



**MEDICARE WELLNESS**

- IPPE (Initial Preventive Physical Exam)
  - Once per lifetime, within 12 months of initial Medicare enrollment
  - Minimal exam involved
- Initial Annual Wellness Visit
  - Once per lifetime, either 13 months initial Medicare enrollment or 12 months after receiving the IPPE – whichever is greater
  - Minimal exam involved.
- Subsequent Annual Wellness Visit
  - Once every 12 months after receiving the Initial Annual Wellness Visit.
  - No max per lifetime
  - Minimal exam involved

*Both Traditional Medicare & Medicare Advantage Beneficiaries are eligible to receive these visits.*

**PREVENTIVE MEDICINE  
(WELLNESS, CHECK UP,  
ANNUAL)**

- No illnesses are addressed
- No chronic conditions are reviewed or evaluated
- No new health concerns are addressed
- Exam is based on age and gender
- Recommendations given for screening tests (tests may be separately billable)
- Advice/education on healthy practices
- Immunizations (separately billed)
- Update past, family & social history
- Examples of Preventive Medicine:
  - Annual physical
  - School, sports or work physicals
  - Well-baby visit

*Traditional Medicare does not cover Preventive Medicine Visits and beneficiaries may have to pay out of pocket. Most Medicare Advantage plans do cover Preventive Visits.*

**ACUTE OR CHRONIC  
(PROBLEM) VISITS**

- Could be for illness, injury or condition
- Discussion of new health concern(s)
- Chronic disease management/ monitoring
- Ongoing health concerns
- Injury evaluation/treatment
  - Note: treatment may be separately billable
- Prescription management – both new and refills
- Exam is based on the problem(s) being addressed/evaluated
  - Exams may consist of visual inspection, instrumentation such as a stethoscope, palpation, physical assessment, and/or observation

**COMBINE YOUR VISIT**

- You can be billed for both a Preventive Visit and a Problem Visit on the same day
  - Saves a second trip to the provider's office.
- When could this happen? (examples are not all inclusive):
  - Problem is discovered during your Preventive Visit
  - You request an Annual Physical, but also need medication refills and labs for your chronic conditions
- Please be aware of these things if this occurs:
  - You will be billed for 2 or more services
  - Depending upon your insurance plan, you may be assessed more than one co-pay/co-insurance

*Traditional Medicaid & Medicaid Managed Care Plans do not allow more than one visit by the same Provider on the same day.*