



# The Women's Center of Southern New England

A member of Women's Health Connecticut

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## Explaining Medicare Annual Wellness Visits To Patients

Dear Medicare Patient:

Medicare began paying for special Annual Wellness Visits on January 1, 2011 that should be available to you through your primary care provider. These services are intended to help you develop a plan for addressing ongoing general medical needs that are not specific to gynecologic general wellness and/or problems or concerns.

We generally do not perform the Medicare Annual Wellness Exams in our office for Medicare recipients. The services you normally receive in our office annually are not included in your Primary care wellness visit. Specifically, the Primary Care Wellness Exam does not include pelvic and breast examinations or the collection of Pap smears.

Your Medicare plan approves our office to perform **Bi-Annual Screening Exams (every two years- unless you have a high risk diagnosis, then you are seen yearly)** for a pelvic / breast examination and the collection of a Pap smear.

Other conditions such as management of menopausal symptoms, bladder problems, and issues with pelvic pain, prolapse, breast concerns, or other gynecological related conditions are not covered under your Bi- Annual Screening Exam and a separate charge will be submitted to your insurance if performed on the same day of your bi-annual exam. As always, we are happy to see you for any gynecologic problems or concerns you may have however your normal deductible and co-insurance will apply to these problem-oriented services.

If you have any questions please feel free to call our office and speak with Nancy, our billing coordinator or Julie, Office Manager at 203-269-0885.

Thank you,

Women's Center of Southern New England  
*A copy can be provided to you upon request*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your signature indicates that you have read and understand your Medicare benefits