§ 410.16 Initial preventive physical examination: Conditions for and limitations on coverage.

(a) Definitions. As used in this section, the following definitions apply:

Eligible beneficiary means, for the purposes of this section, an individual who receives his or her initial preventive examination not more than 1 year after the effective date of his or her first Medicare Part B coverage period.

End-of-life planning means, for purposes of this section, verbal or written information regarding the following areas:

(1) An individual’s ability to prepare an advance directive in the case where an injury or illness causes the individual to be unable to make health care decisions.

(2) Whether or not the physician is willing to follow the individual’s wishes as expressed in an advance directive.

Initial preventive physical examination means all of the following services furnished to an eligible beneficiary by a physician or other qualified nonphysician practitioner with the goal of health promotion and disease detection:

(1) Review of the beneficiary’s medical and social history with attention to modifiable risk factors for disease, as those terms are defined in this section.

(2) Review of the beneficiary’s potential (risk factors) for depression, including current or past experiences with depression or other mood disorders, based on the use of an appropriate screening instrument for persons without a current diagnosis of depression, which the physician or other qualified nonphysician practitioner may select from various available standardized screening tests designed for this purpose and recognized by national professional medical organizations.

(3) Review of the beneficiary’s functional ability, and level of safety as those terms are defined in this section, as described in paragraph (4) of this definition, based on the use of appropriate screening questions or a screening questionnaire, which the physician or other qualified nonphysician practitioner may select from various available screening questions or standardized questionnaires designed for this purpose and recognized by national professional medical organizations.

(4) An examination to include measurement of the beneficiary’s height, weight, body mass index, blood pressure, a visual acuity screen, and other factors as deemed appropriate, based on the beneficiary’s medical and social history, and current clinical standards.

(5) End-of-life planning as that term is defined in this section upon agreement with the individual.

(6) Education, counseling, and referral, as deemed appropriate by the physician or qualified nonphysician practitioner, based on the results of the review and evaluation services described in this section.

(7) Education, counseling, and referral, including a brief written plan such as a checklist provided to the individual for obtaining an electrocardiogram, as appropriate, and the appropriate screening and other preventive services that are covered as separate Medicare Part B benefits as described in sections 1861(s)(10), (jj), (nn), (oo), (pp), (qq)(1), (rr), (uu), (vv), (xxx)(1), (yy), (bbb), and (ddd) of the Act.

Medical history is defined to include, at a minimum, the following:

(1) Past medical and surgical history, including experiences with illnesses, hospital stays, operations, allergies, injuries, and treatments.

(2) Current medications and supplements, including calcium and vitamins.

(3) Family history, including a review of medical events in the beneficiary’s family, including diseases that may be hereditary or place the individual at risk.
A **physician** for purposes of this section means a doctor of medicine or osteopathy (as defined in section 1861(r)(1) of the Act).

A **qualified nonphysician practitioner** for purposes of this section means a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist (as authorized under section 1861(s)(2)(K)(i) and section 1861(s)(2)(K)(ii) of the Act and defined in section 1861(aa)(5) of the Act, or in §§410.74, 410.75, and 410.76).

**Review of the beneficiary’s functional ability and level of safety** must include, at a minimum, a review of the following areas:

1. Hearing impairment.
2. Activities of daily living.
3. Falls risk.
4. Home safety

**Social history** is defined to include, at a minimum, the following:

1. History of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drug use.
2. Diet.
3. Physical activities.

(b) **Condition for coverage of an initial preventive physical examination.** Medicare Part B pays for an initial preventive physical examination provided to an eligible beneficiary, as described in this section, if it is furnished by a physician or other qualified nonphysician practitioner, as defined in this section.

(c) **Limitation on coverage of cardiovascular screening tests.** Payment may be made for cardiovascular screening tests performed for an asymptomatic individual only if the individual has not had the screening tests paid for by Medicare during the preceding 59 months following the month in which the last cardiovascular screening tests were performed.

[69 FR 66421, Nov. 15, 2004]

§ 410.18 **Diabetes screening tests.**

(a) **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

- **Diabetes** means diabetes mellitus, a condition of abnormal glucose metabolism diagnosed using the following criteria: a fasting blood sugar greater than or equal to 126 mg/dL on two different occasions; a 2-hour post-glucose challenge greater than or equal to 200 mg/dL on two different occasions; or a random glucose test over 200 mg/dL for a person with symptoms of uncontrolled diabetes.

- **Pre-diabetes** means a condition of abnormal glucose metabolism diagnosed using the following criteria: a fasting glucose level of 100–125 mg/dL, or a 2-hour post-glucose challenge greater than or equal to 200 mg/dL on two different occasions; or a random glucose test over 200 mg/dL for a person with symptoms of uncontrolled diabetes.

(b) **General conditions of coverage.** Medicare Part B covers diabetes screening tests after a referral from a physician or qualified nonphysician practitioner to an individual at risk for diabetes for the purpose of early detection of diabetes.

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