

Annual Wellness Visits



As you know, quality health care begins with an Annual Wellness Visit (AWV). The visit serves a dual purpose: health maintenance and disease prevention.

Here's a checklist of what should be included as a part of an AWV:

- ✓ Assess current medical conditions
- ✓ Complete appropriate lab work
- ✓ Address preventive care
- ✓ Review medications
- ✓ Guidance to promote a healthy life style

AWVs provide an opportunity to address the many important preventive care needs including childhood/adult immunizations and cancer screenings (breast, cervical, and colorectal). They can also be used to evaluate for fall risks, substance use, frailty, and cognition.

Annual wellness visits should include the documentation of all active diagnoses with a specific and current medication treatment plan. All active diagnoses should be submitted on the claim to the highest specificity.

TIP: For older adults (age 66 and up), this is also a great time to start a conversation regarding advance care planning, assessing pain and functional status, and conducting a comprehensive medication review.



To minimize chart retrieval and medical record requests for your office, **please include the appropriate coding for services rendered during the AWV on your claim/encounter form.**

Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) vs. Comprehensive Physical Exam (CPE)

Common misconceptions arise around whether a CPE can be done at the same time as an AWV. Included below are some of the key differences between the two.

Annual Wellness Visit	Comprehensive Physical Exam
Face-to-face visit to complete a prospective risk assessment and develop a treatment plan.	Face-to-face, in-person visit that helps you assess your patient's overall health and well-being to best support their ongoing health. Also, to learn whether patient is suffering from health problems and determine next steps for treatment.
Schedule for preventative screenings.	Perform lung, head and neck, abdominal, heart, joint, and neurological exams.
Test for cognitive wellness, e.g. look for signs of memory loss, dementia, frailty, and fall risk.	Check reflexes and vital signs.
Document patient's health risk factors and treatment options and offer personalized health advice.	Take urine and blood samples and submit for lab testing.

For both Annual Wellness Visit and Comprehensive Physical Exam

Review medical and family history.

Take routine measurements such as for height, weight & blood pressure.

Create or update list of medical providers and prescription drugs.

Assess risk factors for preventable disease.

Billing Tips:

- CPE may be completed during same visit as AWV.
- AWV and problem-oriented evaluation and management (E/M) service can be performed during same visit if needed:
 - Medical documentation must show E/M service is significant and separately identifiable; Modifier 25 should be appended to E/M code.

HealthCare Partners (HCP) is here to help!

HCP Pharmacy Staff

Call: **(516) 515-8861**

Monday through Friday,
8:30am – 5:30pm EST



HCP Case Managers

Call: **(888) 258-0203**

Monday through Friday, 8:30am – 5:30pm EST

Our Case Managers can:

- Teach patients about their condition
- Guide them in making a treatment plan
- Help them get medications and care
- Coordinate transportation based on member's assigned benefit
- Set up referrals and doctor visits
- Provide a Nurse on call, 24/7 at **(516) 238-6124**