



# K a n s a s I n s u r a n c e D e p a r t m e n t

**Sandy Praeger**

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **COMMISSIONER PRAEGER ISSUES MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE SHOPPER'S GUIDE FOR 2003-2004**

Kansas Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger issued the 2003-2004 edition of the Medicare Supplement Insurance Shopper's Guide today. The new guide features company-by-company rate comparisons on all ten standardized Medicare supplemental plans, as well as rate comparisons for Medicare Select and Medicare HMO Plans. "Consumers have many choices today, but before buying any supplemental insurance, they should carefully review what the plans cover," warned Commissioner Praeger. "Consumers should shop carefully because policies vary in coverage, costs and service."

The guide covers basic information about Medicare, the federal health insurance program for people 65 years or older, people with permanent kidney failure, and certain disabled people under 65. It also includes information about consumer rights, tips and warnings when purchasing insurance to supplement Medicare benefits.

The guide does not recommend insurance companies or policies, but it is designed to help consumers make comparisons when they shop for coverage. Free copies of the guides are available by calling the Department's Consumer Assistance Hotline at 1-800-432-2484. Consumers may also find the rate comparisons by visiting the Department's web site at [www.ksinsurance.org](http://www.ksinsurance.org).

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