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**THE INFORMATION BELOW HAS BEEN SUPPLIED  
BY MEDICARE**

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**To Our Medicare Patients:**

There are many questions about Medicare and wellness examinations. Medicare just began paying for an Annual Wellness Visit on January 1, 2011. These services are intended to help you develop a plan for addressing ongoing medical problems and not specific gynecologic problems or concerns. In general, these services will be performed by your primary care provider. The services you normally receive regarding female well exams, breast and pelvic examinations and the collection of a Pap smear in our office are **NOT** included in this Annual Wellness Visit.

Many women today, when they become eligible for Medicare and later as they age, are healthy, active individuals. It is important to note, if you have a Preventative Annual Well Woman exam in our office, it will **NOT** be covered by Medicare. A portion of the visit (breast and pelvic exam and Pap smear may be covered every two years). It is essential for your continued good health to have well exams despite the fact that Medicare does not pay for them. As always, we are available to see you for any gynecologic problems you may have, including the ongoing management of menopausal symptoms, bladder problems, and issues with pelvic pain, prolapse, osteoporosis, breast concerns, or other gynecologic conditions. Your normal deductible and co-insurance will apply to these problem-oriented services. Typically, a well visit and a problem visit should not be addressed at the same time.

If you have any questions, please feel free to inquire with our staff.