

# Physical Exams & Office Visits Update



## *What is difference between Physical Exam and Office Visit?*

Your annual physical exam is a preventative care evaluation of your wellness. The federal Affordable Care Act states that insurance covers preventative care visits.

An Office Visit addresses concerns or health issues separate from the preventative, which are additional diagnosis and management.

## *How does this impact me?*

Today, you are scheduled for a preventative care visit. If you have a specific health concern which falls outside of the scope of a general check-up, then you will incur an additional charge. You may also choose to schedule a separate diagnostic office visit.

## *How do I know if my health concern is preventative or diagnostic?*

Our goal is to address your concerns in a quality manner during any visit. Please note that the insurance companies do allow providers to address additional complaints beyond a physical examination if there is adequate time. If additional problem is found or addressed, another office evaluation code will be generated in addition to a preventative physical examination code.

## *How do I know if my visit will include an additional charge?*

The coding rules set by the health care industry, specifically state, *"If an abnormality is encountered or a pre-existing problem is addressed in the process of performing this preventative medical evaluation service, then the appropriate visit code should also be reported."*

You have entrusted us with your medical care. Please also trust that we practice the highest integrity with our billing practices. Our goal is to provide excellent care and take appropriate time doing it.

## *May I ask my provider during my visit?*

Please speak with your provider if you have any questions regarding the charges from your preventative care/physical exam today.

I have read the Physical Exam and Office Visit letter and understand that I may be billed an additional charge, which may be a copay, co-insurance, or deductible.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY \*