

**The Good News:** The Medicare Part D “donut hole” **is** closing.

**The Bad News:** Not until the year **2020**.

The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (often known as Health Care Reform) provides for gradual closure of the Medicare Part D “donut hole.’ That hole will not fully close until 2020.

This year, when Medicare beneficiaries (who do **not** get Extra Help) reach the donut hole, their Part D plan will pay 50% of covered brand name drugs and 7% of covered generic drugs. The beneficiary’s cost will be the remaining 50% (brand name) or 93% (generic). If you take a brand name drug that costs \$300, you will still have to pay \$150!!

This is where **Prescription Advantage** can help.

**Prescription Advantage**, the Massachusetts prescription drug assistance program, can help reduce your out-of-pocket costs even further when you reach the donut hole.

To find out how to lower your drug costs, call Prescription Advantage at **1-800-243-4636** or TTY for the deaf and hard of hearing at **1-977-610-0241**. The money you save can be your own!