

2019 Care Provider Manual

Physician, Health Care Professional, Facility and
Ancillary Care

Missouri

Welcome

Welcome to the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan provider manual. This up-to-date reference PDF allows you and your staff to find important information such as how to process a claim and prior authorization. This manual also includes important phone numbers and websites on the How to Contact Us page. Find operational policy changes and other electronic tools on our website at UHCprovider.com.

CLICK THE FOLLOWING LINKS TO ACCESS DIFFERENT MANUALS:

- [UnitedHealthcare Administrative Guide](#) for Commercial and Medicare Advantage member information. Some states may also have Medicare Advantage information in their Community Plan manual.
- A different Community Plan manual: go to UHCprovider.com/plans > select the desired state.

EASILY FIND INFORMATION IN THIS MANUAL USING THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

1. Select CTRL+F.
2. Type in the key word.
3. Press Enter.

If available, use the binoculars icon on the top right hand side of the PDF to search for information and topics. We greatly appreciate your participation in our program and the care you offer our members.



If you have questions about the information or material in this manual, or about our policies, please call [Provider Services](#).

Important Information about the Use of This Manual

If there is a conflict between your Agreement and this care provider manual, use this manual unless your Agreement states you should use it, instead. If there is a conflict between your Agreement, this manual and applicable federal and state statutes and regulations and/or state contracts, applicable federal and state statutes and regulations and/or state contracts will control. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan reserves the right to supplement this manual to help ensure its terms and conditions remain in compliance with relevant federal and state statutes and regulations.

This manual will be amended as policies change.

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

In this manual, we refer to your Participation Agreement as “Agreement”.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Missouri provides benefits and service to members, including:

- **TANF** – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- **CHIP** – Children’s Health Insurance Program



If you have questions about the information in this manual or about our policies, go to [UHCprovider.com](https://www.uhcprovider.com) or call Provider Services at 866-815-5334.

Our Approach to Health Care

WHOLE PERSON CARE MODEL

The Whole Person Care (WPC) program seeks to empower UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members enrolled in Medicaid, care providers and our community to improve care coordination and elevate outcomes.

Targeting UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members with chronic complex conditions who often use health care, the program helps address their needs holistically. WPC examines medical, behavioral and social/environmental concerns to help members get the right care from the right care provider in the right place and at the right time.

The program provides interventions to members with complex medical, behavioral, social, pharmacy and specialty needs, resulting in better quality of life, improved access to health care and reduced expenses. WPC provides a care management/coordination team that helps increase member engagement, offers resources to fill gaps in care and develops personalized health goals using evidence-based clinical guidelines. This approach is essential to improving the health and well-being of the individuals, families and communities UnitedHealthcare Community Plan serves. WPC provides:

- Market-specific care management encompassing medical, behavioral and social care.
- Extended care team including primary care provider (PCP), pharmacist, medical and behavioral director,

community health worker (CHW), registered nurse, behavioral health advocate, and peer specialist.

- Field-based interventions engage members, connecting them to needed resources, care and services.
- Individualized and multidisciplinary care plan.
- Assistance with appointments with PCP and coordinating appointments. The CHW refers members to an RN, behavioral health advocate or other specialists as required for complex needs.
- Education and support with complex conditions.
- Tools for helping members engage with providers, such as appointment reminders and help with transportation.
- Foundation to build trust and relationships with hard-to-engage members.

The goals of the WPC program are to:

- Lower avoidable admissions and unnecessary ER visits, measured outcomes by inpatient (IP) admission and emergency room (ER) rates.
- Improve access to PCP and other needed services, measured by number of PCP visit rates within identified time frames.
- Identify and discuss behavioral health needs, measured by number of BH care provider visits within identified time frames.
- Improve access to pharmacy.
- Identify and remove social and environmental barriers to care.
- Improve health outcomes, measured by improved Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Star Ratings metrics.
- Empower the member to manage their complex/chronic illness or problem and care transitions.
- Improve coordination of care through dedicated staff resources and to meet unique needs.

- Engage community care and care provider networks to help ensure access to affordable care and the appropriate use of services.

SPECIALTY CARE MANAGERS INCLUDE:

- Maternal and child health care managers, who follow pregnant women in the Healthy First Steps® program. A care manager coordinates the member's care, including health education and outreach from the onset of pregnancy through the postpartum checkup.
- Care managers for members that have qualifying conditions including elevated lead levels.
- Care managers for children/adolescents in foster care.
- Care managers for members requiring private duty nursing.
- Disease management.

We will be offering disease management programs for:

- Major depression
- Asthma
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

Care Provider Resources

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan manages a comprehensive care provider network of independent practitioners and facilities. The network includes health care professionals such as PCPs, specialists, medical facilities, allied health professionals and ancillary service care providers. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan offers several options to support care providers who need assistance.

Referring Your Patient

To refer your patient who is a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member to WPC, call Member Services at **800-587-5187**, TTY 711. You may also call Provider Services at **866-815-5334**.

SECURE CARE PROVIDER WEBSITE

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan provides a secure portal to network care providers, facilities and medical administrative staff called Link at UHCprovider.com. This website offers an innovative suite of online health care management tools, including the ability to view all online transactions for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members. It can help you save time, improve efficiency and reduce errors caused by conventional claims submission practices.



To access Link, the secure care provider website, go to UHCprovider.com and either sign in or create a user ID for Link. You will receive your user ID and password within 48 hours.

The secure care provider website lets you:

- Verify member eligibility including secondary coverage.
- Review benefits and coverage limit.
- Check prior authorization status.
- Access remittance advice and review recoveries.
- Review your preventive health measure report.
- Access the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) toolset.
- Search for CPT codes. Type the CPT code in the header search box on UHCprovider.com, and the search results will display all documents and/or web pages containing that code.
- Find certain web pages more quickly using direct URLs. You'll see changes in the way we direct you to specific web pages on our UHCprovider.com provider portal. You can now use certain direct URLs, which helps you find and remember specific webpages easily and quickly. You can access our most used and popular web pages on UHCprovider.com by typing in that page's direct URL identified by a forward slash in the web address, e.g., UHCprovider.com/claims. When you see that forward slash in our web links, you can copy the direct URL into your web page address bar to quickly access that page.

PROVIDER SERVICES

Provider Services is the primary contact for care providers who require assistance. It is staffed with representatives trained specifically for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.



[Provider Services](#) can assist you with questions on MO HealthNet benefits, eligibility, claim decision, forms required to report specific services, billing questions and more.

Provider Services works closely with all departments in UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

NETWORK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Within UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, the Network Management Department can help you with your contract, credentialing and in-network services. The department has network account managers and provider advocates who are available for visits, contracting, credentialing and other related issues.



If you need to speak with a network contract manager about credentialing status or contracting, call our [Network Management Phone Team](#).

CULTURAL COMPETENCY RESOURCES

To help you meet membership needs, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan has developed a Cultural Competency Program. Linguistic and cultural barriers can negatively affect access to health care participation. You must help UnitedHealthcare Community Plan meet this obligation for our members.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan offers the following support services:

- **Language Interpretation Line:** We provide oral interpreter services 24 hours a day, seven days a week to our members free of charge. You can access the language interpretation line by calling Member Services at 866-292-0359.
- **Cultural member materials:** We provide simplified materials for members with limited English proficiency and who speak languages other than English or Spanish. We also provide materials for visually impaired members.
- Member Service language capacity.

CARE PROVIDER PRIVILEGES

To help our members access appropriate care and minimize out-of-pocket costs, you must have privileges at applicable in-network facilities or arrangements with an in-network provider to admit and provide facility services. This includes full admitting hospital privileges, ambulatory surgery center privileges and/or dialysis center privileges.

COMPLIANCE

HIPAA mandates NPI usage in all standard transactions (claims, eligibility, remittance advice, claims status request/response, and authorization request/response) for all health care providers who handle business electronically.

EVIDENCE-BASED CLINICAL REVIEW CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan uses MCG Care Guidelines (formally Milliman Care Guidelines) for care determinations.

How to Contact Us

Topic	Contact	Information
Benefits	UHCprovider.com/benefits 866-815-5334	Confirm a member's benefits and/or prior authorization.
Cardiology Prior Authorization	For prior authorization or a current list of CPT codes that require prior authorization, visit UHCprovider.com/cardiology . 866-889-8054	Request prior authorization of the procedures and services outlined in this manual's prior authorization requirements.
Case Management Person-Centered Care Model (Care Management/ Disease Management, also known as Whole-Person Care Program)	866-815-5334	Refer high-risk members (e.g., asthma, diabetes, obesity) and members who need private duty nursing
Chiropractor Care/Adult Pain Management	myoptumhealthphysicalhealth.com 800-873-4575 or 866-815-5334 (for claims questions)	We provide members older than 21 with up to six visits per calendar year with an in-network chiropractor. This benefit does not need prior authorization.
Behavioral Health Claim Disputes (Reconsiderations and Appeals)	UHCprovider.com UnitedHealthcare Community Plan P.O. Box 5240 Kingston, NY 12402-5240 Fax: 801-994-1224 UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Grievances and Appeals P.O. Box 31364 Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364 Fax: 801-994-1082	Ask about behavioral claim disputes.

Topic	Contact	Information
Claims	<p>Use the Link Provider Portal at UHCprovider.com/claims</p> <p>866-815-5334</p> <p>Mailing address: UnitedHealthcare Community Plan P.O. Box 5240 Kingston, NY 12402-5240</p> <p>For FedEx (use for large packages/more than 500 pages): UnitedHealthcare Community Plan 1355 S 4700 West, Suite 100 Salt Lake City, UT 84104</p>	<p>Verify a claim status or get information about proper completion or submission of claims.</p>
Claim Disputes	<p>Link at UHCprovider.com</p> <p>Reconsiderations mailing address: UnitedHealthcare Community Plan P.O. Box 5240 Kingston, NY 12402-5240</p> <p>Fax: 801-994-1224</p> <p>Appeals mailing address: UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Grievances and Appeals P.O. Box 31364 Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364</p> <p>Fax: 801-994-1082</p>	<p>Ask about claim issues such as overpayment, underpayment, payment denial, or an original or corrected claim determination you do not agree with.</p>
Claim Overpayments	<p>See the Overpayment section for requirements before sending your request.</p> <p>Sign in to UHCprovider.com/claims to access Link, then select the UnitedHealthcare Online app</p> <p>866-815-5334</p> <p>Mailing address: UnitedHealthcare Community Plan ATTN: Recovery Services P.O. Box 740804 Atlanta, GA 30374-0800</p>	<p>Ask about claim overpayments.</p>

Topic	Contact	Information
Electronic Data Intake Claim Issues	ac_edi_ops@uhc.com 800-210-8315	Ask about claims issues or questions.
Electronic Data Intake Log-on Issues	800-842-1109	Information is also available at UHCprovider.com/edi .
Eligibility	To access the app, sign in to UHCprovider.com/eligibility to access Link, then select the UnitedHealthcare Online app emomed.com 866-815-5334	Confirm member eligibility.
Enterprise Voice Portal	877-842-3210	The Enterprise Voice Portal provides self-service functionality or call steering prior to speaking with a contact center agent.
Fraud and Abuse	866-242-7727 Missouri Fraud Control Unit Fraud and Abuse Hotline 800-286-3932	Notify us of suspected fraud or abuse by a care provider or member. You may also call the state's fraud unit directly.
Healthy First Steps/Obstetrics (OB) Referral	800-599-5985 Fax: 877-353-6913	Refer high-risk OB members. Fax initial prenatal visit form.
LabCorp for Providers	800-833-3984	LabCorp is the preferred lab provider.
Medical Claim Disputes (Reconsiderations and Appeals)	Sign in to UHCprovider.com/claims to access Link 866-815-5334 Reconsiderations mailing address: UnitedHealthcare Community Plan P.O. Box 5240 Kingston, NY 12402-5240 Appeals mailing address: Community Plan Grievances and Appeals P.O. Box 31364 Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364	Claim issues include overpayment, underpayment, payment denial, or an original or corrected claim determination you don't agree with.

