

SEATTLE HEALING ARTS

NOTICE TO PATIENTS REGARDING WELL EXAMS

If you schedule for an annual exam, PAP or physical, your insurance company may call this visit “preventative”, “yearly” or “annual”. Some insurance carriers do not cover these preventative exams. Please take a moment to read the remainder of this letter.

Due to national coding laws, we must bill your insurance company for this physical exam as a preventative care visit. If during your visit you have additional concerns or conditions that require diagnosis and treatment, you may incur additional office or lab charges. These charges will be submitted to your insurance company as well as the preventative visit. If your insurance company does not cover some or all of the charges, you will be billed for the balance your insurance company indicates as patient responsibility. Please do not ask us to re-bill by changing a procedure or diagnostic code. By asking this of your provider, you are asking him/her to commit insurance fraud.

Please be aware of your insurance coverage and benefits. If preventative care coverage is not part of your insurance benefits, we may ask for payment at the time of service. If you are experiencing financial hardship, we can assist you with payment options. Insurance plans do not cover DOT (Department of Transportation) exams or most other exams done purely for administrative purposes, such as immigration/emigration, adoption, college entrance and others. In certain cases, those forms may be completed as a part of a routine physical examination, but not always. Please ask your provider if you have any questions.

MEDICARE PATIENTS

Please be aware that the Initial Physical Examination (IPPE) also known as the “Welcome to Medicare” visit is not the “routine physical check up” that some seniors may receive every year or two from their providers. Medicare DOES NOT provide coverage for routine physical exams. An IPPE consists of a history, medication review, fall risk screening, depression screening and vital signs. An EKG may be done and will be billed separately. Laboratory testing is not part of the service and is ordered and billed separately. Coverage of the IPPE visit is provided as a Medicare Part B benefit. The Medicare deductible is waived for the IPPE. A patient may have one IPPE exam in a lifetime and it must be done within one year of becoming eligible for Medicare. If you are here for the “Welcome to Medicare” IPPE, please be sure to tell your provider.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Name _____

Signature _____ Date of birth _____

Date _____