



Value of Family History under the Initial Preventive Physical Exam (IPPE) Benefit – JA0918

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Key Words SE0918, IPPE, Preventive, Exam

Contractors Affected

- Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)
- Medicare Carriers

Provider Types Affected Special Edition (SE) article SE0918 is for physicians and providers who submit claims to Medicare Carriers and A/B MACs for the one-time IPPE provided to Medicare beneficiaries within the first 12 months that an individual is enrolled in Part B.



Special Edition (SE) 0918 reminds providers that the IPPE visit includes a number of important, required prevention-related elements, such as the following:

1. A review of the individual's family health history; and
2. Education, counseling, and referral of the individual for other Medicare covered screenings and preventive services.

Provider Needs to Know...

- At present, a Medicare beneficiary may qualify for the following covered preventive services based on the individual's family history:
 - A one-time ultrasound screening for abdominal aortic aneurysm for an asymptomatic individual, but only if referred by a doctor of medicine or osteopathy or a qualified non-physician practitioner (a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist) as a result of the IPPE visit.

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- A colonoscopy screening every two years for an asymptomatic individual considered at high risk for colorectal cancer because he or she has:
 - A close relative (sibling, parent, or child) who has had colorectal cancer or an adenomatous polyp;
 - A family history of familial adenomatous polyps; or
 - A family history of hereditary nonpolyposis.
 - An annual glaucoma screening examination for an asymptomatic individual, including:
 - A dilated eye examination with an intraocular pressure measurement; and
 - A direct ophthalmoscopy examination, or a slit-lamp biomicroscopic examination.
 - One diabetes screening test (fasting blood glucose test or post-glucose challenge tests) per calendar year for an individual who:
 - Has been previously tested, but not diagnosed with pre-diabetes; or
 - Has never been tested before, after referral from a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner;
 - Has a family history of diabetes and is also 65 years of age or older and is overweight; or
 - Meets at least one other risk factor for coverage as described in the applicable Medicare guidelines.
 - Two diabetes screening tests per calendar year for an individual who:
 - Has been diagnosed with pre-diabetes, after referral from a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner;
 - Has a family history of diabetes and is also either 65 years of age or older; or
 - Is overweight or meets at least one other risk factors for coverage as described in the applicable Medicare guidelines.
 - Providers may view a convenient tri-fold brochure explaining the expanded benefits of the IPPE at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/Expanded_Benefits.pdf on the CMS website.
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Background

An individual's family history may be helpful to the physician or other clinician performing the IPPE visit in determining whether an individual is at risk for various forms of cancer and other medical problems.

Operational Impact	N/A
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Reference
Materials

The related MLN Matters® article can be found at
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0918.pdf> on the CMS
website.

Extensive information on the IPPE is available at
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/WelcometoMedicareExam/02_Provider%20Resources.asp on the
CMS website
