

A WORD TO OUR PATIENTS ABOUT WELLNESS CARE

Dear Patient:

We want you to receive wellness care – health care that may lower your risk of illness or injury. Medicare pays for some wellness care, but it does not pay for all the wellness care you might need. We want you to know about your Medicare benefits and how we can help you get the most from them.

The term “physical” is often used to describe wellness care. But, Medicare does not pay for a traditional head-to-toe physical. Medicare *does* pay for a wellness visit once a year to identify health risks and help you to reduce them. At your wellness visit, our health care team will take a complete health history and provide several other services:

- Screenings to detect depression, risk for falling, and other problems.
- We will check your blood pressure, weight, and vision.
- We will provide a personalized prevention plan with recommendations.

A wellness visit does not address new or existing problems. This would be a separate service and requires a longer appointment time. Please let our scheduling staff know if you need the doctor’s help with a health problem or would like to make an appointment for a physical. We may need to schedule a separate appointment. *A separate charge applies to these services, whether provided on the same date or a different date than the wellness visit.*

We appreciate the trust you put in us to take care of your health care needs and hope that you will take advantage of your wellness benefit to work with your physician in creating your personalized prevention plan.