In a typical year, Medicare patients can assess their health plans during the Medicare Annual Election Period (October 15 – December 7) and make changes for January 1. **This year is different!** One Medicare Advantage HMO plan in Massachusetts, Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO, has been awarded 5 out of 5 stars by Medicare. Eligible clients can now enroll in that plan any month throughout 2016. During the year, Medicare beneficiaries may find that their needs change. Some scenarios that may prompt them to consider switching health plans:

- Their present health plan is costing them more than anticipated, in premiums, deductibles, copays or co-insurance or does not cover needed benefits
- They are on a low premium plan with higher co-pays, but now require more medical services and would like to reduce their co-pays
- Their prescription needs have changed
- Their doctor now accepts Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO

Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO, which besides its overall 5-star rating received 5 stars in 30 out of 44 measures, including these areas:

- Rating of Health Plan
- Rating of Drug Plan
- Rating of Health Care Quality
- Customer Service
- Getting Appointments and Care Quickly
- Improving or Maintaining Mental Health
- Improving or Maintaining Physical Health

You can find more information at [www.thpmp.org](http://www.thpmp.org) or on the CMS website at [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov).

If any of your clients would like more information about Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO, please direct them to call 800-867-2000. TTY 888-899-8977

Tufts Health Plan Senior Care Options (SCO), a plan for people 65+ who are on MassHealth Standard has also been awarded 5 out of 5 stars by Medicare for 2016. Continuous enrollment is also available for Tufts Health Plan SCO. You can find more information at [www.thpmp.org/sco](http://www.thpmp.org/sco) or call 855-670-5938. TTY 855-670-5940.