

Preventive care and Dermatology

Preventive services are coded a certain way to indicate to the insurance company the service was for preventive care. Preventive services are identified on the A & B Recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force as part of the Affordable Care Act.

In order for a claim to be considered preventive by your insurance company, it must be listed on the A & B Recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and submitted with preventive coding (meaning not diagnostic). If a patient chooses to have services rendered by a specialist, like a dermatologist, that claim will be submitted as a diagnostic office visit

Most patients who visit a dermatologist have skin spots, birthmarks, lesions, moles or other noticeable skin conditions. Once a condition or lesion has been diagnosed by a dermatologist, whether the spot is benign or malignant, it is not preventative care because it is already there and is being diagnosed.

At this time Skin Cancer Screenings are NOT under the A or B Recommendations which is why it is not covered as a preventative visit.

For more information on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force or the Affordable Care Act please Visit the [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force webpage](https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/) for a complete list of services considered preventive care.

<https://www.healthcare.gov/coverage/preventive-care-benefits/>

<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/>

Sincerely,

The North Atlanta Dermatology Team