Topic	Contact	Information
Member Services	866-292-0359	Assist members with issues or concerns. Available 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday.
Mental Health & Substance Abuse (Optum Behavioral Health)	866-815-5334	Refer members for behavioral health services. (A PCP referral is not required.)
Missouri Department of Social Services/ HealthNet	573-751-3425 dss.mo.gov > mhd > providers	Contact Medicaid directly. View website for more provider information.
Multilingual/ Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) Services	866-292-0359 TTY 711	Available 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday, except state-designated holidays.
National Credentialing Center (VETTS line)	877-842-3210	Self-service functionality to update or check credentialing information.
National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)	nppes.cms.hhs.gov 800-465-3203	Apply for a National Provider Identifier (NPI).
Network Management Team	800-284-0626 mo_network_mgmt@uhc.com	Ask about contracting and care provider services.
NurseLine	866-351-6827	Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Obstetrics and Baby Care	Healthy First Steps 800-599-5985 Fax: 877-353-6913 UHCBabyBlocks.com	Links for pregnant moms and newborn babies.
Optum Support Center	LinkSupport@optum.com 855-819-5909	Available 7 a.m. – 9 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday; 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. Central Time, Saturday; and 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Central Time, Sunday.

Topic	Contact	Information
Pharmacy Services	MO HealthNet Pharmacy Services 800-392-2161 or 573-751-6527	Prescription medication received at the pharmacy is covered by MO HealthNet.
Prior Authorization/ Notification for Pharmacy	UHCprovider.com/priorauth 800-392-8030 Fax: 573-636-6470	Request authorization for medications as required.
Prior Authorization/ Notification of Health Services	UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan > Prior Authorization and Notification Resources UHCprovider.com/paan > Prior Authorization and Notification tool on Link 800-366-7304	Request prior authorizations for services as required.
Provider Services	UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan 866-815-5334	Available 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday.
Radiology Prior Authorization	UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan > Prior Authorization and Notification Resources > Radiology Prior Authorization and Notification Program 866-889-8054	Request prior authorization of the procedures and services outlined in this manual’s prior authorization requirements. Link shows a complete and current list of CPT codes that require prior authorizations.
Referrals	UHCprovider.com > Click Menu on top right, then select Referrals or use Link Provider Services: 866-815-5334	
Tobacco Free Quit Line	800-784-8669	Ask about services for quitting tobacco/ smoking.
Transportation/MTM	866-292-0359	Call MTM to schedule transportation or for transportation assistance. To arrange non-urgent transportation, please call three days in advance.
Utilization Management	866-815-5334	UM helps avoid overuse and under-use of medical services by making clinical coverage decisions based on available evidence-based guidelines. Request a copy of our UM guidelines or information about the program.

Topic	Contact	Information
Vaccines for Children (VFC) program	800-219-3224 or 573-751-6124 Fax: 573-526-5220 health.com.gov > living > wellness health.mo.gov > immunizations > vfc-providers	Care providers must participate in the VFC Program administered by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and must use the free vaccine when administering vaccine to qualified MO HealthNet-eligible children. Care providers must enroll as VFC providers with DHSS to bill for the administration of the vaccine.
Vision Services	MARCH Vision Care 844-616-2724	Prior authorization is required for all routine eye exams and hardware. Authorizations must be obtained from MARCH Vision Care.
Whole Person Care Person-Centered Care Model (Care Management/ Disease Management)	866-815-5334	Refer high-risk members (e.g., asthma, diabetes, obesity) and members who need private-duty nursing.
Website for Missouri Community Plan	UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan	Access your state-specific Community Plan information on this website.

Chapter 2: Care Provider Standards & Policies

General Care Provider Responsibilities

NON-DISCRIMINATION

You can't refuse an enrollment/assignment or disenroll a member or discriminate against them solely based on age, sex, race, physical or mental handicap, national origin, religion, type of illness or condition. You may only direct the member to another care provider type if that illness or condition may be better treated by someone else.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CARE PROVIDERS AND MEMBERS

The UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Agreement is not intended to interfere with your relationship with members as patients or with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's ability to administer its quality improvement, utilization management or credentialing programs. Instead, we require communication between PCPs and other participating care providers. This helps ensure UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members receive both quality and cost-effective health services.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members and/or their representative(s) may take part in the planning and implementation of their care. To help ensure members and/or their representative(s) have this chance, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requires you:

1. Educate members, and/or their representative(s) about their health needs.
2. Share findings of history and physical exams.
3. Discuss options (without regard to plan coverage), treatment side effects and symptoms management. This includes any self-administered alternative or information that may help them make care decisions.

4. Recognize members (and/or their representatives) have the right to choose the final course of action among treatment options.
5. Collaborate with the plan care manager in developing a specific care plan for members enrolled in High Risk Care Management.

PROVIDE OFFICIAL NOTICE

Write to us within 10 calendar days if any of the following events happen:

1. Bankruptcy or insolvency.
2. Indictment, arrest, felony conviction or any criminal charge related to your practice or profession.
3. Suspension, exclusion, debarment or other sanction from a state or federally funded health care program.
4. Loss or suspension of your license to practice.
5. Departure from your practice for any reason.
6. Closure of practice.

You may use the care provider demographic information update on form for demographic changes or update NPI information for care providers in your office. This form is located at UHCprovider.com > Menu > Find a Care Provider > Care Provider Paper Demographic Information Update Form.

TRANSITION MEMBER CARE FOLLOWING TERMINATION OF YOUR PARTICIPATION

If your network participation ends, you must transition your UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members to timely and useful care. This may include providing service(s) for a reasonable time at our in-network rate. Provider Services is available to help you and our members with the transition.

ARRANGE SUBSTITUTE COVERAGE

If you cannot provide care and must find a substitute, arrange for care from other UnitedHealthcare Community Plan care providers and care professionals.



For the most current listing of network care providers and health care professionals, review our care provider and health care professional directory at UHCprovider.com > Find Dr.

ADMINISTRATIVE TERMINATIONS FOR INACTIVITY

Up-to-date directories are a critical part of providing our members with the information they need to take care of their health. To accurately list care providers who treat UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members, we:

1. End Agreements with care providers who have not submitted claims for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members for one year and have voluntarily stopped participation in our network.
2. Inactivate any tax identification numbers (TINs) with no claims submitted for one year. This is not a termination of the Provider Agreement. Call UnitedHealthcare Community Plan to reactivate a TIN.

CHANGING AN EXISTING TIN OR ADDING A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Please complete and email the Care Provider Demographic Information Update Form and your W-9 form to the address listed on the bottom of the form. The W-9 form and the Care Provider Demographic Information Update Form are available at UHCprovider.com > Menu > Find a Care Provider > Care Provider Paper Demographic Information Update Form.

Otherwise, complete detailed information about the change, the effective date of the change and a W-9 on your office letterhead. Email this information to the number on the bottom of the demographic change request form.

UPDATING YOUR PRACTICE OR FACILITY INFORMATION

You can update your practice information through the Provider Data Management application on UHCprovider.com. Go to UHCprovider.com > Menu >

Find a Care Provider > Care Provider Paper Demographic Information Update Form. Or submit your change by:

- Completing the Provider Demographic Change Form and faxing it to the appropriate number listed on the bottom of the form.
- Calling our Enterprise Voice Portal.

AFTER-HOURS CARE

Life-threatening situations require the immediate services of an emergency department. Urgent care can provide quick after-hours treatment and is appropriate for infections, fever, and symptoms of cold or flu.

If a member calls you after hours asking about urgent care, and you can't fit them in your schedule, refer them to an urgent care center.

PARTICIPATE IN QUALITY INITIATIVES

You must help our quality assessment and improvement activities. You must also follow our clinical guidelines, member safety (risk reduction) efforts and data confidentiality procedures.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan clinical quality initiatives are based on optimal delivery of health care for particular diseases and conditions. This is determined by United States government agencies and professional specialty societies. See Chapter 10 for more details on the initiatives.

PROVIDE ACCESS TO YOUR RECORDS

You must provide access to any medical, financial or administrative records related to services you provide to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members within 14 calendar days of our request. We may request you respond sooner for cases involving alleged fraud and abuse, a member grievance/appeal, or a regulatory or accreditation agency requirement. Maintain these records for six years or longer if required by applicable statutes or regulations.

PERFORMANCE DATA

You must allow the plan to use care provider performance data.

COMPLY WITH PROTOCOLS

You must comply with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's and Payer's Protocols, including those contained in this manual.



You may view protocols at UHCprovider.com

OFFICE HOURS

Provide the same office hours of operation to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members as those offered to commercial members.

PROTECT CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEMBER DATA

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members have a right to privacy and confidentiality of all health care data. We only give confidential information to business associates and affiliates who need that information to improve our members' health care experience. We require our associates to protect privacy and abide by privacy law. If a member requests specific medical record information, we will refer the member to you. You agree to comply with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA") and associated regulations. In addition, you will comply with applicable state laws and regulations.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan uses member information for treatment, operations and payment. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan has safeguards to stop unintentional disclosure of protected health information (PHI). This includes passwords, screen savers, firewalls and other computer protection. It also includes shredding information with PHI and all confidential conversations. All staff is trained on HIPAA and confidentiality requirements.

FOLLOW MEDICAL RECORD STANDARDS

Please reference Chapter 9 for Medical Record Standards.

