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*Building Partnerships Between Business and Medicine*

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## **PREVENTIVE CARE SERVICES FOR ADULTS**

The focus of preventive care is to remove or reduce disease risk factors and promote early detection of disease. Prevention is the most effective and economical of all methods of disease control. Recommendations for preventive health care are designed for adults who have no manifestations of any important health problems.

The periodic health visit is an important opportunity for the delivery of clinical preventive services. The primary care practitioner (PCP) should focus on the conditions or situations most likely to significantly influence the health and well being of the individual. The periodic health examination should emphasize those preventive services which have been recommended by professional associations such as the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) “Guide to Clinical Preventive Services, 1996”, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS).

Preventive care services may be performed during visits for other reasons (e.g., illness visits, chronic disease checkups) when indicated.

**Periodic health visits / Screening visits** for preventive care services occur at regular intervals depending on the age of the individual. These visits are for the clinical evaluation of asymptomatic adults to include individuals with high risk factors.