

# An Important Note About Preventive Care Office Visits

Many patients have questions about the difference between a “health maintenance” or “preventive care” appointment and a normal office visit. While normal office visits usually have a co-payment or share of cost, the new health care reform legislation requires insurance companies to cover preventive care services.

So why do these preventive visits sometimes come with a bill? The answer depends on what you talk about with your doctor during the appointment.

Health maintenance and physical exams are covered by your health insurance as long as only preventive health topics are discussed and recommended screening tests are performed. If you discuss specific problems during your Health Maintenance appointment that a doctor, nurse practitioner or physician’s assistant needs to address, your office visit will no longer be considered preventive care by your insurance company. As a result, we are required to bill the appointment as a normal office visit.

If you have questions about why you received a bill from Facey after your Health Maintenance or preventive care exam, please call us toll-free at 1-877-322-3963 for assistance.

**covers preventive measures only**

**a Health Maintenance or Preventive Care Exam**

**& may include:**

**recommended regular screenings and tests**

## Some Examples of Preventive Care Services

These services may be performed during a preventive care visit, depending on your age:

- Health Maintenance /Preventive Physical Exam
- Screenings, Assessments & Counseling, such as:
  - vision & hearing screenings
  - cholesterol, blood pressure & blood glucose tests
  - pelvic exams, pap tests, mammograms
  - prostate & colorectal cancer tests
  - sexually transmitted diseases
  - obesity, depression, tobacco & alcohol counseling
- Select immunizations

**but NOT:**

**specific issues that require immediate attention**

**IF you talk about these issues with your provider, it becomes:**

**A REGULAR OFFICE VISIT**

**•and•**

**your regular co-payment or share of cost may now apply to the visit**