

Medicare Annual Wellness Visit

What is a Medicare Annual Wellness Visit?

A Medicare annual wellness visit is a yearly health planning visit with your primary health care professional. It is available to anyone who has Medicare Part B. During the visit, you and your clinician will work together to create a plan that helps you stay healthy and avoid getting sick. Because this visit is to discuss your general health and wellness, it might not take place in an exam room.



What is the Difference between an Annual Wellness Visit and the “Welcome to Medicare” Visit?

- Your “Welcome to Medicare” visit will happen once during your first 12 months of receiving Medicare Part B. It will probably include:
 - Checking your height, weight, and blood pressure
 - A review of your health and family history
- You can have an annual wellness visit 12 months after your “Welcome to Medicare” visit and then every 12 months after.
- Your annual wellness visit includes more services than provided during your “Welcome to Medicare” visit.

What Will Happen at My Medicare Annual Wellness Visit?

At your annual wellness visit, make sure to have your Medicare information card with you. Although this type of visit does not include a physical exam, you will still get to talk to the clinician about any health concerns you have. You can schedule your annual wellness visit and a visit for a health problem on the same day, but they will count as two separate services. The table below lists what is included in the visit and what is not. You may be charged for anything that is not included.

| Included in your annual wellness visit | NOT included in your annual wellness visit |
|--|--|
| Check of height, weight, blood pressure | Physical exam |
| Health risk assessment | Illness diagnosis |
| A review of your health and family history | Diagnostic tests like x-rays, ultrasounds, and bloodwork |
| Sharing a list of the health care professionals you see | Treatments for any condition you may have |
| Sharing a list of any medical equipment you use and where you get it | |
| A review of all of the medicines, supplements, and vitamins you are currently taking | |
| Testing for depression and mental health problems | |
| Talking about risks for certain health problems and personal health advice | |
| Planning a schedule of screening tests and shots you should receive over the next 5-10 years | |
| Referrals to any preventive services you may need | |

