



Preventative and Problem Focused Visits

We would like you to know about different types of office visits. Visits are **preventative** or **problem focused**. The reasons for your visit and what the provider does during the visit help decide how it will be coded and billed. This will help you understand how you might be billed for services.

A **preventative** visit (is sometimes referred to as a physical). It includes:

- Whole body exam. This includes
 - Listening to your heart and lungs
 - Checking your eyes, ears, nose and throat
 - Examining your abdomen and other parts of your body
- Reviewing medicines you take
- Reviewing your medical and social history
- Recording your height, weight, and blood pressure
- Finding out your body mass index
- Education, advice and referrals based on your individual needs. This means your doctor will talk to you about risk factors, tests you need, and healthy lifestyle choices.

A preventative exam does not include talking about your pre-existing conditions. If these problems are discussed during a preventative exam, you may receive an additional charge for a problem focused visit.

A **problem focused** visit includes:

- Discussion and diagnosis of symptoms that concern you
- Discussing health problems that are not under control
- Evaluating treatment for known conditions

If you have a pre-existing condition (for example high blood pressure, or high cholesterol), your lab work, that is done for your pre-existing condition, may be billed differently. They would not be considered "screening." This is because you have already been diagnosed with a problem and your labs are being done to monitor those pre-existing conditions.

Bronson *does* offer "Welcome to Medicare" Exam. This visit does not include listening to your heart or checking other parts of the body.

Our practice *does* offer the "Medicare Annual Wellness Visit." Please call our office to schedule, if you would to complete the Medicare Wellness Exam.

Please see any staff member if you have any more questions.