

“WELCOME TO MEDICARE” PREVENTIVE VISIT



Hello,

My name is Al Castellanos and I am a licensed insurance agent. Do you know what disease prevention is and why it's important? Well I am here to give you that information. Medicare pays for many preventive services to keep you healthy. These preventive services can find health problems early, when treatment works best, and can keep you from getting certain diseases.

“Welcome to Medicare” Preventive Visit is one of the preventive services that is covered by Medicare.

What is it?

Medicare covers a one-time preventive visit within the first 12 months that you have Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance). This visit is called the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit. The visit is a great way to get up-to-date on important screenings and shots and to talk with your doctor about your family history and how to stay healthy.

What happens during the visit?

During the visit your doctor will:

- Record your medical and social history (like alcohol or tobacco use, your diet, and your activity level).
- Check your height, weight, and blood pressure.
- Calculate your body mass index (BMI).
- Give you a simple vision test.
- Review your potential risk for depression and your level of safety.

- Offer to talk with you about creating advance directives. Advance directives are legal documents that allow you to put in writing what kind of health care you would want if you were too ill to speak for yourself.

Depending on your general health and medical history, your doctor will review your medical and social history related to your health, and education and counseling about preventive services. Your doctor will also give you a written plan (like a checklist) letting you know what screenings, shots, and other preventive services you need.

What you should bring to the visit:

When you go to your “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit, bring these items:

- Your medical records, including immunization records (if you’re seeing a new doctor). Call your old doctor to get copies of your medical records.
- Your family health history. Try to learn as much as you can about your family’s health history before your appointment. Any information you can give your doctor can help determine if you’re at risk for certain diseases.
- A list of prescription and over-the-counter drugs that you currently take, how often you take them, and why.

Who’s covered?

Everyone that has Medicare Part B.

How often is it covered?

This visit is only covered one time, and you must have the visit within the first 12 months you’re enrolled in Part B.

Your cost if you have Original Medicare

You pay nothing if your doctor accepts assignment.

If you have any questions regarding this exam or any of the other Preventive Service exams covered by Medicare, please contact me at (281) 642-4082 or at alcastellanos@prinsuco.com.