

Dear Generations Family Practice patient,

You are currently scheduled for a complete history and physical exam on _____. We would like to advise you of a change in the structure of this visit along with the reason for this change.

We are no longer able to evaluate and manage acute-care and non-health maintenance/preventive care issues during your complete history and physical exam visit.

Many insurance companies are not reimbursing physicians in accordance with federally mandated coding guidelines. We frequently experience this through poor reimbursement of the evaluation and management of separate, specific patient complaints brought to the physician's attention during the preventive care/ health maintenance visit. The mandated guidelines clearly allow for reimbursement of **both** the preventive care evaluation (history and physical) and the acute care evaluation (separate complaints) provided during these extensive visits. The majority of insurers reimburse only for the preventive care aspect of the visit; thus requiring us to spend significant resources re-submitting claims and battling with insurers. As a business, we must rely on consistent revenues to cover the costs of running our practice.

We strongly recommend age and gender appropriate, regular health maintenance visits. Your complete history and physical exam visit will be thorough and will allow adequate time to discuss health screening and preventive care guidelines. The routine preventive visit will include the following: review of your past medical history, family history and social history/habits; age and gender appropriate complete physical exam; laboratory testing, hearing/vision screens, EKG and spirometry as deemed appropriate; and update of immunizations.

If you have new medical problems or specific concerns you would like addressed by your physician during your physical, please call our office to allow us to provide you a separate appointment on a separate day. For example, a follow-up appointment a few days after your physical would allow you to review your laboratory results directly with your provider and discuss separate concerns during that same visit. If you do not know whether your insurance company covers routine preventive care, we advise that you contact them prior to your appointment.

Thank you for your understanding and patronage,

Sincerely,

Mark Vasiliadis, M.D.

Kevin J. Kelleher, M.D.