INFORM MEMBERS OF ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

The federal Patient Self-determination Act (PSDA) gives patients the legal right to make choices about their medical care before incapacitating illness or injury through an advance directive. Under the federal act, you provide written information to members on state law about advance treatment directives, about members'

right to accept or refuse treatment, and about your own policies regarding advance directives. To comply with this requirement, we inform members of state laws on advance directives through Member Handbooks and other communications.

If you have a concern about your Agreement with us, send a letter with the details to the address in your contract. A representative will look into your complaint. If you disagree with the outcome, you may file for arbitration. If your concern relates to certain UnitedHealthcare Community Plan procedures, such as the credentialing or care management process, follow the dispute procedures in your Agreement. After following those procedures, if one of us remains dissatisfied, you may file for arbitration.

If we have a concern about your Agreement, we'll send you a letter containing the details. If we can't resolve the complaint through informal discussions, you may file an arbitration proceeding as described in your Agreement. Your Agreement describes where arbitration proceedings are held.

If a member asks to appeal a clinical or coverage determination on their behalf, follow the appeal process in the member's benefit contract or handbook. You may locate the Member Handbook at UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan > Member Information – Plan Details and More.

Also reference Chapter 12 of this manual for information on Claim Reconsiderations, Appeals and Grievances.

Appointment Standards (Missouri DHHS Access and Availability Standards)

Comply with the following appointment availability standards:

PRIMARY CARE

PCPs should arrange appointments for:

- Emergency appointment type: 24 hours, 7 days a week
- Urgent care appointment: within 24 hours
- Routine appointment with symptoms type – within one week or five business days of request, whichever is earlier

- Routine appointment without symptoms type – within 30 calendar days from request
- In-office waiting for appointments: not to exceed one hour of the scheduled appointment time

SPECIALTY CARE

Specialists should arrange appointments for:

- Routine appointment type: within 30 working days of request/referral

PRENATAL CARE

Prenatal care providers should arrange OB/GYN appointments for:

- First and second trimester: within seven calendar days of request
- Third trimester: within three days of request
- High-risk: within three calendar days of identification of high risk

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan periodically conducts surveys to check appointment availability and access standards. All care providers must participate in all activities related to these surveys.

Care Provider Directory

To help ensure we have your most current provider directory information, submit applicable changes to:

For Delegated providers, email your changes to Pacific_DelProv@uhc.com or delprov@uhc.com.

For Non-delegated providers, visit UHCprovider.com for the Provider Demographic Change Submission Form and further instructions.

PROVIDER ATTESTATION:

Confirm your provider data every quarter through Link or by calling Provider Services. If you have received the upgraded My Practice Profile and have editing rights, access Link's My Practice Profile App to make many of the updates required in this section.

Prior Authorization Request

Prior authorization requests may include procedures, services, and/or medication.

Coverage may only be provided if the service or medication is deemed medically necessary, or meets specific requirements provided in the benefit plan.

You should take the following steps before providing medical services and/or medication to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members:

- Verify eligibility at emomed.com using Link at UHCprovider.com/eligibility or by calling Provider Services. Not doing so may result in claim denial.
- Check the member's ID card each time they visit. Verify against photo identification if this is your office practice.
- Get prior authorization from Link:
 1. To access the Prior Authorization app, go to UHCprovider.com, then click **Link**.
 2. Select the **Prior Authorization and Notification app** on Link.
 3. View notification requirements.



You may also find information on UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan > Prior Authorization and Notification Resources

Identify and bill other insurance carriers when appropriate.

If you have questions, please call the UnitedHealthcare Connectivity Help Desk at **866-842-3278**, option 3, 7 a.m. – 9 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday.

Requirements for PCP and Specialists Serving in PCP Role

SPECIALISTS INCLUDE: INTERNAL MEDICINE, PEDIATRICS, OR OBSTETRICIAN/GYNECOLOGY

PCPs are an important partner in the delivery of care, and Missouri's Department of Social Services (DSS) members may seek services from any participating care provider. The Missouri DSS program requires members be assigned to PCPs. We encourage members to develop a relationship with a PCP who can maintain all their medical records and provide overall medical management. These relationships help coordinate care and provide the member a "medical home."

The PCP plays a vital role as a case manager in the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan system by improving health care delivery in four critical areas: access, coordination, continuity and prevention. As such, the PCP manages initial and basic care to members, makes recommendations for specialty and ancillary care, and coordinates all primary care services delivered to our members. The PCP must provide 24 hours a day, seven days a week coverage and backup coverage when they are not available.

Medical doctors (M.D.s), doctors of osteopathy (DOs), nurse practitioners (NPs)* and physician assistants (PAs)* from any of the following practice areas can be PCPs:

- General practice
- Internal medicine
- Family practice
- Pediatrics
- Obstetrics/gynecology

Nurse practitioners may enroll with the state as solo providers, but PAs cannot; they must be part of a group practice.



Members may change their assigned PCP by contacting [Member Services](#) at any time during the month. Customer Service is available 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

We ask members who don't select a PCP during enrollment to select one. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan may auto-assign a PCP to complete the enrollment process.

You may print a monthly Primary Care Provider Panel Roster by visiting [UHCprovider.com](#).

Sign in to [UHCprovider.com](#) > select the UnitedHealthcare Online application on Link > select **Reports** from the **Tools & Resources**. From the Report Search page, select the **Report Type** (PCP Panel Roster) from the pull-down menu > complete additional fields as required > click on the available report you want to view.

The PCP Panel Roster provides a list of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members currently assigned to a care provider.

Females have direct access (without a referral or authorization) to any OB/GYNs, midwives, PAs, or NPs for women's health care services and any non-women's health care issues discovered and treated in the course of receiving women's health care services. This includes

access to ancillary services ordered by women's health care providers (lab, radiology, etc.) in the same way these services would be ordered by a PCP.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan works with members and care providers to help ensure all members understand, support, and benefit from the primary care case management system. The coverage will include availability of 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During non-office hours, access by telephone to a live voice (i.e., an answering service, care provider on-call, hospital switchboard, PCP's nurse triage) will immediately page an on-call medical professional so referrals can be made for non-emergency services. **Recorded messages are not acceptable.**

Consult with other appropriate health care professionals to develop individualized treatment plans for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members with special health care needs.

- Use lists supplied by the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan identifying members who appear to be due preventive health procedures or testing.
- Submit all accurately coded claims or encounters timely.
- Provide all well baby/well-child services.
- Coordinate each UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member's overall course of care.
- Accept UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members at your primary office location at least 20 hours a week for a one MD practice and at least 30 hours per week for a two or more MD practice.
- Be available to members by telephone any time.
- Tell members about appropriate use of emergency services.
- Discuss available treatment options with members.

Responsibilities of PCPs and Specialists Serving in PCP Role

SPECIALISTS INCLUDE INTERNAL MEDICINE, PEDIATRICS, AND/OR OBSTETRICIAN/GYNECOLOGY

In addition to meeting the requirements for all care providers, PCPs must:

- Offer office visits on a timely basis, according to the standards outlined in the Timeliness Standards for Appointment Scheduling section of this guide.
- Conduct a baseline examination during the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member's first appointment.
- Treat UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members' general health care needs. Use nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines.
- Refer services requiring prior authorization to the Prior Authorization Department, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Clinical, or Pharmacy Department as appropriate.
- Admit UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members to the hospital when necessary. Coordinate their medical care while they are hospitalized.
- Respect members' advance directives. Document in a prominent place in the medical record whether or not a member has an advance directive form.
 - Provide covered benefits consistently with professionally recognized standards of health care and in accordance with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan standards. Document procedures for monitoring members' missed appointments as well as outreach attempts to reschedule missed appointments.
 - Transfer medical records upon request. Provide copies of medical records to members upon request at no charge.
 - Allow timely access to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member medical records per contract requirements. Purposes include medical record keeping audits, HEDIS or other quality measure reporting, and quality of care investigations. Such access does not violate HIPAA.
 - Maintain a clean and structurally sound office that meets applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Americans with Disabilities (ADA) standards.
 - Complying with the Missouri DSS Access and Availability standards for scheduling emergency, urgent care and routine visits. Appointment Standards are covered in Chapter 2 of this manual.

Rural Health Clinic, Federally Qualified Health Center or Primary Care Clinic

Members may choose a Rural Health Clinic (RHC), a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or a Primary Care Clinic (PCC) as their PCP.

- **Rural Health Clinic:** The RHC program helps increase access to primary care services for Medicaid and Medicare members in rural communities. RHCs can be public, nonprofit or for-profit health care facilities. They must be located in rural, underserved areas.
- **Federally Qualified Health Center:** An FQHC is a center or clinic that provides primary care and other services. These services include:
 - Preventive (wellness) health services from a care provider, PA, NP and/or social worker.
 - Mental health services.
 - Immunizations (shots).
 - Home nurse visits.
- **Primary Care Clinic:** A PCC is a medical facility focusing on the initial treatment of medical ailments. In most cases, the conditions seen at the clinic are not serious or life threatening. If a condition is discovered at a primary care clinic that may be dangerous, the PCC may refer the member to a specialist. Doctors at these clinics are usually internists, family physicians and pediatricians.

Primary Care Provider Checklist

Take the following steps when providing services to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members:

- Verify eligibility using Link at [UHCprovider.com/eligibility](https://www.uhcprovider.com/eligibility) or by calling Provider Services.
- Verify member identity with photo identification, if this is your office practice.

- Get prior authorization from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, if required. Visit UHCprovider.com/priorauth to locate and view the current prior authorization information and notification requirements.
- Refer to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan participating specialists unless we authorize otherwise.
- Identify and bill other insurance carriers when appropriate.
- Bill all services provided to a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member either electronically or on a CMS 1500 claim form. See Chapter 11 for more information on submitting forms.

Specialist Care Providers Responsibilities

In addition to applicable requirements for all care providers, specialists must:

- Contact the PCP to coordinate the care/services.
- Provide specialty care medical services to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members recommended by their PCP or who self-refer.
- Verify the eligibility of the member before providing covered specialty care services.
- Provide only those covered specialty care services, unless otherwise authorized.
- Provide the PCP copies of all medical data, reports and discharge summaries resulting from the specialist's care.
- Note all findings and recommendations in the member's medical record. Share this information in writing with the PCP.
- Maintain staff privileges at one UnitedHealthcare Community Plan participating hospital at a minimum.
- Report infectious diseases, lead toxicity and other conditions as required by state and local laws.
- Comply with the Missouri DSS Access and Availability standards for scheduling routine visits. Appointment standards are covered in Chapter 2 of this manual.
- Provide anytime coverage. PCPs and specialists serving in the PCP role must be available to members by phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Or they must have arrangements for phone coverage

by another UnitedHealthcare Community Plan participating PCP or obstetrician. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan tracks and follows up on all instances of PCP or obstetrician unavailability.

