



2025 Chaneyville Road, Suite 200, Owings, MD 20736 | Phone: 410-286-3865 | Fax: 410-286-8085 | www.DunkirkFamilyPractice.com

Wellness Visit (Physical Exam) and Office Visit

Dear Patient:

Our goal is to provide you, the patient, with the best medical care. Annual physical exams give us a chance to address your overall physical and emotional health. The **preventative** care we provide during a physical also include an assessment of *dietary and exercise habits, review of vaccinations, discussion of screening tests, lifestyle behaviors, etc.* We often look in on chronic stable problems or other ongoing medical conditions, though we don't always charge for that, depending on the degree of difficulty or amount of time spent.

Regular office visits differ from the **preventative and wellness care** provided at a physical. Regular office visits address *other new ongoing or poorly controlled medical problems*. These types of problems need to be addressed in an appointment separate from a **preventative** or physical exam. You OR your doctor may identify an issue that may need to be addressed during a physical, **separate from preventative care.**

Our goal is to address as much as we can in a quality manner during visits. Please note that the insurance companies **do** allow providers to address additional complaints beyond a physical examination, **if** there is time. If additional problems are found or addressed, an additional office evaluation code will be generated in addition to a preventative physical examination code. We are required to submit billing in this fashion, if we address care beyond preventative care at the physical examination. *This essentially generates an extra charge to the insurance company for issues addressed beyond preventative care, which in turn may require you to pay additional copay, coinsurance or deductible charges.*

The coding rules set by the health care industry, specifically state, *"If an abnormality is encountered or a pre-existing problem is addressed in the process of performing this preventative medicine evaluation service, then the appropriate visit code should also be reported."* We can actually fail and audit if we violate these rules.

You have entrusted us with your medical care. Please also trust that we practice the highest integrity with our billing practices. Our goal is to provide excellent care and take appropriate time doing it. Please speak with your practitioner if you have any questions regarding the charges from your preventative care/physical today.

Sincerely,

Your practitioners at Dunkirk Family Practice, PA

I have read the Physical Exam and Office Visit letter and understand that I may be billed an additional charge from my insurance company. This charge may be a copay, coinsurance, or deductible and I will be responsible for payment of this additional charge.

Patient Name

Date

Patient or Guardian Signature

Patient's Date of Birth

LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THIS SIGNED FORM