



08/31/2020

Re: Important Message Regarding Physical Exams for Medicare members

Dear Network Provider:

As you are aware, Medicare covers an Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) for Medicare members. Medicare does not cover a Physical Exam. Currently, in accordance with Medicare Advantage Plan guidelines, SummaCare denies annual physical exams (*CPT codes 99385, 99386, 99387, 99395, 99396 and 99397*). When processed, these codes are currently denied with explanation code FS by SummaCare with member liability.

Effective October 1, 2020, SummaCare will begin to deny the above CPT codes with explanation code XO with Provider liability. Medicare members will no longer be held liable for this service. When a SummaCare Medicare member schedules an appointment for their Annual Wellness Visit, providers should clarify and/or educate the member that the AWV is a Medicare covered service and will be provided rather than a Physical Exam as the Physical Exam is not a Medicare covered service.

If billed, do not bill the patient – a Physical Exam will process as a non-covered benefit. SummaCare must follow CMS's guidelines to deny this service. Due to an increase in Appeal and Grievance volumes directly related to these services being provided, SummaCare has made the decision to deny with no member liability.

If you have any questions regarding this change, please contact Provider Support Services or your Provider Relations Representative at **330.996.8400** or **800.996.8401** or via email at **contactproviderservices@summacare.com**.

Julie Sich

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