Specialists may use medical residents in all specialty care settings under the supervision of fully credentialed UnitedHealthcare Community Plan specialty attending care providers.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan also conducts periodic access surveys to monitor for after-hours access. PCPs and obstetricians serving in the PCP role must take part in all survey-related activities.

Prenatal Care Responsibilities

Pregnant UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members should only receive care from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan participating providers.



Notify UnitedHealthcare Community Plan as soon as a member confirms pregnancy. This helps ensure appropriate follow-up and coordination by the [UnitedHealthcare Healthy First Steps](#) coordinator.

If you have questions, call [Healthy First Steps](#). To begin patient outreach, fax the prenatal assessment form.

An obstetrician does not need approval from the member's care provider for prenatal care, testing or obstetrical procedures. Obstetricians may give the pregnant member a written prescription at any UnitedHealthcare Community Plan participating radiology and imaging facility listed in the care provider directory.

You must provide the following information to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan when the pregnancy is confirmed:

- Patient's name and member ID number
- Obstetrician's name, phone number, and member ID number
- Facility name
- Expected date of confinement (EDC)
- Planned vaginal or cesarean delivery
- Any concomitant diagnoses that could affect pregnancy or delivery
- Obstetrical risk factors
- Gravida

- Parity
- Number of living children
- Previous care for this pregnancy
- Complying with the DSS Access and Availability standards for scheduling prenatal visits.

An obstetrician does not need approval from the member's care provider for prenatal care, testing or obstetrical procedures. Obstetricians may give the pregnant member a written prescription to present at any of the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan participating radiology and imaging facilities listed in the provider directory.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Services

Childhood lead poisoning prevention services may include screening, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up. All children enrolled in MO HealthNet Medicaid, regardless of whether coverage is funded through title XIX or XXI, are required to receive blood lead screening tests at ages 12 months and 24 months. For more information, see the CMS documents Screening Young Children for Lead Poisoning and Managing Elevated Blood Lead Levels among Young Children.

Ancillary Care Provider Responsibilities

Ancillary care providers include freestanding radiology, freestanding clinical labs, home health, hospice, dialysis, durable medical equipment, infusion care, therapy, ambulatory surgery centers, freestanding sleep centers and other non-care providers. PCPs and specialist care providers must use the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan ancillary network.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan participating ancillary providers should maintain sufficient facilities, equipment, and personnel to provide timely access to medically necessary covered services.

Ancillary Care Provider Checklist

Take the following steps when providing services to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members:

- Verify the member's enrollment before rendering services. Go to emomed.com Link at UHCprovider.com or contact [Provider Services](#). Failure to verify member enrollment and assignment may result in claim denial.
- Check the member's ID card each time the member has services. Verify against photo ID if this is your office practice.
- Get prior authorization from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, if required. Visit UHCprovider.com/priorauth.
- Identify and bill other insurance carriers, when appropriate.

Chapter 3: Care Provider Office Procedures and Member Benefits

Assignment to PCP Panel Roster

Once a member is assigned a PCP, view the panel rosters electronically on the UHCprovider.com application on Link. The portal requires a unique user name and password combination to gain access.

Each month, PCP panel size is monitored by reviewing PCP to member ratio reports. When a PCP's panel approaches the max limit, it is removed from auto-assignment. The state requires PCPs to send notice when their panels reach 85% capacity. To update the PCP panel limits, send a written request.

Sign in to UHCprovider.com > select Link > select Reports from the Tools & Resources. From the Report Search page, select the Report Type (PCP Panel Roster) from the pull-down menu > complete additional fields as required > click on the available report you want to view.

Choosing a Primary Care Provider

Each enrolled UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member either chooses or is assigned a PCP. The assignment considers the distance to the PCP, the PCP's capacity and if the PCP is accepting new members. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will assign members to the closest and appropriate PCP.

Depending on the member's age, medical condition and location, the choice of PCP may cover a variety of practice areas, such as family practice, general practice, internal medicine, pediatrics and obstetrics. If the member changes the initial PCP assignment, the effective date

will be the day the member requested the change. If a member asks UnitedHealthcare Community Plan to change the PCP at any other time, the change will be effective on the request date.

Medically Necessary Service

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan only pays for medically necessary services.

MEDICALLY NECESSARY DEFINITION

Medically necessary health care services or supplies are medically appropriate and:

- Necessary to meet members' basic health needs.
- Cost-efficient and appropriate for the covered services.

Member Assignment

ASSIGNMENT TO UNITEDHEALTHCARE COMMUNITY PLAN

Missouri DSS assigns eligible members to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan daily. We manage the member's care on the date the member is enrolled until the member is disenrolled from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan. Missouri DSS makes disenrollment decisions, not UnitedHealthcare Community Plan. Disenrollment usually takes effect at month's end, but at times may occur mid-month.

At enrollment time, each member receives a welcome packet that includes a copy of the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Member Handbook. The handbook explains the member's health care rights and responsibilities through UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.



Obtain copies of the Member Handbook online by contacting [UnitedHealthcare Community Plan](#).

IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT CHANGES:

Immediate enrollment into managed care means the responsible payer for members, including newborns, may change from Fee for Service (FFS) to Medicaid Managed Care during hospitalization. To avoid delays in claims processing and payment, have the payer assignment of newborns checked daily.



Get eligibility information by calling the MO HealthNet at 573-751-3425. You may also go to dss.mo.gov or Emomed.com.

UNBORN ENROLLMENT CHANGES:

Encourage your members to notify the Missouri DSS when they know they are expecting. DSS notifies Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) daily of an unborn when Missouri Medicaid learns a woman associated with the MCO is expecting. The MCO or you may use the online change report through the Missouri website to report the baby's birth. With that information, DSS verifies the birth through the mother. The MCO and/or the care provider's information is taken as a lead. To help speed up the process, the mother should notify DSS when the baby is born.



Members may call MO HealthNet at **573-751-3425** or go to the following link: dss.mo.gov>fsd.

Newborns may get UnitedHealthcare Community Plan-covered health services beginning on their date of birth. Check eligibility daily until the mother has enrolled her baby in a managed care plan.

PCP SELECTION:

Although unborn children cannot be enrolled with an MCO until birth, ask your members to select and contact a PCP for their baby prior to delivery. This will help avoid the delays and confusion that can occur with deferred PCP selections.



UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Members can go to myuhc.com/communityplan to look up a care provider.

Member Eligibility

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan serves members enrolled with Missouri's DSS Medicaid program. The Missouri DSS determines program eligibility. An individual who becomes eligible for the Missouri DSS program either chooses or is assigned to one of the Missouri DSS-contracted health plans.

Member ID Card

Check the member's ID card at each visit, and copy both sides for your files. Verify the identity of the person presenting the ID card against some form of photo ID, such as a driver's license, if this is your office practice.



If a fraud, waste and abuse event arises from a care provider or a member, notify UnitedHealthcare Community Plan in writing, as discussed in Chapter 12 of this manual. Or you may call the [Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Hotline](#).

The member's ID card also shows the PCP assignment on the front of the card. If a member does not bring their card, call Provider Services. Also document the call in the member's chart.

MEMBER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

Each member receives a nine-digit UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member identification number. Use this number to communicate with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan about a specific subscriber/member. The Missouri DSS Medicaid Number is also on the member ID card.

PCP-Initiated Transfers

A PCP may transfer a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member due to an inability to start or maintain a professional relationship or if the member is non-compliant. The PCP must provide care for the member until a transfer is complete.


1. To transfer the member, contact UnitedHealthcare Community Plan with the specific documentation of the event(s) that occurred. Documentation includes the date(s) of failed appointments or a detailed account of reasons for termination request, member name, date of birth, MO HealthNet number, current address, current phone number and the care provider's name.

 | Email address: mo_clinops@uhc.com

2. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan prepares a summary within 10 business days of the request. We try to contact the member and resolve the issue to develop a satisfactory PCP-member relationship.

3. If the member and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan cannot resolve the PCP member issue, we work with the member to find another PCP. We refer the member to care management, if necessary.
4. If UnitedHealthcare Community Plan cannot reach the member by phone, the health plan sends a letter (and a copy to the PCP) stating they have five business days to contact us to select a new PCP. If they do not choose a PCP, we will choose one for them. A new ID card will be sent to the member with the new PCP information.

Sample Health Member ID Card



Health Plan (80840) 911-86050-02

Member ID: 001600013 **Group Number:** MOHNET

Member: NEW M SPANISH **Payer ID:** 86050
DCN #: 99999913
PCP Name: DOUGLAS GETWELL
PCP Phone: (717) 851-6816

S1803 MT ROSE AVE STE B3
 YORK, MO 174033051

0501 UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Missouri
 Administered by UnitedHealthcare of the Midwest, Inc.

In case of emergency call 911 or go to nearest emergency room. Printed: 10/06/17


This card does not guarantee coverage. To verify benefits or to find a provider, visit the website www.MyUHC.com/CommunityPlan or call.

For Members:	866-292-0359	TTY 711
Behavioral Health:	866-292-0359	TTY 711
Dental/Vision:	866-292-0359	TTY 711
NurseLine:	866-351-6827	TTY 711

For Providers: www.UHOnline.com 866-815-5334
Dental Providers: 855-934-9818
Medical and BH Claims: PO Box 5240, Kingston, NY, 12402-5240

Transportation: 866-292-0359 **Pharmacy:** 800-392-2161 or 573-751-6527

UHC18085 Approved 10/06/17



Health Plan (80840) 911-86050-02

Member ID: 001600011 **Group Number:** MOHNET

Member: NEW M ENGLISH **Payer ID:** 86050
DCN #: 99999911
PCP Name: DOUGLAS GETWELL
PCP Phone: (717) 851-6816

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Transportation: 866-292-0359 **Pharmacy:** 800-392-2161 or 573-751-6527

UHC18085 Approved 10/06/17

Verifying Member Enrollment

Verify member eligibility prior to providing services.

Determine eligibility in the following ways:

- Provider Portal: access the Link portal through UHCprovider.com/eligibility
- [UnitedHealthcare Provider Services](#) is available from 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday.
- Emomed.com

Benefit Information

Click UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan to view member benefit coverage information. Contact Provider Services with questions.

For a list of covered services, go to the Missouri DSS website: dss.mo.gov.

UnitedHealthcare Dual Complete (HMO SNP)

For information about UnitedHealthcare Dual Complete, please see Chapter 4 of the Physician, Health Care Professional, Facility and Ancillary Provider Administrative Guide for Commercial and Medicare Advantage Products. For state-specific information, go to UHCprovider.com > Menu > Health Plans by State.

