelines and suggestions for what members should consider when authorizing an app.

### **When will it be available?**

Mary Washington Medicare Advantage is taking the necessary actions to implement policies and procedures to comply with the new CMS regulations. We will keep you updated as progress is made.