

THE BASICS OF Medicare Annual Wellness Visits



The Medicare Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) is a preventive visit covered by Medicare at no cost to patients. Medicare AWVs are a great way to connect with your healthcare team, focus on issues that may be overlooked in routine physical exams and develop a long-term preventive care plan.



Health Risk Assessment



Patient History



Current Care Providers



Current Medications



Screenings

During the visit, important information is gathered to develop a long-term preventive care plan.

There are three types of preventive wellness visits covered by Medicare:

Welcome to Medicare Visit

Initial Preventive Physical Examination, or IPPE

- Medicare pays for one per lifetime
- Must be done in **first 12 months** of Part B coverage

Example:

According to Medicare criteria, Martha is eligible for a:

Welcome to Medicare Visit

because she enrolled in Medicare less than 12 months ago.

Welcome to Medicare Visit

Initial Medicare Annual Wellness Visit

- Applies the first time a beneficiary receives an AWV
- Patient is eligible **after the first 12 months** of Part B coverage
- Patient hasn't completed a Welcome to Medicare Visit in the past 12 months

Example:

According to Medicare criteria, Joe is eligible for an:

Initial Medicare AWV

because he's had Medicare for longer than 12 months and has never had an AWV

Initial Medicare AWV

Subsequent Medicare Annual Wellness Visit

- Applies to all AWVs after a beneficiary's initial AWV
- No AWV within the past year

Example:

According to Medicare criteria, Mary is eligible for a:




Subsequent Medicare AWV

because she's had Medicare longer than 12 months and it's been at least 12 months since her initial AWV.

Subsequent Medicare AWV

Visit Comparison

Required visit components per Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Required Components (at a minimum)			
	Welcome to Medicare Visit	Initial Medicare Annual Wellness Visit	Subsequent Medicare Annual Wellness Visit
Establish/update Health Risk Assessment		X	X
Document height, weight, BMI and blood pressure	X	X	X
Document current medications and supplements, including review of opioid use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess the benefit for other non-opioid pain therapies 	X	X	X
Establish/update a list of current providers		X	X
Obtain and document medical, surgical and family history	X	X	X
Establish/update a list of the patient's risk factors, conditions and treatment options		X	X
Depression screening	X	X	
Assess cognitive function		X	X
Visual acuity screening	X		
Review patient's functional ability and level of safety	X	X	
Advance Care Planning (with patient consent)	X	X	X
Provide education, counseling and referrals based on the components of the visit	X	X	X
Provide a written preventive screening schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May include a one-time EKG/ECG Screen during a Welcome to Medicare Visit ONLY 	X	X	X

Call (808) 747-8321 ext. 2059 to schedule your wellness visit today!