Chapter 4: Medical Management

Medical management strategies are designed to improve the quality and outcome of health care delivery.

We offer the following services as part of our medical management process.

Ambulance Services

AIR AMBULANCE

Air ambulance is covered only when the services are medically necessary and medical criteria are met, or transportation by ground ambulance is not available and would harm the member. It is also only covered when:

- Great distances or other obstacles keep members from reaching the destination.
- Immediate admission is essential.
- The pickup point is inaccessible by land.

EMERGENCY AMBULANCE TRANSPORTATION

An emergency is a serious, sudden medical or behavioral condition that may include severe pain. Without immediate attention, the affected person could suffer major:

- Injury to their overall health.
- Impairment to bodily functions.
- Dysfunction of a bodily organ or part.
- The transferring hospital cannot provide the needed medical services.

Emergency transports (in- and out-of-network) are covered. They do not require an authorization.

Bill ambulance transport as a non-emergency transport when it doesn't meet the definition of an emergency transport. This includes all scheduled runs and transports to nursing facilities or the member's residence.

GROUND HOSPITAL TRANSPORTATION

Transferring members between hospitals by ground so they can receive medically necessary inpatient services not available at the first facility are covered. These include

services not available at the first facility where a member needed specialized care.

NON-EMERGENT TRANSPORTATION

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members may get non-emergent transportation services through UnitedHealth Community Plan for covered services. Covered transportation includes sedan, taxi, wheelchair-equipped vehicle, public transit, mileage repayment and shared rides. Members may get transportation when:

- They are bed-confined before, during and after transport; and
- The services cannot be provided at their home (including a nursing facility or ICF/MR).

Value-added non-emergent transportation services include substance abuse support groups, WIC appointments, parenting classes such as Lamaze, and pregnancy, health and wellness classes and meetings.



For non-urgent appointments, members must call for transportation at least three days before their appointment. Requests can be made by phone at **866-292-0359**.

Ambulance services provided to a member receiving inpatient hospital services are not included in the payment to the hospital. They must be billed by the ambulance provider. This includes transporting the member to another facility for services (e.g., diagnostic testing) and returning them to the first hospital for more inpatient care.

Make urgent non-emergency trips, such as when a member is sent home from the hospital, through our Member Call Center after 7 p.m. Central Time (CT). Schedule rides up to 30 days in advance.



Members must call between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT, Monday through Friday, to schedule transportation. If they have questions about their order, they may call **866-292-0359**.

Bus transportation will also be available if the member:

- Lives less than half a mile from a bus stop.
- Has an appointment less than half a mile from the bus stop.

Durable Medical Equipment

Durable medical equipment (DME) provides therapeutic benefits to a member because of certain medical conditions and/or illnesses. DME consists of items which are:

- Primarily used to serve a medical purpose.
- Not useful to a person in the absence of illness, disability, or injury.
- Ordered or prescribed by a care provider.
- Reusable.
- Repeatedly used.
- Appropriate for home use.
- Medically necessary.

DME may be covered when the items meets all the following criteria:

1. Provides therapeutic benefit because of certain medical conditions and/or illnesses and
2. Is prescribed by a licensed provider

DME is not covered when it:

- Is used primarily for convenience or upgrades beyond what is necessary to meet the member's legitimate medical needs. Examples include decorative items, unique materials (e.g., magnesium wheelchairs wheels, lights, extra batteries).
- Does not provide a therapeutic benefit to a member.
- Has not been prescribed by a licensed provider.
- Serves primarily as a comfort or convenience item. Trays, back packs, and wheelchair racing equipment are examples of non-covered or convenience items.
- Is used in a facility expected to provide such items to the member.
- Enhances the environmental setting (air conditioners, humidifiers, air filters, portable Jacuzzi pumps, or chair lifts).



For more information about coverage determination or medical policy, go to our provider portal UHCprovider.com/policies.

Emergency/Urgent Care Services

Emergency services do not require prior authorization.

While UnitedHealthcare Community Plan covers emergency services, we ask that you tell members about appropriate emergency room use. A PCP should treat non-emergency services such as sprains/strains, stomachaches, earaches, fever, cough and colds, and sore throats.

Covered services include:

- Hospital emergency department room, ancillary and care provider service by in and out-of-network care providers.
- Medical examination.
- Stabilization services.
- Access to designated Level I and Level II trauma centers or hospitals meeting the same levels of care for emergency services.
- Emergency ground, air and water transportation.
- Emergency dental services, limited to broken or dislocated jaw, severe teeth damage, and cyst removal.

We pay out-of-network care providers for emergency services at the current MO HealthNet program rates at the time of service. We try to negotiate acceptable payment rates with out-of-network care providers for covered post-stabilization care services for which we must pay.

If you are emergency room staff requesting a non-emergency service, please call Provider Services at 866-815-5334 to complete your request.

EMERGENCY ROOM CARE

For an emergency, the member should seek immediate care at the closest emergency room (ER). If the member needs help getting to the ER, they may call 911. No referral is needed. Members have been told to call their PCP as soon as possible after receiving emergency care. They pay no out-of-pocket cost for ER or emergency ambulance services.

Before they are treated, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members who visit an emergency room are screened to determine whether they have a medical emergency. Prior authorization is not required for the medical screening. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan covers these services regardless of the emergency care provider's relationship with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

After the member has received emergency care, the hospital must seek approval within one hour for pre-approval for more care to make sure the member remains stable. If UnitedHealthcare Community Plan does not respond within one hour or cannot be reached, or if the health plan and attending care provider do not agree on the member's care, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan lets the treating care provider talk with the health plan's medical director. The treating care provider may continue with care until the health plan's medical care provider is reached, or when one of these guidelines is met:

1. A plan care provider with privileges at the treating hospital takes over the member's care.
2. A plan care provider takes over the member's care by sending them to another place of service.
3. An MCO representative and the treating care provider reach an agreement about the member's care.
4. The member is released.

Depending on the need, the member may be treated in the ER, in an inpatient hospital room, or in another setting. This is called Post Stabilization Services. Members do not pay for these services. This applies whether the member receives emergency services in or outside their service area.

URGENT CARE (NON-EMERGENT)

Urgent care services are covered.



For a list of urgent care centers, contact [Provider Services](#).

Emergency Care Resulting in Admissions

Prior authorization is not required for emergency services.

Nurses in the Health Services Department review emergency admissions within one business day of notification.



Emergency care should be delivered without delay. Notify UnitedHealth Community Plan about admission. For more information, go to UHCprovider.com/priorauth. You may also call the [Prior Authorization Department](#) or fax **844-805-7522**.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan makes utilization management determinations based on appropriateness of care and benefit coverage existence using evidence-

based, nationally recognized or internally-developed clinical criteria. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan does not reward you or reviewers for issuing coverage denials and does not financially incentivize Utilization Management staff to support service underutilization. Care determination criteria is available upon request by contacting the Prior Authorization Department (UM Department, etc.)



The criteria are available in writing upon request or by calling the [Prior Authorization Department](#).

If a member meets an acute inpatient level of stay, admission starts at the time you write the order.

Family Planning

Family Planning services are preventive health, medical, counseling and educational services that help members manage their fertility and achieve the best reproductive and general health. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members may access these services without a referral. They may also seek family planning services at the care provider of their choice. The following services are included:

- Annual gynecological examination
- Annual pap smear
- Contraceptive supplies, devices and medications for specific treatment
- Contraceptive counseling
- Laboratory services

Blood tests to determine paternity are covered **only** when the claim indicates tests were necessary for legal support in court.

Non-covered items include:

- Reversal of voluntary sterilization
- Hysterectomies for sterilization
- In-vitro fertilization, including:
 - GIFT (Gamete intrafallopian transfer)
 - ZIFT (zygote intrafallopian transfer)
 - Embryo transport
- Infertility services, if given to achieve pregnancy
Note: Diagnosis of infertility is covered. Treatment is not.
 - Morning-after pill. Contact the Missouri DSS to verify state coverage.

PARENTING/CHILD BIRTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Child birth education is covered.
- Parenting education is not covered.

VOLUNTARY STERILIZATION

In-network treatment with consent is covered. The member needs to give consent 30 days before surgery, be mentally competent and be at least 21 years old at the time of consent for:

- Tubal ligation
- Vasectomy

Out-of-network services require prior authorization.

View the DSS Regulations for more information on sterilization.

Health Education

Our health education program is led by our qualified, full-time health education manager. You are encouraged to collaborate with us to ensure health education services are provided to members. This program is a proactive approach to help members manage specific conditions and support them as they take responsibility for their health.

The program goals are to:

- Provide members with information to manage their condition and live a healthy lifestyle
- Improve the quality of care, quality of life and health outcomes of members
- Help individuals understand and actively participate in the management of their condition, adherence to treatment plans, including medications and self-monitoring
- Reduce unnecessary hospital admissions and ER visits
- Promote care coordination by collaborating with providers to improve member outcomes
- Prevent disease progression and illnesses related to poorly managed disease processes
- Support member empowerment and informed decision making
- Effectively manage their condition and co-morbidities, including depression, cognitive deficits, physical limitations, health behaviors and psychosocial issues

Our program makes available population-based, condition-specific health education materials, websites, interactive mobile apps and newsletters that include recommended routine appointment frequency, necessary testing, monitoring and self-care. We send health education materials, based upon evidence-based guidelines or standards of care, directly to members that address topics that help members manage their condition. Our program provides personalized support to members in case management. The case manager collaborates with the member to identify educational opportunities, provides the appropriate health education and monitors the member's progress toward management of the condition targeted by the health education program.

Programs are based upon the findings from our Health Education, Cultural and Linguistic Group Needs Assessment (GNA) and will identify the health education, cultural and linguistic needs.

Hospice

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan provides in-home hospice and short-stay inpatient hospice. These services require prior authorization.

HOME HOSPICE

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan covers benefits for routine home care every day the member is at home, under hospice and not receiving continuous home care. We cover care provider hospice at the member's home during a medical crisis. A medical crisis is when a member requires continuous nursing care to manage symptoms.

RESPITE HOSPICE

Inpatient hospital or nursing facility respite care is covered for the hospice care provider each day the member is in an inpatient facility and receiving respite care. Hospice inpatient respite care is short-term inpatient care provided to the member when necessary to relieve the caregiver. Hospice inpatient respite care is restricted to five days per month. This includes the day of admission but not the day of discharge.

INPATIENT HOSPICE

Inpatient care is covered during a sudden medical crisis. General inpatient care may be necessary for pain control or acute/chronic symptom management not provided

in any other setting. Inpatient hospice care includes a hospital or an in-network hospice inpatient facility that meets the hospice standards for staffing and member care. Inpatient care is short-term and restricted to 10 days per month.

