

Preventive Medical Visit Patient Information

The providers at Maryland Primary Care Physicians are committed to helping you stay healthy. Please review the following information on preventive health services, such as well-visits, and "Welcome to Medicare" visits. We want to ensure you understand the time scheduled for a preventive visit is not intended to discuss acute problems, chronic conditions, or to request medication refills. We would be happy to schedule time for you to return and discuss any of these with your provider. If you need to address non-preventive medical problems with your provider at the time of the preventive visit, you may be billed for the additional services rendered.

What is the purpose of a routine preventive exam?

- The purpose of a routine preventive visit is to identify potential health concerns in their earliest stages when they may be less costly and difficult to treat. It includes the evaluation and management of an individual, including an age and gender appropriate history, review of medications, immunizations, counseling/anticipatory guidance/risk factor reduction interventions, and the ordering of laboratory and diagnostics studies; rules are insurance carrier specific.

How does this affect my visit and my bill?

- **An Annual Well Visit and/or "Welcome to Medicare Visit" is prevention focused, and should be scheduled separately from other medical issue visits that are intended to discuss treatment of acute problems, manage chronic conditions, or request prescription refills.**
- If an abnormality is encountered or a preexisting problem is addressed during a routine preventive visit, and the problem is significant enough to require additional evaluation and management of the medical issue, then the provider may bill an additional charge for the treatment of your current problems in addition to the preventive exam.

Will my provider address only what my specific health plan covers for a routine preventive visit?

- Your provider sees many patients with various insurance plans throughout the day. You are responsible for knowing what services are covered under your health plan.
- If you have any questions, we advise you to contact your insurance carrier directly to discuss your coverage for these services.

What can I do to make sure I receive my routine preventive visit?

You can take the following steps to help ensure your routine preventive visit is billed correctly:

- When scheduling your routine preventive visit with your provider's office, use the terms "routine preventive visit" or "annual physical", versus "check-up", which implies checking up on a health problem.
- When you talk with your provider, let them know you are there for your routine preventive visit.
- If you have a new health problem or an acute and/or chronic condition(s) that you would like to address you should schedule a separate/subsequent visit.

I certify that I have read and understand Maryland Primary Care Physicians' policy on routine preventive visits. I understand the provider may bill an additional charge for treatment of my non-preventive medical problems in addition to the preventive visit.

➡ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____
To be signed by the parent or legal guardian if patient is a minor under the age of 18.

➡ **Printed Name:** _____