

A Letter from the Radiologist

MEDICARE FREE AAA ULTRASOUND SCREENING



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- Man, age 65 to 75 who has smoked at least 100 cigarettes in his lifetime

Your patients may be eligible for a free one-time Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) screening as part of their Welcome to Medicare physical.

Medicare provides a one-time, free screening to qualified seniors as part of its Welcome to Medicare Physical. ***The time period of this physical has been extended from the first six months to the first twelve months of enrollment in Medicare.***

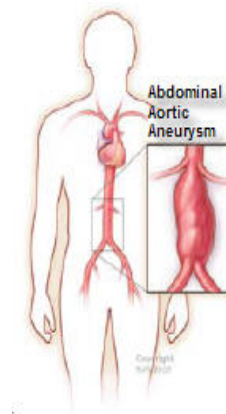
Qualified seniors must have one of the following risk factors:

- Man or woman with a family history of abdominal aortic aneurysm

AAA is an enlargement or bulge that develops in a weakened area within the largest artery in the abdomen. If the AAA remains undetected, the aortic wall continues to weaken and the aneurysm becomes so large, and its wall so weak, that rupture occurs. The mortality of AAA rupture is up to 90%. The only way to break this cycle is to detect the AAA before it ruptures.

This Medicare screening benefit is expected to save thousands of lives.

Olympic Radiology can provide Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening. If you would like further information for your practice or patients, please contact us.



“Qualified seniors are eligible for a one-time Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) ultrasound screening as part of their Welcome to Medicare physical”

The Medicare AAA screening benefit became a law on February 8, 2006, as the Screening Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms Very Efficiently (SAAAVE) Act, a provision of S.1932, Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, also known as Budget Reconciliation. The law became effective January 1, 2007.