Members receiving inpatient hospice services through a residential facility are not covered under Managed MO HealthNet/Medicaid. DSS covers residential inpatient hospice services. DSS will cover hospice care provider benefits for both the hospice services provided and the facility residential services.

Laboratory, X-rays, Imaging Procedures

ADVANCED OUTPATIENT IMAGING PROCEDURES

Advanced outpatient imaging procedures must be prior authorized by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Clinical.



To get prior authorization, go to UHCprovider.com/priorauth > click on the Radiology tab > Online Portal link.

Reference the Medical Management chapter for more information on the Radiology Prior Authorization Program.

LAB SERVICES



LabCorp is the preferred lab provider. Contact [LabCorp](https://www.labcorp.com) directly.

Use UnitedHealthcare Community Plan in-network laboratory when referring members for lab services not covered in the office. Medically necessary laboratory services ordered by a PCP, other care providers or dentist in one of these laboratories do not require prior authorization except as noted on our prior authorization list.

When submitting claims, have a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment number (CLIA #). Otherwise, claims will deny. CLIA standards are national and not Medicaid-exclusive. CLIA applies to all providers rendering clinical laboratory and certain other diagnostic services.

See the Billing and Encounters chapter for more information.

Lock-In Program

The lock-in program is a method used to limit or restrict the use of the MO HealthNet Managed Care Program to designated care providers when a member has misused medical services. We analyze utilization patterns for patterns of fraud, misuse, abuse and wasteful or inappropriate care. A member may also be referred to the lock-in program by their care provider, a facility or other source. The lock-in program implemented by the health plan does not include a lock-in for pharmacy. The health plan coordinates with the state to verify appropriate identification for the pharmacy lock-in program.

Members in the lock-in program continue to have free choice of care providers who participate in the MO HealthNet program. Members may request a change of designated care provider once within 30 calendar days of the initial assignment or under certain special circumstances. You have the right to accept or refuse recipients for treatment as a lock-in participant. Both you and the member must be agreeable to the lock-in relationship. You can refuse to continue to serve the member if they become non-compliant or if you have other documented reasons for ending your relationship. In these instances, you must call Provider Services to discontinue the lock-in relationship and begin the process of assigning another lock-in provider to the member.

The PCP is responsible for providing and/or directing the member's medical care. They must also make any necessary referrals to other care providers, services, or facilities as medically indicated during the lock-in period.

A Medical Referral Form for Restricted Participants must be sent to the referred care provider or facility before or at the time of service being rendered so the claim payment is received. This paper form must be attached and mailed in with each claim from the referred-to provider. In the case of an ER visit, the form may be completed after ER services are rendered but must be submitted by mail and accompany the claim explaining the emergency. This form can be found on the Missouri provider portal at UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan in the Provider Forms section. You may also call Provider Services at 866-815-5334.

Lock-in periods are for a minimum of 12 months and a maximum of 24 months. Case reviews are conducted by the health plan no sooner than 12 months and no longer than 24 months after start of the lock-in period. Case reviews assess member utilization patterns for continued misuse of medical services. If a pattern of member misuse continues, the lock-in period is renewed for an additional 12 to 24 months.

Members selected for lock-in or whose lock-in program was extended have all appeal and fair hearing rights accorded by state and federal regulations.

Maternity/Pregnancy/ Well-Child Care

PREGNANCY/MATERNITY

Bill the initial pregnancy visit as a separate office visit. You may bill global days if the mother has been a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member for three or more consecutive months or had seven or more prenatal visits.



For more information about global days, go to UHCprovider.com.

Medicaid does not consider ultrasounds medically necessary if they are done only to determine the fetal sex or provide parents with a photograph of the fetus. We allow the first three obstetrical ultrasounds per pregnancy. The fourth and subsequent obstetrical ultrasound procedures will only be allowed for identified high-risk members. High-risk member claims must include the corresponding diagnosis code.

Pregnant UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members should receive care from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan care providers only. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan considers exceptions to this policy if:

1. the woman was in her second or third trimester of pregnancy when she became a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member, and
2. if she has an established relationship with a non-participating obstetrician.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan must approve all out-of-plan maternity care. Care providers should call **866-604-3267** to obtain prior approval for continuity of care.

Care providers should notify UnitedHealthcare Community Plan immediately of a member's confirmed pregnancy to help ensure appropriate follow-up and coordination by the Healthy First Steps program.

To notify UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of pregnancies, care providers should call Healthy First Steps at **800-599-5985** or fax the notification to **877-353-6913**.

A UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member does not need a referral from her PCP for ob-gyn care. Perinatal home care services are available for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members when medically necessary.

MATERNITY ADMISSIONS

All maternity admissions require notification. Days in excess of 48 hours for vaginal deliveries and 96 hours for C-section require clinical information and medical necessity review.



If the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member is inpatient longer than the federal requirements, a prior notification is needed. Please go to UHCprovider.com/priorauth, or call the [Prior Authorization Department](#).

To notify UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of deliveries, call **866-604-3267** or fax to **800-897-8317**. Provide the following information within one business day of the admission:

- Date of admission.
- Member's name and Medicaid ID number.
- Obstetrician's name, phone number, care provider ID.
- Facility name (care provider ID).
- Vaginal or cesarean delivery.

If available at time of notification, provide the following birth data:

- Date of delivery.
- Gender.
- Birth weight.
- Gestational age.
- Baby name.

Non-routine newborn care (e.g., unusual jaundice, prematurity, sepsis, respiratory distress) is covered but requires prior authorization. Infants remaining in the hospital after mother's discharge require separate notification and will be subject to medical necessity

review. The midwife (CNM) must be a licensed registered nurse recognized by the Board of Nurse Examiners as an advanced practice nurse (APN) in nurse-midwifery and certified by the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

A CNM must identify a licensed care provider or group of care providers with whom they have arranged for referral and consultation if complications arise.

Furnish obstetrical maternity services on an outpatient basis. This can be done under a physician's supervision through a nurse practitioner, physician's assistant or licensed professional nurse. If handled through supervision, the services must be within the staff's scope of practice or licensure as defined by state law.

You do not have to be present when services are provided. However, you must assume professional responsibility for the medical services provided and help ensure approval of the care plan.

NEWBORN ENROLLMENT

The hospital is responsible to notify the county of all deliveries, including UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members (provided the mother was admitted using her ForwardHealth ID card).

There may be circumstances where the mother delivers out-of-state. This baby may not be identified to the city/state and thus not come onto UnitedHealthcare Community Plan in a timely manner. In this case, the Enrollment Department would have to contact the city/state once the birth notification is received and request the baby be added to the health plan.

The hospital provides significant support to the enrollment process by providing required birth data at the time of admission.

HOME CARE AND ALL PRIOR AUTHORIZATION SERVICES

The discharge planner ordering home care should call the [Prior Authorization Department](#) to arrange for home care.

HYSTERECTOMIES

Hysterectomies cannot be reimbursed if performed for sterilization. Members who get hysterectomies for medical reasons must be told, orally and in writing, they will no longer be able to have children.

Per Missouri Administrative Code 18-004.0, "All claims for hysterectomies (surgeon, assistant surgeon, anesthesiologist, hospital) must be accompanied by Form MMS-101, "Informed Consent Form," (see 471- 000-110). The member should sign and date the form stating she was told before the surgery that the procedure will result in permanent sterility.



Find the form on the Missouri Department of Social Services website dss.mo.gov/fsd/health-care/.

Exception: Missouri DSS does not require informed consent if:

1. As the care provider performing the hysterectomy, you certify in writing the member was sterile before the procedure. You must also state the cause of the sterility.
2. You certify, in writing, the hysterectomy was performed under a life-threatening emergency situation in which prior acknowledgment was not possible. Include a description of the emergency.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requires, along with your claim, a copy of the signed medical assistance hysterectomy statement. Mail the claim and documentation to claims administration identified on the back of the member's ID card. Reimbursement is made upon completion of documentation requirements and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan review. The member may not be billed if consent forms are not submitted.

PREGNANCY TERMINATION SERVICES

Pregnancy termination services are not covered, except in cases to preserve the woman's life. In this case, follow the Missouri consent procedures for abortion.

Allowable pregnancy termination services do not require a referral from the member's primary care provider. Members must use the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan care provider network.

STERILIZATION AND HYSTERECTOMY PROCEDURES

Reimbursement for sterilization procedures are based on the member's documented request. This policy helps ensure UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members thinking about sterilization are fully aware of the details and alternatives. It also gives them time to consider

their decision. In addition, the State Medical Assistance Program must have documented evidence that all the sterilization requirements have been met before making a payment. The member must sign the Medical Assistance Consent Form at least 30 days, but not more than 180 days, before the procedure. The member must be at least 21 years old when they sign the form.

The member must not be mentally incompetent or live in a facility treating mental disorders. The member may agree to sterilization at the time of premature delivery or emergency abdominal surgery if at least 72 hours have passed since signing the consent form. However, in the case of premature delivery, they must have signed the form at least 30 days before the expected delivery date. If the requirements are not met for both sterilization procedures and hysterectomies, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan cannot pay the care provider, anesthetist or hospital.

STERILIZATION INFORMED CONSENT

A member has only given informed consent if the Missouri Department of Social Services Medical Assistance Consent Form for sterilization is properly filled out. Other consent forms do not replace the Medical Assistance Consent Form. Be sure the member fully understands the sterilization procedure and has been told of other family planning options. Informed consent may not be obtained while the member is in labor, seeking an abortion, or under the influence of alcohol or other substances that affect awareness.

STERILIZATION CONSENT FORM

Use the consent form for sterilization:

- **Complete all applicable sections of the form.**
Complete all applicable sections of the consent form before submitting it with the billing form. The Missouri Medical Assistance Program cannot pay for sterilization procedures until all applicable items on the consent form are completed, accurate and follow sterilization regulation requirements.
- Your statement section should be completed after the procedure, along with your signature and the date. This may be the same date of the sterilization or a date afterward. If you sign and date the consent form before performing the sterilization, the form is invalid.
- The state's definition of "shortly before" is not more than 30 days before the procedure. Explain the

procedure to the member within that time frame. However, do not sign and date the form until after you perform the procedure.



You may also find the form on the Missouri Department of Social Services website dss.mo.gov/fsd/health-care/.

Have three copies of the consent form:

1. For the member.
2. To submit with the Request for Payment form.
3. For your records.

Neonatal Resource Services (NICU Case Management)

Our Neonatal Resource Services program manages inpatient and post-discharge NICU cases to improve outcomes and lower costs. Our dedicated team of NICU nurse case managers, social workers and medical directors offer both clinical care and psychological services.

