



PLEASANT RUN FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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Preventive Health Care Visits Policy

At Pleasant Run Family Physicians we encourage all patients to schedule preventive health care visits ("well visits" or "check-ups") annually or appropriate for their age. This allows us to evaluate your overall health, obtain the proper screenings, and set goals for prevention of illness. Your health insurance may cover this service but not if that visit involves the evaluation and treatment of medical issues (illness, diabetes, high blood pressure, back pain, etc.).

NOTE: Medicare no longer uses the term Annual Physical. If you are 65 years or older and have MEDICARE as your primary insurer, you are entitled to an [Annual Medicare Wellness Visit](#). (see the PATIENT EDUCATION page on our website for additional information regarding these visits). This visit is of NO COST to you, however if you decide to address any other medical concerns/chronic illnesses, you may be billed for those related charges.

The following guidelines should help coordinate the proper insurance coverage for all your office visits:

- When scheduling your well visit or annual checkup, see if your insurance covers this type of visit and let us know. Some insurances will not require patient copays or coinsurance for these visits (as long as we keep the visit focused on wellness, screenings, and prevention). We are also required to use a specific set of codes when submitting a claim for payment of the visit, therefore we need to be notified before or at the time of the visit.
- If you have medical issues that need attention, we can:
 - Utilize your "well visit" for a medical management visit. This will not allow us to use a preventive health care visit code and all services will be submitted to your insurance company via the normal methods.
 - Perform the "well visit" and schedule a follow-up visit for evaluation and management of your medical issues. This allows us to use the preventive health care visit codes (and waving the copay and coinsurance if your insurance benefits allow this).
- All "well visits" that do not involve the evaluation and management of medical issues will require us to utilize a preventive health care visit code. If your insurance does not cover these types of visits, you will be responsible for the visit expenses.

We hope you understand that our intention is to provide the best possible care to our patients at all times, and our emphasis will always be on prevention of illness. This policy statement hopefully will clarify insurance coverage of preventive health care visits.