



BESTCARE INTERNAL MEDICINE

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Dear Patients and Friends,

An annual exam is **required once yearly** for all patients of Bestcare Internal Medicine. The annual exam is a designated time to review and ensure that all cancer screening and other preventive measures are up to date.

It is important that we implement this new visit. When properly and thoughtfully undertaken, this benefit should help identify patients at risk for serious health issues. Some insurances also have begun keeping a scorecard to see how well physicians are providing certain services. Doctors who don't provide this annual service could be ranked as "underperforming" by some insurances. This may lead to financial and administrative penalties. To comply with the new requirements, our office must make changes and require everyone to come in for their annual physical exam.

For most of you with stable chronic health conditions, it is necessary to be seen at least three times a year. This new visit format will mean that the medical assistant will spend more time with you and going over the required screening questionnaires. Accordingly, the doctor's time with you will be focused on the physical examination. **The annual visit does not deal with new or existing health problems. That would be a separate service and requires a longer appointment. Please let our scheduling staff know if you need the doctor's help with a health problem, a medication refill or something else. We need to schedule a separate appointment.**

We began to implement these changes in January 2013. Change is often difficult, but we are hopeful we can implement this new requirement in a way that is not disruptive to our primary goal of working to ensure your health and well-being.

Please call us to schedule your annual exam today at **(623) 546-0007**. You can go online to print your annual exam questionnaire at **www.bestcareinternalmedicine.com**. Please note for our patients with Medicare, your form is the Medicare Annual Form.

Yours truly,

Bestcare Internal Medicine Staff