NEONATAL RESOURCE SERVICES

The Neonatal Resource Services (NRS) program helps ensure NICU babies get quality of care and efficiency in treatment. Newborns placed in the NICU are eligible upon birth (including babies who are transferred from PICU) and/or any infants readmitted within their first 30 days of life and previously managed in the NICU. All babies brought to the NICU are followed by NRS.

NRS neonatologists and NICU nurses manage NICU members through evidence-based medicine and care plan use.

The NRS nurse case manager will:

- Work with the family, the care providers, and the facility discharge planner to help ensure timely discharge and service delivery.
- Develop care management strategies and interventions based on infant and family needs.
- Coordinate services prior to discharge and after discharge if the member is under NRS case management.

The NRS nurse case manager's role includes:

- Planning and arranging the discharge.

- Coordinating care options and prior authorization, including home care, equipment and skilled nursing.
- Arranging post-discharge support for a minimum of 30 days and up to 15 months based on infant ongoing acuity
- Educating parents and families about available local resources and support services.
- Coordination with the Whole Person Care Team for additional case management needs and services.

Case managers provide benefit solutions to help families get the right services for the baby.

Radiology Prior Authorization Program

We use a Radiology Prior Authorization Program to improve compliance with evidence-based and professional society guidance for radiology procedures.

You must obtain a prior authorization before ordering CT scans, MRIs, MRAs, PET scans, nuclear medicine and nuclear cardiology studies in an office or outpatient setting.

The following images do not require prior authorization:

- Ordered through ER visit.
- While in an observation unit.
- When performed at an urgent care facility.
- During an inpatient stay.

Not getting this prior authorization approval results in an administrative denial. Claims denied for this reason may not be balance-billed.

To get or verify prior authorization:

- Online: UHCprovider.com/priorauth > Radiology > Online Portal link.
- Phone: **866-889-8054** from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday. Make sure the medical record is available. An authorization number is required for each CPT code. Each authorization number is CPT-code specific.



For a list of Advanced Outpatient Imaging Procedures that require prior authorization, a prior authorization crosswalk, and/or the evidence-based clinical guidelines, use Link through UHCprovider.com, or use the search option at UHCprovider.com.

Medical Management Guidelines

ADMISSION AUTHORIZATION AND PRIOR AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINES

All prior authorizations must have the following:

- Patient name and ID number.
- Ordering care provider or health care professional name and TIN/NPI.
- Rendering care provider or health care professional and TIN/NPI.
- ICD CM.
- Anticipated date(s) of service.
- Type of service (primary and secondary) procedure code(s) and volume of service, when applicable.
- Service setting.
- Facility name and TIN/NPI, when applicable.


Type of Request	Decision TAT	Practitioner notification of approval	Written practitioner/member notification of denial
Non-urgent Pre-service	Within five working days of receipt of medical record information required but	Within 24 hours of the decision	Within two business days of the decision
Urgent/ Expedited Pre-service	Within three days of receipt of request.	Within three days of the request.	Within three days of the request.
Concurrent Review	Within 24 hours or next business day following	Notified within 24 hours of determination	Notified within 24 hours of determination and member notification within two business days
Retrospective Review	Within 30 calendar days of receiving all pertinent clinical information	Within 24 hours of determination	Within 24 hours of determination and member notification within two business days

 For behavioral health and substance use disorder authorizations, please contact **866-815-5334**.

 Go to UHCprovider.com/priorauth for more information.

Case Management

We provide case management services to members with complex medical conditions or serious psychosocial issues. The Medical Case Management Department assesses members who may be at risk for multiple hospital admissions, increased medication use, or would benefit from a multidisciplinary approach to medical or psychosocial needs.

 Refer members for case management by calling Care Management at **877-856-6351**. Additionally, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan provides the **Healthy First Steps** program, which manages women with high-risk pregnancies.

Concurrent Review Guidelines

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requires you to chart progress notes for each day of an inpatient stay. This includes acute and sub-acute medical, long-term acute care, acute rehabilitation, skilled nursing facilities, home health care and ambulatory facilities. We perform an on-site facility review or phone review for each day's stay using MCG, CMS or other nationally recognized guidelines to help clinicians make informed decisions in many health care settings. You must work with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan for all information, documents or discussion requests. This includes gathering clinical information on a member's status for concurrent review and discharge planning. When criteria are not met, the case is sent to a medical director.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan denies payment for days that do not have a documented need for acute care services. Failure to document results in payment denial to the facility and you.

CONCURRENT REVIEW DETAILS

Concurrent Review is notification within 24 hours or one business day of admission. It finds medical necessity clinical information for a continued inpatient stay, including review for extending a previously approved admission. Concurrent review may be done by phone or on-site.

Your cooperation is required with all UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requests for information, documents or discussions related to concurrent review and discharge planning including: primary and secondary diagnosis, clinical information, care plan, admission order, member status, discharge planning needs, barriers to discharge and discharge date. When available, provide clinical information by access to Electronic Medical Records (EMR).

Your cooperation is required with all UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requests from our interdisciplinary care coordination team and/or medical director to support requirements to engage our members directly face-to-face or by phone. You must return/respond to inquiries from our interdisciplinary care coordination team and/or medical director. You must provide all requested and complete clinical information and/or documents as required within four hours of receipt of our request if it is received before 1 p.m. local time, or make best efforts to provide requested information within the same business day if the request is received after 1 p.m. local time (but no later than 12 p.m. local time the next business day).

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan uses MCG (formally Milliman Care Guidelines), CMS guidelines, or other nationally recognized guidelines to assist clinicians in making informed decisions in many health care settings. This includes acute and sub-acute medical, long-term acute care, acute rehabilitation, skilled nursing facilities, home health care and ambulatory facilities.

Determination of Medical Necessity

Medically necessary services or supplies are those necessary to:

- Prevent, diagnose, alleviate or cure a physical or mental illness or condition.
- Maintain health.
- Prevent the onset of an illness, condition or disability.

- Prevent or treat a condition that endangers life, causes suffering or pain or results in illness or infirmity.
- Prevent the deterioration of a condition.
- Promote daily activities; remember the member's functional capacity and capabilities appropriate for individuals of the same age.
- Prevent or treat a condition that threatens to cause or worsen a handicap, physical deformity, or malfunction; there is no other equally effective, more conservative or substantially less costly treatment available to the member.
- Not experimental treatments

You may freely communicate with members about their treatment, regardless of benefit coverage limitations.

Evidence-Based Clinical Guidelines

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan uses evidence-based clinical guidelines to guide our quality and health management programs. For more information on our guidelines, go to UHCprovider.com.

Medical and Drug Policies and Coverage Determination Guidelines

Find medical policies and coverage determination guidelines at UHCprovider.com > Policies and Protocols > Community Plan Policies > Medical and Drug Policies and Coverage Determination Guidelines for Community Plan.

Referral Guidelines

You must coordinate member referrals for medically necessary services beyond the scope of your practice. Monitor the referred member's progress and help ensure they are returned to your care as soon as appropriate.

We require prior authorization of all out-of-network referrals. The nurse reviews the request for medical

necessity and/or service. If the case does not meet criteria, the nurse routes the case to the medical director for review and determination. Out-of-network referrals are approved for, but not limited to, the following:

- Continuity of care issues
- Necessary services are not available within network

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan monitors out-of-network referrals on an individual basis. Care provider or geographical location trends are reported to Network Management to assess root causes for action planning.

Reimbursement

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan authorization helps ensure reimbursement for all covered services. You should:

- Determine if the member is eligible on the date of service by using Link at UHCprovider.com, contacting UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's Provider Services Department, or the Missouri Medicaid Eligibility System.
- Submit documentation needed to support the medical necessity of the requested procedure.
- Be aware the services provided may be outside the scope of what UnitedHealthcare Community Plan has authorized.
- Determine if the member has other insurance that should be billed first.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will not reimburse:

- Services UnitedHealthcare Community Plan decides are not medically necessary.
- Non-covered services.
- Services provided to members not enrolled on the date(s) of service.

Second and Third Opinion Benefit

If a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member asks for a second opinion about a treatment or procedure, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will cover that cost. Scheduling the appointment for the second opinion should follow the access standards established by the

Missouri DSS. These access standards are defined in Chapter 2. The care provider giving the second opinion must not be affiliated with the attending care provider.

Criteria:

- The member's PCP refers the member to an in-network care provider for a second opinion. Providers will forward a copy of all relevant records to the second opinion care provider before the appointment. The care provider giving the second opinion will then forward his or her report to the member's PCP and treating care provider, if different. The member may help the PCP select the care provider.
- If an in-network provider is not available, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will arrange for a consultation with a non-participating provider. The participating provider should contact UnitedHealthcare Community Plan at **866-815-5334**.
- Once the second opinion has been given, the member and the PCP discuss information from both evaluations.
- If follow-up care is recommended, the member meets with the PCP before receiving treatment.
- A third surgical opinion, provided by a third care provider, is allowed if the second opinion does not confirm a medical need for the surgery and if the member desires the third opinion.

Services Not Covered by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan

The following services are not included in the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan program:

- Any health care not given by a doctor from our list (except emergency treatment)
- Any care covered by Medicaid but not through managed care:
 - Prescription drugs.
 - Long-term care services in a nursing home.
 - Nursing facility services.
 - Intermediate care facilities for members with mental handicap.
 - Home- and community-based waiver services.
 - Dental services, except for those performed

in an outpatient setting. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan covers the facility and anesthesia services when deemed medical necessary. Prior authorization is required.

- Residential inpatient hospice services.

Mental health and substance abuse care. This service is covered by Optum Behavioral Health.

- Phones and TVs used when in the hospital.
- Personal comfort items used in the hospital such as a barber.
- Contact lenses, unless used to treat eye disease.
- Sunglasses and photo-gray lenses.
- Ambulances, unless medically necessary.
- Infertility services.

Services Requiring Prior Authorization



For a list of services that require prior authorization, go to UHCprovider.com/priorauth.

DIRECT ACCESS SERVICES – NATIVE AMERICANS

Native Americans seeking tribal clinic or Indian Health hospital services do not require prior authorization.

SEEK PRIOR AUTHORIZATION WITHIN THE FOLLOWING TIME FRAMES

- **Emergency or Urgent Facility Admission:** one business day.
- **Inpatient Admissions; After Ambulatory Surgery:** one business day.
- **Non-Emergency Admissions and/or Outpatient Services (except maternity):** at least 14 business days beforehand; if the admission is scheduled fewer than five business days in advance, use the scheduled admission time.

Utilization Management Guidelines



Call **866-815-5334** to discuss the guidelines and utilization management.

