Can one appointment be considered both a physical and an office visit?

On occasion, one appointment can meet the requirements for a physical and an office visit. If this happens your personal doctor will submit a charge for both a preventive physical and an office visit. If your preventive physical includes consultation or treatment for a specific condition, your provider is legally required to report additional medical services on your bill.

How does this affect you?

Combining a preventive physical and an office visit will save you time by eliminating an extra appointment but it may affect your costs. Doctors must bill your visit based on both the reason you scheduled the appointment and what is done during the appointment. For this reason, it’s important to remember when you see your provider for a physical, something more than a general evaluation could cost extra.