

Questions to ask about Preventive Services

Visiting your doctor or
other provider? Make a
list of questions to
take with you.

[Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov)



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Habits like exercising and eating a balanced diet go a long way toward helping you stay healthy. It's also important to get preventive services.

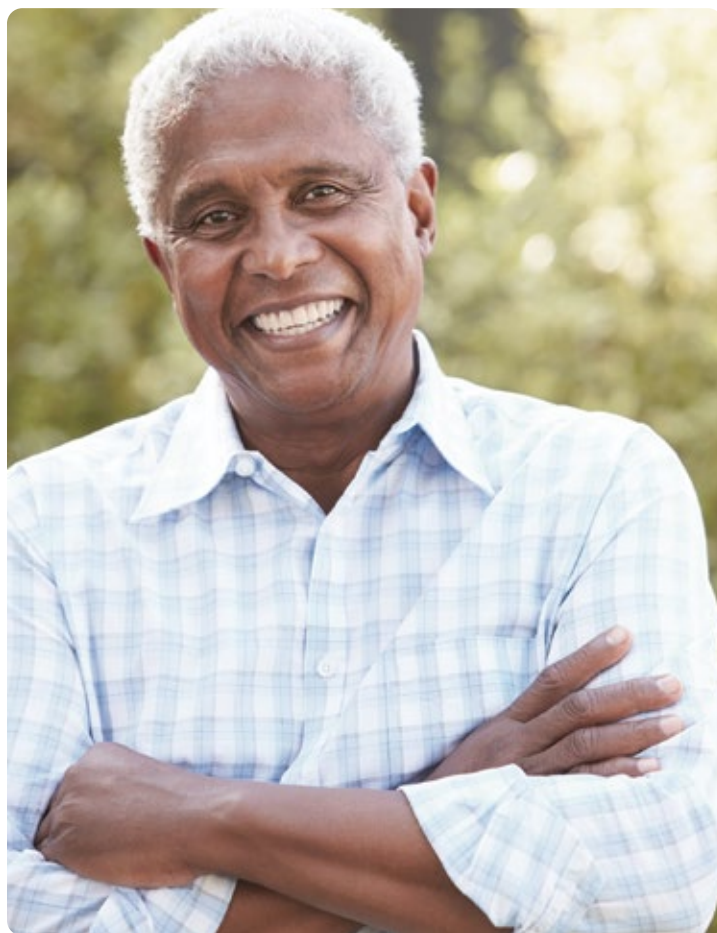
Medicare pays for many preventive services to keep you healthy. Preventive services can find health problems early, when treatment works best, and can keep you from getting certain diseases.

Preventive services include exams, shots, lab tests, and screenings. They also include programs for health monitoring, and counseling and education to help you take care of your health.

Medicare covers these preventive services:

- Abdominal aortic aneurysm screenings
- Alcohol misuse screenings and counseling
- Bone mass measurements
- Cardiovascular behavioral therapy
- Cardiovascular disease screenings
- Cervical and vaginal cancer screenings
- Colorectal cancer screenings
 - Fecal occult blood tests (screening)
 - Flexible sigmoidoscopy screenings
 - Screening colonoscopies
 - Barium enemas (screening)
 - Multi-target stool DNA tests
 - Blood-based biomarker screening tests for colorectal cancer
- Counseling to prevent tobacco use and tobacco-caused disease
- COVID-19 vaccines
- Depression screenings
- Diabetes screenings
- Diabetes self-management training
- Flu shots
- Glaucoma screenings
- Hepatitis B shots

- Hepatitis B Virus infection screenings
- Hepatitis C screenings
- HIV screenings
- Lung cancer screenings
- Mammograms (Breast cancer screenings)
- Medical nutrition therapy services
- Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program
- Obesity behavioral therapy
- Pneumococcal shots
- Prostate cancer screenings
- Sexually transmitted infection screenings & counseling
- “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit
- Yearly “Wellness” visit



Questions to ask your provider about preventive services:	Notes
<p>About the test</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Do I need the test? <input type="checkbox"/> What's the test for? <input type="checkbox"/> How's the test done? <input type="checkbox"/> What are the benefits and risks of having the test? <input type="checkbox"/> What do I need to do to prepare for the test? <input type="checkbox"/> Do I need to get a referral? <input type="checkbox"/> Do I need to make an appointment? <p>About the test results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> When will I get the results? <input type="checkbox"/> What will they tell me? <input type="checkbox"/> What's the next step after the test? <input type="checkbox"/> How often do I need this test? <p>About the cost of the test</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Will Medicare/my other insurance pay for/cover the test? <input type="checkbox"/> How much will I have to pay? 	

Talk to your doctor

Find out how often you need certain exams or tests to help you stay healthy. Your doctor or provider may suggest exams or tests that Medicare doesn't cover, or recommend that you have tests more or less often than Medicare covers them.

Get test results

If you don't hear from your provider after you've had a test, call and ask for the results. Ask what the results mean for your care, and use that information to talk with your provider and make decisions.

Resources

For more information about Medicare preventive services:

- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/preventive-screening-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/preventive-screening-services).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/publications](https://www.medicare.gov/publications) to download the booklet, "Your Guide to Medicare's Preventive Services."
- Log into (or create) your secure Medicare account to get direct access to your preventive health information.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for free health insurance counseling. Visit [shiphelp.org](https://www.shiphelp.org), or call 1-800-MEDICARE for your SHIP's phone number.



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“Questions to Ask About Medicare Preventive Services” isn’t a legal document. Official Medicaid Program legal guidance is contained in the relevant statutes, regulations, and rulings.

You have the right to get Medicare information in an accessible format, like large print, braille, or audio. You also have the right to file a complaint if you feel you’ve been discriminated against. Visit [Medicare.gov/about-us/accessibility-nondiscrimination-notice](https://www.medicare.gov/about-us/accessibility-nondiscrimination-notice), or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for more information. TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

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