

# **WELCOME TO MEDICARE INSURANCE COVERAGE!**

In trying to assist you in understanding the complexity of Medicare insurance we have provided you with some helpful information.

As a newly enrolled **Medicare subscriber**, you have certain benefits available to you during the first 12 months you have Medicare.

This visit is a preventive evaluation and management service. The goals are health promotion and disease detection. The components required in providing a “Welcome to Medicare Preventive Visit” are as follows;

- Review of individual’s medical and social history.
- Review of individual’s potential (risk factors) for depression and other mood disorders.
- Review of individual’s functional ability and level of safety.
- A physical exam which includes only height, weight, blood pressure, BMI and visual acuity. (This is not a hands-on exam)
- End of Life planning
- Evaluation/Referrals based on above

Please make sure that you inform your office when scheduling your appointment “this is my Welcome to Medicare Preventive Visit”, to ensure proper billing and reimbursement.

Medicare also offers another covered service for their patients, known as an “Annual Wellness Visit”. This yearly visit is an evaluation for risk and determination of covered tests for Medicare, and is NOT a “hands-on” physical exam.

The components required in providing an Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) are as follows:

- Establishment of an individual’s medical/family history.
- Establishment of a list of current providers and suppliers that are regularly involved in providing medical care to the individual.

- **Measurement of an individual's height, weight, BMI (or waist circumference), BP, and other routine measurements as deemed appropriate.**
- **Detection of any cognitive impairment that the individual may have.**
- **Review of the individual's potential (risk factors) for depression based on the use of an appropriate screening instrument (PHQ2).**
- **Review of the individual's functional ability and level of safety based on direct observation or the use of appropriate screening questions.**
- **Establishment of a written screening schedule for the individual.**
- **Establishment of a list of risk factors and conditions for which primary, secondary, or tertiary interventions are recommended or are underway for the individual and a list of treatment options and their associated risks and benefits.**

**The Annual Wellness Visit DOES NOT require a hands-on physical examination to charge for the service. Please make sure that you inform your office when scheduling your appointment "this is an Annual Wellness Visit NOT an Annual Exam, or Physical" to ensure proper billing and reimbursement.**

**Lastly, Preventive exams (well physicals, hands-on exam) are NOT covered by Medicare. These exams include a complete physical exam, immunization advice, screening tests (lab and x-ray) and guidance on topics such as diet and exercise. Please make sure that you inform your office when scheduling this **non-covered** appointment "this is for my Annual Preventive (Physical) exam".**

**If you have any questions, please contact a Medicare representative or one of our business office staff.**

**Types of Preventive Visits (Medicare insurances)**

<b>Things done</b>	<b>Welcome to Medicare Visit</b>	<b>Annual Wellness Visit</b>	<b>Physical (Annual, complete physical / exam, etc)</b>	<b>Usually Results in Additional Office Visit Charge</b>
Review or Record Medical and Family History	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
List of Current Providers and Prescriptions	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
Height, Weight, Blood Pressure, and other routine measurements	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
Screening Schedule for appropriate preventive services	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
List of risk factors and treatment options for you	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
Physical Examination of lungs, heart, etc			<b>X</b>	
Review Medications Refill/prescribe prescriptions if needed				<b>X</b>
Manage chronic problems				<b>X</b>
Evaluate NEW problems				<b>X</b>
Draw blood, Evaluate/Discuss Lab results			<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Take and evaluate X-rays if needed				<b>X</b>
Calculate your body mass index	<b>X</b>			
Give you a simple vision test	<b>X</b>			
<b>IS IT COVERED?</b>	<b>COVERED ONCE WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF START OF MEDICARE</b>	<b>COVERED ONCE EVERY 12 MONTHS</b>	<b>USUALLY NOT COVERED BY MOST MEDICARE INSURANCES</b>	