

# MEDICARE WELLNESS VISITS

Medicare covers an Annual Wellness Visit in addition to a one-time Welcome to Medicare exam. The Welcome to Medicare Exam (also termed Initial Preventive Physical Exam) is offered during your first twelve months as a Medicare Part B patient. After that twelve months, you may schedule an Annual Wellness Visit as long as it has been at least one year since your last Medicare Wellness Exam.

TYPE OF VISIT	DESCRIPTION
Welcome to Medicare / Initial Preventive Physical Exam (IPPE)	Only for new Medicare patients. This must be done within the first year of your Part B Medicare enrollment.
Annual Wellness Visit (AWV), Initial	At least one year after the Welcome to Medicare exam.
Annual Wellness Visit, Subsequent	Once a year, at least one year after prior Wellness Visit.

The Welcome to Medicare visit includes obtaining medical and social history, assessing risk factors and functional ability, a limited physical assessment, as well as education and counseling on preventive services.

At the Annual Wellness Visit, you'll review medical history, risk factors, potential substance abuse and make or update a Personalized Prevention Plan. Living wills / advanced medical directives are discussed. The visit does not include a hands-on exam, testing, discussion of new or current medical problems or medications. You may schedule another visit to address those issues or your doctor may charge the usual Medicare fees for services beyond the scope of the Annual Wellness Visit.

It is important to know the Annual Wellness Visit is not the same as what many refer to as their yearly or routine physical, which is NOT COVERED by Medicare. In addition, by definition, a routine physical is not related to any specific illness or symptom.

If you wish to schedule a routine physical, including possible laboratory or other tests, medication management, vaccinations and additional services, please understand this visit, not covered by Medicare, may result in out-of-pocket expense, if not covered by other insurance.

We appreciate the trust you place in us and hope you will take advantage of the benefits provided.

See next page with list of things to bring to your appointment.

## What you should bring to your appointment:

The names of all your doctors:

Name	Specialty

A list of all your medications and supplements (medicine)

Name of medicine	Dose (if you remember)

Have any of your close relatives had any health changes?  Yes  No

Has your mood changed?  Yes  No

Do you worry about falling?  Yes  No

Are you worried about your memory?  Yes  No

Are there any preventive tests you have done recently?  Yes  No  
(such as lab tests, mammograms, x-rays)

Have you had any recent immunizations?  Yes  No

Do you have a living will or advance directive?  Yes  No  
(If you have one, please bring a copy of it with you.)