



Annual Wellness Visit and Annual Routine Physical Exam

Sentara Health Plans recommends completion of an Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) and an Annual Routine Physical Exam for Medicare members. Please consider implementing Medicare's Annual Wellness Visits as another tool to help members stay as healthy as possible.

Annual Wellness Visit

The purpose of the Annual Wellness Visit is for providers to develop or update a member's personalized prevention plan based on their current health and risk factors.



Helpful Tips to Achieve Performance Measure:

An Annual Wellness Visit is covered when performed by a:

- Physician—a Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy (M.D. or D.O.)
- Qualified non-physician practitioner—a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or certified clinical nurse specialist; medical professional—including a health educator, registered dietitian, nutrition professional, or other licensed practitioner; or a team of medical professionals who are directly supervised by a physician—Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy

Note: The first Annual Wellness Visit cannot take place within 12 months of a member's IPPE "Welcome to Medicare" (code G0402) preventive visit. However, members do not require a "Welcome to Medicare" visit to be covered for Annual Wellness Visits after they have been enrolled in Part B Medicare for 12 months.

An initial Annual Wellness Visit code is documented using G0438, subsequent Annual Wellness Visits are documented using code G0439.

Codes:

- IPPE "Welcome to Medicare" visit G0402
- Initial Annual Wellness visit: G0438
- Subsequent Annual Wellness Visit: G0439

Annual Routine Physical Exam

An Annual Routine Physical Exam allows members to seek a visit—separate from an Annual Wellness Visit—with their physician to discuss general health questions/issues without presenting a specific chief complaint. This exam includes a comprehensive review of systems (ROS) and physical examination (PE).

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Helpful Tips to Achieve Performance Measure:

Elements of an annual routine physical exam:

- Completing a comprehensive history and physical exam
- Performing a status review of chronic diseases/conditions
- Documenting the management of minor problems that do not require additional care
- Ordering appropriate immunizations, laboratory/radiology services and screening tests, and counseling/anticipatory and guidance/risk factor reduction interventions

Codes:

Annual Routine Physical Exam: 99387 or 99397



Annual Wellness and Annual Routine Physical Exam Occurring on the Same Date of Service

When an Annual Wellness Visit and Annual Routine Physical Exam occur on the same date of service, no modifier is necessary. No specific diagnosis is required for the Annual Wellness Visit, but Z00.00 or Z00.01 (see table below) is appropriate for the Annual Routine Physical Exam.

CPT/HCPC Codes:

- 99385-99387– Annual Routine Physical Exam—new patient
- 99395-99397– Annual Routine Physical Exam—established patient
- G0438– Annual Wellness Visit (AWV); initial AWV includes a personalized prevention plan of service (PPS)
- G0439– Annual Wellness Visit; subsequent AWV includes a personalized plan of service (PPS)
- G0444–Annual depression screening; up to 15 minutes or just “depression screen annual” for short, used in medical care

ICD 10 Codes:

- Z00.00– Encounter for general adult medical examination without abnormal findings
- Z00.01– Encounter for general adult medical examination with abnormal findings

A depression screening (G0444) is a required component within the initial Annual Wellness Visit (G0438) and should not be billed separately. If additional depression screenings are completed during subsequent Annual Wellness Visits (G0439), then billing both codes—G0439 and G0444—would be appropriate.

Please Note

This is a calendar-year benefit for members—there is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare enrollees for an Annual Wellness Visit or for the Annual Routine Physical Exam.

Providers can bill for an Annual Wellness Visit and Annual Routine Physical Exam in the same visit.

Additional Information

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update—or if additional education is needed—please contact your Network Educator