

# Understanding your Medicare Annual Care Visits

Annual Care Visits include an Annual Wellness Visit and an Annual Physical.



## Annual Wellness Visit

Your Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) is a preventive visit where you and your provider work together to create a long-term plan to help keep you healthy! Medicare members are entitled to one wellness visit per year. (New to Medicare? You get one "Welcome to Medicare" visit to be completed within 12 months of enrolling.)

#### Your Annual Wellness Visit will include:

- An update of your medical and family history and current medications
- A review of your list of current care providers
- Screening for memory and behavioral changes
- Measurement of blood pressure, height and weight
- Mobility assessment and evaluating risk of falls
- Advance Care Planning

Your provider will also have you complete a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) questionnaire, will review which screenings and vaccines are due, and make any referrals you might need. At the end of this visit you will have a plan to help keep you healthy for the next year!



#### **Annual Physical Exam**

Your Annual Physical is a hands-on exam of your body to check your general health and look for any potential problems. Members are also encouraged to get a yearly physical by their provider, which is covered for Excellus BCBS Medicare Advantage members.\*

### Take control of your health today to ensure a healthier tomorrow!

All of our Medicare plans include \$0 preventive care on more than 20 services including your annual wellness visit, prostate, cervical and colorectal cancer screenings, mammograms, diabetes, osteoporosis screenings, and more. Your plan also includes \$0 preventive vaccines including flu, pneumonia, COVID-19, and the shingles vaccine. (See other side for a helpful preventive care checklist.)



#### **Questions?**

#### Talk with one of our Medicare Customer Care Advocates! 1-877-883-9577 (TTY 711)

**Hours:** 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday - Friday. From Oct. 1 to Mar. 31, representatives will be available seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

\*During your visit if you require further tests or screenings, a copayment or deductible expense may occur.



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# Checklist for older adult health (65+) MAKE PREVENTIVE CARE A PRIORITY

Take control of your health today to ensure a healthier tomorrow. This checklist makes it easier to keep the most essential screenings and doctor visits top of mind.

What	Who + When
Annual Physical	Everyone - Once a year*
Annual Wellness Visit	Everyone - Once a year*
Blood Pressure Screening	Everyone, Age 18+ - Once a year
Cholesterol Screening	<b>Everyone -</b> Every 4-6 years, more often if you have a family history, heart disease, diabetes, or other blood vessel disease risk factors
Colorectal Cancer Screening	Everyone, Ages 45-75 - Regular testing
Diabetes (Type 2) Screening	Ages 35-70 and overweight/obese - Once a year
Fall Prevention (with exercise or physical therapy)	Everyone - Routinely
Immunization Vaccines (Ex: Flu, Pneumonia, and COVID-19)	<b>Everyone</b> - As directed by your doctor
Lung Cancer Screening	Everyone, Ages 50-80 with a history of heavy smoking - Once a year
Mammography Screening	Women, Age 40+ - Every 1-2 years, at least until age 75
Osteoporosis Screening	Women, Age 65+ (or postmenopausal) - Every 2 years
Prostate Screening	Men, Ages 55-69 - Once a year
Well Woman Visit	Women, 65+ with an OB-GYN - Every 2 years

Guidelines are adapted from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). Talk with your doctor about what screenings are right for you, and how often they should be done.

\*Both can be done on the same day if your provider's schedule allows.



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