

You Be The Coder

Coding Sick Visits with Preventive Medicine Services

Patient comes in for a preventive medicine visit. During the visit the doctor asks the patient about her chronic asthma condition and if she is doing well on her medication. Patient states things are fine. Would this constitute a separate E/M service along with the preventive service?

Answer: **No**

If you are simply asking, how are things going? Are you ok with you medication? That would not justify a separate and identifiable evaluation and management service. According to CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) If an abnormality is encountered or a preexisting problem is addressed in the process of performing this preventive medicine evaluation and management service, and if the problem or abnormality is significant enough to require additional work to perform the key components of a problem-oriented E/M service, then the appropriate office code should be reported with modifier 25.

Happy Coding