

Encourage your patients to schedule an Annual Wellness Visit (AWV). Research shows that 90% of patients who had an AWV said they did so at the recommendation of their provider.

## Why is the AWV important?

The AWV provides an opportunity to address important topics with your Blue Advantage® patients, including:

- All current chronic conditions
- Coordination of care
- Personalized care planning
- Medication and healthy behaviors education
- Preventive screenings

## AWV Best Practices

Follow these best practices when scheduling and performing AWVs for your patients:

- Perform them early in the year, preferably within the first 6 months. This will also avoid the need for home assessments.
- Review the Patient Health Snapshot (PHS) prior to performing the AWV and completing the Health Risk 360 (HR360).
- Review the patient's current medication list to encourage medication compliance and adherence.
- Explore barriers and identify available resources for your patients.
- Document all chronic conditions that are current at the time of the encounter. It is important to document and code each current chronic condition at least once every year.
- Document to the highest degree of specificity and include the treatment plan.

## Who can perform an AWV?

An AWV must be performed by a medical doctor, osteopath, physician assistant or nurse practitioner.

## Can I perform a wellness exam and problem-focused E/M service during the same appointment?

Yes! When you provide an AWV and a significant, separately identifiable, medically necessary evaluation and management (E/M) service, report the additional CPT code (99202–99205, 99211–99215) with modifier 25. That portion of the visit must be medically necessary and reasonable to treat the patient's illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body part.

## Quick Tips:

- Document any active weight-related diagnoses (morbid /severe obesity, obesity, malnutrition, or cachexia) along with the BMI.
- Retake and document BP if >140/90. Home BP logs can also be used as documentation.

