



## **Explanation About Billing Charges for Your Preventive Visit**

A **Preventive 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 2 types of services are distinct. Medicare and insurance companies treat them as distinct even if they occur concurrently during the same visit. Medicare and insurance companies require us to code separately for each type of service even if they are done during the same visit. This may mean that at the time of your Preventative Exam, if discussion and management of problems occur, you may be charged a co-pay for the problem oriented part of your visit. We do not have the option of writing off the copayment, we are contractually and legally obligated by Medicare or your insurance company to bill and collect them.

We try to avoid this complication by scheduling preventative visits when the problems are under control and have already been recently addressed. However, frequently problem discussions arise during preventative visits. If time allows, we are happy to address them. In those cases, we are required to bill both services.

I understand and agree to the conditions above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date