



Explanation About Billing Charges for Your Preventative Visit

A **Preventative Exam** visit is a specific type of appointment to address preventative and screening care depending on age and gender. Examples include discussion of vaccines, mammograms, Pap smears, colonoscopies, birth control, and screening laboratory tests.

A **Problem Oriented** visit includes the diagnosis, management, and treatment of temporary or ongoing problems. Examples include colds, injuries, rashes, hypertension, insomnia, depression, diabetes.

These two types of services are distinct. Medicare and insurance companies treat them as distinct appointment types even if they occur concurrently during the same visit. Providers are required to code type of service separately even if performed during the one visit. Because of this requirement, an additional charge may occur if there is discussion or management of a problem at the time of a preventative service examination. Because of contractual agreements with insurance companies and Medicare, there is a legal obligation to code correctly for problem visits.

To avoid misunderstanding, preventative visits are scheduled as well woman visits as a screening examination. Please schedule problem visits when they occur. Frequently problem discussions arise during preventative visits. If time allows, they can be addressed. In this circumstance, an additional visit code will be applied to the visit.

I understand and agree to the conditions above.

Signature

Date