The authors examined the association of an annual wellness visit (AWV) with healthcare costs and clinical quality measures. The sample included 8917 Medicare beneficiaries attributed to providers across 44 primary care clinics participating in 2 accountable care organizations.

**RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY, 2014-2016**

**AWVs were associated with**

- significantly reduced hospital spending

**AWV patients had**

- 5.7% reduction in adjusted total healthcare costs

**AWV patients had**

- 70 percentage points higher screening rates for fall risk and depression

**Savings**

- $175 reimbursement for Medicare AWV
- $456 cost decrease per member per year

**Effects**

- Savings effects were most pronounced among the highest-risk quartile of patients.

**Limitations**

- The study design was not randomized.
- Findings may not necessarily translate to all primary care settings.

**Benefits**

- $30 acute care | $20 outpatient nonemergency care savings per member per month

- $175 acute care | $456 cost decrease per member per year

- Savings effects were most pronounced among the highest-risk quartile of patients.