

About Annuals

Dear Patients;

Please be aware that many insurance companies are not covering issues at the time of an annual or are requiring two co-pays if you want to discuss issues at the time of an annual. What this means, is that if in addition to being here for your routine annual and related **health maintenance issues** you want us to address specific concerns of yours, you may be subject to paying an additional co-pay. While we will occasionally address issues at the time of an annual, the best option is for you to schedule a separate appointment to address the non preventive health issues, as it then lets us address them in more detail. However, if you choose to address the issues and get your refills at the time of your annual please note that you will be asked to pay the two co-pays when applicable. At this point we know that BC/BS and Humana have instituted this policy. Aetna is not covering/ allowing issues to be addressed at the time of an annual at all. On many of the other insurance we are still trying to figure out what rules apply! We know this may be inconvenient to you, but in this era of managed care where payments to doctors from insurance companies are being cut, we must follow their rules and get paid for our work so that we can continue to deliver high quality health care and meet your health care needs. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Sincerely,

Sharon Hausman-Cohen, MD
Koren Weston, MD
Laurelin Mullins, FNP-c
Charis Bearden, FNP-c

Note: Preventive maintenance issues include topics unrelated to a disease state such as discussing birth control, discussing screening for things that run in your family such as need for colonoscopy, etc. Issues are basically anything else ranging from shoulder pain, following up on problems for which you are on chronic medications for such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure, depression etc.