

Medicare Wellness Visits and Annual Physical Exams: Understanding the Differences

For patients who have Medicare Part B

Medicare Annual Wellness Visits (AWV)

This is a visit with your primary care provider to create or update your Personalized Prevention Plan (PPP) and conduct a Health Risk Assessment (HRA), which includes reviewing your current medications.

- ❖ Medicare recommends that patients have an AWV every year.
- ❖ Covered by Medicare every 12 months at no cost to the patient.
- ❖ The appointment can be in-person or via telehealth
- ❖ The AWV does NOT include lab work, x-rays, imaging, or any additional procedures.

Routine Annual Physical Exams

This is a physical checkup of your overall health. It can also include screenings, health history review, lab tests, and health counseling depending on your age and sex.

- ❖ Routine annual physicals are not covered by Medicare, but some Medicare Advantage* plans may offer partial coverage for certain aspects of the exam.
- ❖ Patients are responsible for 100% of the cost if Medicare is their primary insurance.

*Check your plan for coverage details.