



Preventive care FAQ

Preventive care can help stop illnesses or diseases before they start. As a Capital Blue Cross member, preventive care from an in-network doctor is covered — often at no cost to you.*

Here are a few frequently asked questions about preventive care, how your plan covers it, and the difference between preventive and nonpreventive care.

What is preventive care?

Well visits (also called checkups or annual physicals), screenings, and immunizations (vaccines) are examples of preventive care. Screenings may include blood pressure checks, colonoscopies, and mammograms, among many other services.

What is the difference between preventive and nonpreventive care?

Your doctor usually provides preventive care when you are symptom-free and have no reason to believe that you might be sick. On the other hand, your doctor typically provides nonpreventive or diagnostic care when you don't feel well, show signs of illness, or have an existing condition.

What treatment and services are not considered preventive?

Treatment for specific health conditions, medical tests, or other services to manage your health may be considered diagnostic and not preventive. For example, if you have diabetes and see your doctor often to help manage your condition, your on-going care may likely not be considered preventive but diagnostic in nature.

Can my doctor perform preventive and nonpreventive care during the same visit?

Yes. If your doctor finds a problem and treats it during a preventive visit, that additional care may be billed to your health plan, and you could be responsible for copays, coinsurance, or deductible, depending upon your plan's benefits.

[CapitalBlueCross.com](https://www.CapitalBlueCross.com)

*For a complete list of recommended preventive healthcare services, visit [CapBlueCross.com/Preventive-Care](https://www.CapitalBlueCross.com/Preventive-Care) or call the Member Services number on your ID card. Also, refer to your benefit booklet to see how your plan covers preventive, diagnostic, or on-going care.

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