

What's the Difference Between a Physical and a Wellness Visit?

As a Care N' Care member, you're covered for both an annual physical exam and an annual wellness visit each year. You're also covered for a one-time "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit within the first 12 month that you have Medicare Part B. Many people find the differences between these exams confusing.

Annual wellness visit – The purpose of this visit is to work with your PCP (primary care physician) on a preventive health plan including any screenings or immunizations you might need. In order to qualify for the visit, you need to have had Medicare Part B for a least 12 months.

Annual physical exam – The annual physical is a more thorough exam including a complete checkup of your bodily systems (heart, lung, head and neck exam, et.) and a complete review of your medications. There is no copay; however, you may be charged a copay if you are treated for or discuss an existing medical condition during this time.

Welcome to Medicare visit – New to Medicare? A one-time visit is available only during the first 12 months that you have Medicare Part B. The purpose of this visit is to discuss your health status, medical history and preventive screenings. There is no copay; however, you may be charged a copay if you are treated for or discuss an existing medical condition during the visit.

Visiting your PCP for your annual exam is an important part of your health routine. Regular exams are important to help identify risk factors and problems before they become serious.

Need assistance scheduling your annual visit or exam? Call your Healthcare Concierge today toll-free at 1-877-374-7993 (TTY 711) October 1-March 31, 8am to 8pm, CST, seven days a week or April 1- September 30, 8am to 8pm, CST, Monday through Friday.

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