

# *UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of North Carolina* Medical Policy Update Bulletin: March 2023

Access a policy listed below for complete details on the latest updates. A comprehensive summary of changes is provided at the bottom of every policy document for your reference. To view a detailed version of this bulletin, click [here](#).

## Take Note

### Quarterly CPT® and HCPCS Code Updates

Beginning Apr. 1, 2023, all applicable Medical Policies, Medical Benefit Drug Policies, and Coverage Determination Guidelines will be updated to reflect the quarterly Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code additions, revisions, and deletions. Refer to the following sources for information on the code updates:

- [American Medical Association. Current Procedural Terminology: CPT®](#)
- [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System: HCPCS Level II](#)

Complete details on impacted policies and corresponding code edits will be provided in the April 2023 edition of the Medical Policy Update Bulletin.

### Updated Reference Links to North Carolina Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policies

Effective Mar. 1, 2023, the following Medical Policies and Coverage Determination Guidelines have been updated to reflect the most current reference link(s) to applicable *North Carolina Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policies*:

- Airway Clearance Devices (for North Carolina Only)
- Beds and Mattresses (for North Carolina Only)
- Cochlear Implants (for North Carolina Only)
- Continuous Glucose Monitoring and Insulin Delivery for Managing Diabetes (for North Carolina Only)
- Durable Medical Equipment, Orthotics, Medical Supplies, and Repairs/ Replacements (for North Carolina Only)
- Electrical and Ultrasound Bone Growth Stimulators (for North Carolina Only)
- Electrical Stimulation for the Treatment of Pain and Muscle Rehabilitation (for North Carolina Only)
- Gene Expression Profiling for Breast Cancer (for North Carolina Only)
- Hearing Aids and Bone Anchored Hearing Aids (for North Carolina Only)
- Home Health Care, Skilled Care, and Custodial Care (for North Carolina Only)
- Home Traction Therapy (for North Carolina Only)
- Hysterectomy (for North Carolina Only)
- Manipulative Therapy (for North Carolina Only)
- Manual Wheelchairs (for North Carolina Only)
- Obstructive and Central Sleep Apnea Treatment (for North Carolina Only)
- Oral and Enteral Nutrition (for North Carolina Only)
- Panniculectomy and Body Contouring Procedures (for North Carolina Only)
- Patient Lifts (for North Carolina Only)
- Plagiocephaly and Craniosynostosis Treatment (for North Carolina Only)
- Power Mobility Devices (for North Carolina Only)
- Prosthetic Devices, Wigs, Specialized, Microprocessor or Myoelectric Limbs (for North Carolina Only)
- Skin and Soft Tissue Substitutes (for North Carolina Only)
- Speech Generating Devices (for North Carolina Only)
- Speech Language Pathology Services (for North Carolina Only)
- Surgical Treatment for Spine Pain (for North Carolina Only)
- Wheelchair Options and Accessories (for North Carolina Only)
- Wheelchair Seating (for North Carolina Only)

## Medical Policy Updates

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Articular Cartilage Defect Repairs	Revised	May 1, 2023
Catheter Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation	Revised	May 1, 2023
Continuous Glucose Monitoring and Insulin Delivery for Managing Diabetes (for North Carolina Only)	Updated	May 1, 2023
Deep Brain and Cortical Stimulation (for North Carolina Only)	Revised	May 1, 2023
Elective Inpatient Services	Updated	May 1, 2023
Hearing Aids and Devices Including Wearable, Bone-Anchored and Semi-Implantable (for North Carolina Only)	Updated	May 1, 2023
Outpatient Surgical Procedures – Site of Service (for North Carolina Only)	Revised	May 1, 2023
Prostate Surgeries and Interventions (for North Carolina Only)	Revised	Mar. 1, 2023
Total Artificial Disc Replacement for the Cervical Spine (for North Carolina Only)	Revised	May 1, 2023
Sacral Nerve Stimulation for Urinary and Fecal Indications	New	Jun. 1, 2023

## Coverage Determination Guideline Updates

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulators (for North Carolina Only)	Replaced	Mar. 1, 2023

## General Information

The inclusion of a health service (e.g., test, drug, device or procedure) in this bulletin indicates only that UnitedHealthcare is adopting a new policy and/or updated, revised, replaced or retired an existing policy; it does not imply that UnitedHealthcare provides coverage for the health service. Note that most benefit plan documents exclude from benefit coverage health services identified as investigational or .unproven/not medically necessary. Physicians and other health care professionals may not seek or collect payment from a member for services not covered by the applicable benefit plan unless first obtaining the member's written consent, acknowledging that the service is not covered by the benefit plan and that they will be billed directly for the service.

Note: The absence of a policy does not automatically indicate or imply coverage. As always, coverage for a health service must be determined in accordance with the member's benefit plan and any applicable federal or state regulatory requirements. Additionally, UnitedHealthcare reserves the right to review the clinical evidence supporting the safety and effectiveness of a medical technology prior to rendering a coverage determination.

UnitedHealthcare respects the expertise of the physicians, health care professionals, and their staff who participate in our network. Our goal is to support you and your patients in making the most informed decisions regarding the choice of quality and cost-effective care, and to support practice staff with a simple and predictable administrative experience. The Medical Policy Update Bulletin was developed to share important information regarding UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of North Carolina Medical Policy, Medical Benefit Drug Policy, Coverage Determination Guideline, and Utilization Review Guideline updates. When information in this bulletin conflicts with applicable state and/or federal law, UnitedHealthcare follows such applicable federal and/or state law.

## Policy Update Classifications

### *New*

New clinical coverage criteria have been adopted for a health service (e.g., test, drug, device or procedure)

### *Updated*

An existing policy has been reviewed and changes have not been made to the clinical coverage criteria; however, items such as the clinical evidence, FDA information, and/or list(s) of applicable codes may have been updated

### *Revised*

An existing policy has been reviewed and revisions have been made to the clinical coverage criteria

### *Replaced*

An existing policy has been replaced with a new or different policy

### *Retired*

The health service(s) addressed in the policy are no longer being managed or are considered to be proven/medically necessary and are therefore not excluded as unproven/not medically necessary services, unless coverage guidelines or criteria are otherwise documented in another policy



The complete library of Medical Policies, Medical Benefit Drug Policies, Coverage Determination Guidelines, and Utilization Review Guidelines for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of North Carolina is available at [UHCprovider.com/NC](https://UHCprovider.com/NC) > Community Plan/Medicaid > Current Policies and Clinical Guidelines > [UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of North Carolina Medical & Drug Policies and Coverage Determination Guidelines](#).