

# Provider Update

## Routine Physical Exams are Covered in 2017

Amerigroup\* Community Care Medicare Advantage (MA) plans will continue to supplement Medicare covered preventive services and offer coverage for routine physicals in 2017 for Medicare Advantage members. A routine physical exam will help aid in appropriately assessing and diagnosing member conditions that may not have otherwise been captured, which supports health plan ratings, Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS), and hierarchical condition category (HCC) coding.

When the routine physical is completed by an in-network provider in an HMO and/or PPO plan, there are no out-of-pocket costs for the member. Physicals completed by out-of-network providers for members in PPO plans will be subject to member co-pay or coinsurance as applicable by the member's plan. For the HMO plans, there will be no out-of-network coverage for routine physical as they must be rendered by an in-network provider.

Amerigroup Medicare Advantage plans also will continue to provide benefits for the following Medicare covered services:

- **Initial Preventive Physical Exam (IPPE)** also known as the "Welcome to Medicare Preventive Visit"
- **Annual Wellness Visit (AWV)**

The IPPE (preventive physical exam) and AWV (wellness visit) are not a routine physical exam.

The Welcome to Medicare Visit (IPPE)	The Annual Wellness Visit (AWV initial and subsequent)	Annual Routine Physicals/Preventive Medicine Services
<p><b>Welcome to Medicare Visit/ Initial Preventive Physical Exam</b> A preventive evaluation and management service; a face-to-face evaluation. This exam is a preventive physical exam and <b>not a comprehensive</b></p>	<p><b>Initial Annual Wellness Visit (AWV):</b> Services limited to beneficiary during the <b>Second</b> year the patient is eligible for Medicare Part B. <b>Only one first</b> AWV per beneficiary per lifetime. Includes a personalized prevention plan of services; face-to-face visit. <b>Subsequent Annual Wellness Visit (AWV):</b></p>	<p><b>Preventive Medicine Services:</b> The examination for this visit is a face-to-face comprehensive, multi-system exam that is based on the patient's age, gender, and identified risk factors. The comprehensive history obtained as part of the preventive medicine E/M service is not problem-</p>

<p><b>physical checkup.</b> This service is limited to new beneficiaries during the first 12 months of Medicare enrollment. This is a <b>once in a lifetime benefit.</b></p>	<p>One year after the patient’s Annual Wellness Visit. Once per calendar year. Includes a personalized prevention plan of services; face-to-face visit. This exam is a preventive physical exam and <b>not a comprehensive physical checkup.</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> The AWW is intended to build upon the previously established “Welcome to Medicare Visit” physical exam.</p>	<p>oriented and does not involve a chief complaint or present illness. It includes a comprehensive system review and comprehensive or interval past, family, and social history as well as a comprehensive assessment/history of pertinent risk factors. Includes clinical laboratory tests.</p>
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**Ob/Gyn providers please note:** A Pap test and pelvic exam for our Medicare Advantage members is covered annually *only* if at high risk for developing cervical or vaginal cancer, or childbearing age with abnormal Pap test within past three years. Otherwise a Pap test and pelvic exam is covered every two years for women at normal risk. These services should be filed as separate codes from the routine physical, if they are rendered.

For further information or to verify member eligibility, benefits or account information, please call the telephone number listed on the back of the member’s identification card.

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\*In New Mexico, Amerigroup Community Care of New Mexico, Inc. In Texas, Amerigroup members in the Medicaid Rural Service Area are served by Amerigroup Insurance Company; all other Amerigroup members are served by Amerigroup Texas, Inc. In Washington, Amerigroup Washington, Inc.

Amerivantage is a DSNP plan with a Medicare contract and a contract with the State Medicaid program. In New Mexico: Amerivantage is an HMO with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Amerivantage depends on contract renewal.