

To: Our Medicare Patients

Subject: Your Medicare Annual Wellness Visit

Medicare covers a Medicare Annual Wellness Visit every year. You may receive an Annual Wellness visit after you have been with Medicare for more than one year, or it has been at least one year since your "Welcome to Medicare" visit. These are covered yearly as long as it has been at least 366 days since your previous Medicare Annual Wellness Visit.

An Annual Wellness Visit is not the same thing as what many people often refer to as their yearly physical exam. Medicare is very specific about what the Annual Wellness Visit includes and excludes. Traditional Medicare plans cover an Annual Wellness Visit that reviews your overall health. This does not include a yearly physical exam or labs. These visits can be conducted by telephone or in-person. In-person visits cannot cover a new diagnosis or new prescriptions to qualify as an annual preventative visit. Medicare Advantage plans typically cover a physical exam and lab studies as part of your visit. Again, this does not cover new complaints or prescriptions.

At the Annual Wellness Visit your doctor will review your health risk assessment, your current medical providers and medical history, screen you for depression and memory loss, and determine your functional ability and level of safety. You will be provided with a personalized prevention plan to keep you healthy. The visit does not include a comprehensive physical exam for Traditional Medicare patients, and discussion or testing regarding any new or current medical problems, conditions or medications. You may schedule another visit to address those issues or your doctor may charge the usual Medicare fess for such services that are beyond the scope of the Medicare Annual Wellness visit.

We encourage you to be familiar with your insurance policy and coverage. Please refer to the following codes when discussing coverage with your insurance provider

First Annual Wellness visit = G0438

Subsequent Annual Wellness visit = G0439

Please bring the following to your appointment:

- Your insurance card(s) and photo ID
- Completed AIM Annual Wellness Visit questionnaire
- Your prescription medication and over-the counter medication bottles including vitamins and

supplements

- Immunization records
- Copies of Advance Directives – forms can be found on our website at abingdonim.com