

# UnitedHealth Premium program Recognition programs

Use this document with the UnitedHealth Premium® program methodology document at [UnitedHealthPremium.uhc.com](https://UnitedHealthPremium.uhc.com). Please review all methodology documents to understand the entire Premium program methodology.

## Overview

The UnitedHealth Premium program includes National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) recognition programs in the safe, timely and effective quality care evaluation. The Premium program adds 25 measures or 10% of the physician's total measures – whichever is larger – as compliant, to the safe, timely and effective care evaluation for physicians who have achieved recognition in 1 or more of these programs applicable to their Premium specialty.

For example, if a physician has 144 total measures, we multiply the physician's total measures by 10% ( $144 * .10 = 14$ ), then compare the result to 25 and select the larger value ( $25 > 14$ ). In this example, we add 25 compliant measures to the physician's safe, timely and effective care evaluation.

Heart/stroke recognition	Diabetes recognition	
<p><b>Family medicine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family practice</li> <li>• General practice</li> <li>• Preventive medicine</li> </ul> <p><b>Internal medicine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geriatric medicine</li> <li>• Internal medicine</li> <li>• Pediatric internal medicine</li> </ul> <p><b>Pulmonology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pulmonary medicine</li> </ul> <p><b>Cardiology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiac diagnostic</li> <li>• Cardiology</li> <li>• Cardiovascular disease</li> <li>• Interventional cardiology</li> <li>• Clinical cardiac electrophysiology</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cardiology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiac diagnostic</li> <li>• Cardiology</li> <li>• Cardiovascular disease</li> <li>• Interventional cardiology</li> <li>• Clinical cardiac electrophysiology</li> </ul> <p><b>Endocrinology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism</li> </ul> <p><b>Family medicine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family practice</li> <li>• General practice</li> <li>• Preventive medicine</li> </ul>	<p><b>Internal medicine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geriatric medicine</li> <li>• Internal medicine</li> <li>• Pediatric internal medicine</li> </ul> <p><b>Nephrology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nephrology</li> </ul> <p><b>OB-GYN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gynecology</li> <li>• Obstetrics</li> <li>• Obstetrics and gynecology</li> </ul> <p><b>Pediatrics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adolescent medicine</li> <li>• Pediatric adolescent</li> <li>• Pediatrics</li> </ul>



## Important notes about the UnitedHealth Premium program

The information from the UnitedHealth Premium program is not an endorsement of a particular physician or health care professional's suitability for the health care needs of any particular member. UnitedHealthcare does not practice medicine nor provide health care services. Physicians are solely responsible for medical judgments and treatments supplied. A Premium Care Physician designation does not guarantee the quality of health care services members will receive from a physician and does not guarantee the outcome of any health care services members will receive.

The fact that a physician doesn't have a Premium Care Physician designation doesn't mean the physician doesn't provide quality health care services. All physicians in the UnitedHealthcare Network have met certain minimum credentialing requirements. Regardless of whether a physician has received a Premium Care Physician designation, members have access to all physicians in the UnitedHealthcare Network, as further described under the member's benefit plan.

There are various reasons why a physician may not be designated as a Premium Care Physician. A physician may not receive a Premium Care designation because that physician has not been evaluated for a Premium Care designation. This occurs when a physician does not practice in a specialty that is evaluated by the Premium program, or when a physician's evaluation is in process. It also occurs when a physician does not have enough health plan claims data to be evaluated, but it is not an indicator of the total number of patients treated by the physician or the number of procedures performed by the physician. Rather, it reflects the statistical requirements of the Premium program, which includes only health plan claims associated with specific Premium program measures and relevant to the physician's specialty. In some cases, there may not be enough data to complete the analytic process from a statistical standpoint.

**UnitedHealthcare informs members that designations are intended only as a guide when choosing a physician and should not be the sole factor in selecting a physician. As with all programs that evaluate performance based on analysis of a sample, there is a risk of error.** There is a risk of error in the claims data used in the evaluation, the calculations used in the evaluation, and the way the Premium program determined that an individual physician was responsible for the treatment of the patient's condition. **Physicians have the opportunity to review this data and submit a reconsideration request.**

UnitedHealthcare uses statistical testing to compare a physician's results to expected or normative results. There is a risk of error in statistical tests when applied to the data and a result based on statistical testing is not a guarantee of correct inference or classification. We inform members that it is important that they consider many factors and information when selecting a physician. **We also inform our members that they may wish to discuss designations with a physician before choosing him or her, or confer with their current physician for advice on selecting other physicians.**

The information contained in this document is subject to change.

**Learn more**

**UnitedHealth Premium Program | [UnitedHealthPremium.uhc.com](https://UnitedHealthPremium.uhc.com)**  
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