



## **Understanding Your Medicare Preventative Services Benefits**

### **Does Acton Medical provide Medicare Annual Wellness Visits?**

Yes. We are in the process of implementing Annual Wellness Visits (AWV) for our Medicare patients. Currently, we have limited availability as we introduce this new service. Please contact our AWV Care Coordinator at 978-635-8700 x 8817, to see our scheduling availability. Annual Wellness Visits can be conducted by your primary care physician or a nurse practitioner.

### **What is my financial responsibility for the Annual Wellness Visit Exam?**

None. AWVs are provided to you under Medicare at no cost.

### **Why could I receive a bill for my Annual Wellness Visit?**

During your Annual Wellness Visit (AWV), your primary care provider can also review and manage your ongoing or chronic medical conditions. This means that instead of scheduling separate appointments, both your wellness check and the evaluation of chronic conditions can be addressed in one visit.

Please note that while this combined visit is convenient, each part is billed separately. If your chronic condition management is included in your AWV, you may have copayments, coinsurance, or deductible payments related to that portion of the visit. The cost depends on the type and extent of the care needed for your ongoing conditions.

This approach helps ensure that all your health needs are covered while saving you time.

### **Is an Annual Wellness Visit the same as an annual physical exam?**

No. An AWV does not contain a head-to-toe exam and there are no diagnostic procedures performed.

### **Does Medicare cover an annual physical exam?**

No. A traditional annual physical examination is only covered as a one-time "Welcome to Medicare" benefit that must occur within 12 months of enrollment.

### **What is covered during the AWV?**

This visit focuses primarily on assessing your overall health risks and developing a preventive plan. Your annual wellness visit includes the following:

- A review of a Health Risk Assessment (HRA)

- A review of your medications, family, medical and surgical history
- Screenings - we generally follow screening recommendations of the [USPSTF](#)
- Immunizations - we follow the vaccine schedules published by the [CDC](#)
- Counseling to prevent future health problems

**What if I need to ask my provider about a new “sick” complaint or specific medical complaint?**

Specific issues are considered part of a follow-up or “sick” visit. These aspects of your visit will be billed to your insurance, and you may be responsible for copayments, coinsurance or deductible payments, based on the terms of your policy.

If you would like to address non-routine concerns during your wellness visit, you can let your doctor know about these issues when you schedule your appointment. Depending on their complexity, the questions may need to be addressed at a future follow-up visit. **Please reference the direct Medicare link below for more information:**

<https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/yearly-wellness-visits>