Utilization Management (UM) is based on a member's medical condition and is not influenced by monetary incentives. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan pays its in-network PCPs and specialists on a fee-for-service basis. We also pay in-network hospitals and other types of care providers in the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan network on a fee-for-service basis. The plan's UM staff works with care providers to help ensure members receive the most appropriate care in the place best suited for the needed services. Our staff encourages appropriate use and discourages underuse. The UM staff does not receive incentives for UM decisions.

Chapter 5: Early, Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT)/Prevention

The Healthy Children and Youth (HCY) Program is a complete health care program for MO HealthNet-eligible children younger than 21. The program is also known as Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT).

Follow the EPSDT schedule for all eligible UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members up to age 21, including pregnant women. EPSDT screening includes immunizations, hearing, vision, speech screening and nutritional assessments; dental screening; and growth and development tracking.

For complete details about diagnoses codes as well as full and partial screening, examination, and immunization requirements, go to the EPSDT schedule at [dss.mo.gov > mhd > providers > education](https://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/education).

To find the Healthy Child Forms, go to: [dss.mo.gov > mhd > providers](https://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers).

Find details on how to fill out the Healthy Child form at: [manuals.momed.com > forms > HCY Screening > Guide > Instructions](https://manuals.momed.com/forms/HCY_Screening_Guide/Instructions).

First Steps Program

The First Steps Program provides early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

Referral – refer children who are identified as potentially requiring developmental intervention services to the appropriate agency for evaluation once you identified the need for services. Provide information as requested to

complete the referral process.

Care Management – support the development of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) developed by the First Steps program through local agency/school district. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan provides member care management to coordinate any additional services beyond what is needed in an IFSP created by the First Steps Program and to help families better understand the program and its transitions to early childhood intervention, if needed, within the educational system at age 3.

Full Screening

Perform a full screen as an enrolled MO HealthNet care provider, nurse practitioner or nurse midwife (only infants age 0-2 months and females age 15-20 years). Include:

- Interval history
- Unclothed physical examination
- Anticipatory guidance
- Lab/immunizations (Lab and administration of immunizations is reimbursed separately.)
- Lead assessment (Use the HCY Lead Risk Assessment form.)
- Personal-social and language skills
- Fine motor/gross motor skills
- Hearing
- Vision
- Dental

Without all these components, you cannot bill for a full screen. You may only bill for a partial screen.

Interperiodic Screens

Interperiodic screens are medically necessary screens outside the standard schedule that do not require the full screen. Use this screen to start expanded HCY services. Office visits and full or partial screenings happening on the same day by the same care provider are not covered unless medical necessity is noted in the member's record.

Interperiodic screens are often used for school and athletic physicals. A physical exam may be needed for a certificate stating a child is physically able to take part in school athletics. This also applies for other school physicals when required as conditions for educational purposes.

Lead Screening/Treatment

Call Provider Services if you find a child has a lead blood level over 10ug/dL. Children with elevated blood lead levels will be offered enrollment in a care coordination program.

Safe/Care Examinations

MO HealthNet covers Sexual Assault Findings Examination (SAFE) and Child Abuse Resource Education (CARE) Examinations. It also covers related laboratory studies that determine sexual or physical abuse. The exam is performed by SAFE-trained providers certified by the Department of Health and Senior Services. Children enrolled in a managed health care plan receive SAFE-CARE services through MO HealthNet on a fee-for-service basis. Information on SAFE-CARE examinations is located at in Section 13.15 of the MO HealthNet care provider manual at [dss.mo.gov > mhd > providers](https://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers). Call MO HealthNet for more information.

Targeted Case Management

Targeted Case Management (TCM) consists of case management services for specified targeted groups to access medical, social, educational, and other services

provided by a Regional Center or local governmental health program as appropriate.

Identification – The five target populations include:

- Children younger than age 21 at risk for medical compromise
- Medically fragile individuals
- Individuals in frail health, older than 18 years and at risk of institutionalization
- Members in jeopardy of negative health or psychosocial outcomes
- Members infected with a communicable disease, including tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, etc., or who have been exposed to communicable diseases, until the risk of exposure has passed

Referral – Members who are eligible for TCM services are referred to a Regional Center or local governmental health program as appropriate for the provision of TCM services.

Continuity of Care – UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is responsible for coordinating the member's health care with the TCM provider and for determining the Medical Necessity of diagnostic and treatment services recommended by the TCM provider that are covered services under the contract.

Vaccines for Children program (VFC)

The Vaccines for Children program provides immunizations. Immunizations offered in the state VFC program must be ordered by your office. We do not reimburse for the vaccine ordered by the VFC Program, but we reimburse for administering the vaccine.

Vaccine administration fees are reimbursable when submitted with an appropriate CPT and modifier code. We cannot reimburse for private stock vaccines when they are available through VFC.



Contact **VFC** with questions.
Phone: 800-219-3224
Fax: 573-526-5220

Any child through 18 years of age who meets at least one of the following criteria is eligible for the VFC Program:

- Eligible for Medicaid.
- American Indian or Alaska Native, as defined by the Indian Health Services Act.
- Uninsured.
- Underinsured (these children have health insurance but the benefit plan does not cover immunizations).

Children in this category may not only receive vaccinations from a federally qualified health center or rural health clinic; they cannot receive vaccinations from a private health care provider using a VFC-supplied vaccine).

Chapter 6: Value-Added Services

We offer the following services to our Missouri UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members. If you have questions or need to refer a member, call Provider Services at **866-815-5334** unless otherwise noted.

Adult Pain Management/ Chiropractic Services

Evidence-based medicine supports chiropractic care to help lower back pain. In some cases, a visit to the chiropractor can reduce or eliminate the need for pain medication. It can even help combat opioid addiction and overuse.

We provide members older than 21 with up to six visits per calendar year with an in-network chiropractor. This benefit does not need prior authorization.

Use the following steps to access the fee schedules online:

1. Go to myoptumhealthphysicalhealth.com.
2. Enter your provider ID & password.
3. Click “Tools & Resources.”
4. Click “Plan Summaries” or “Fee Schedules.”
5. The two covered CPT codes are 98940 and 98941.

For more information on chiropractic care, go to myoptumhealthphysicalhealth.com. You may also call 800-873-4575. For claim questions, call Provider Services.

Airwaze

Airwaze is a smartphone app that provides tailored asthma education, medication reminders and other self-management tools. This care management app is available for members age 5–18 who have and need help maintaining control of their asthma.

Baby Blocks™ Program

Baby Blocks™ is a web-based, mobile tool that reminds and rewards pregnant women and new mothers to get prenatal, postpartum and well-child care. Baby Blocks™ is available to pregnant UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members or their newborns.

BABY BLOCKS™ BENEFIT

Baby Blocks engages members with text and email appointment reminders. Members who enroll early in their pregnancy can earn up to eight rewards by following prenatal and postpartum recommendations.

How it Works

1. Care providers and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan reach out to members to enroll them in Baby Blocks.
2. Members enter information about their pregnancy and upcoming appointments at UHCBabyBlocks.com.
3. Members get reminders of upcoming appointments and record completed visits at UHCBabyBlocks.com.
4. At milestones throughout the program, members choose a reward for themselves or their baby.

How You Can Help

1. Identify UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members during prenatal visits.
2. Share a Baby Blocks brochure with the member and talk about the program.
3. Encourage the member to enroll at UHCBabyBlocks.com.



Members self-enroll on a smartphone or computer. They can go to UHCBabyBlocks.com and click on “Sign Up Here.”

Chronic Condition Management

We use educational materials and newsletters to remind members to follow positive health actions such as immunizations, wellness, and EPSDT screenings. For those members with chronic conditions, we provide specific information, including recommended routine appointment frequency, necessary testing, monitoring, and self-care through our disease management (DM) program. All materials are based upon evidence-based guidelines or standards. All printed materials are written at a fifth grade reading level. They are available in English as well as other languages. The materials are designed to support members as they begin to take responsibility for their health. They provide information necessary to successfully manage their condition and live a healthy lifestyle.

Members at highest risk with conditions such as asthma, CHF, diabetes, COPD and CAD receive more intense health coaching. Resources and tools are available to support members and caregivers with conditions common to children with special health care needs and help them manage their illness.

Identification – The health plan uses claims data (e.g., hospital admissions, ER visits, and pharmacy claims) to identify members with gaps in care and/or chronic conditions.

Referral – PCPs may make referrals to support practice-based interventions by contacting the Health Services team at **866-292-0359**.

Dental Services

COVERED

A Dental Provider Manual is available for detailed coverage information.

Facility services require a prior authorization.

The following services are covered for children younger than 20 years, pregnant women, the blind and nursing facility residents:

- Diagnostic

- Periodontics
- Preventive
- Prosthodontics (limited)
- Restorative
- Oral and maxillofacial surgery
- Endodontics

This includes:

- Treatment of trauma to the mouth, jaw, teeth or other contiguous sites as a result of injury.
- Services when the absence of dental treatment would adversely affect a pre-existing medical condition.
- Diagnostic, preventive and restorative procedures, prosthodontic services, and medically necessary oral and maxillofacial surgeries
- Topical fluoride treatment
 - Fluoride treatment for participants age 21 and older is limited to participants and conditions

NON-COVERED

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan does not cover routine dental services for anyone 21 years and older. Refer to the Dental Provider Manual for applicable exclusions and limitations and covered services. Standard ADA coding guidelines apply to all claims.



For more details, go to [UHCproviders.com](https://www.uhcproviders.com).

Early Intervention Program

Early Intervention promotes the development of infants and toddlers with developmental challenges and delays. It also covers certain disabling conditions. The program provides services to eligible children from birth to 3 years old and their families.

Foster Care

ON MY WAY

On My Way teaches youth aging out of foster care how to navigate the complex social support systems, including health care. Members can access On My Way through our care management system.

Youth in foster care often do not have access to the same kind of support and guidance of other teens. These youth struggle for independence while trying to make smart life decisions. This requires support and guidance, even for young adults who have grown up in a stable and supportive environment. Our interactive mobile and web-enabled game breaks the transition process into manageable steps and connects foster youth with the support/guidance they need and want (e.g., they can easily connect with peer support staff).

FOSTER CARE/PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST

We have a foster-care peer support specialist working with youth in the foster care system and their families. The specialist works with the member and the family to define the member's recovery goals. The specialist helps the member develop life skills and provides phone and/or face-to-face communications to members. The member and foster family receive support and help improve the member's overall physical and behavioral health. This benefit can also help to reduce hospitalizations and emergency room visits related to behavioral conditions in youth in foster care services.

Healthy First Steps

Healthy First Steps™ (HFS) is a specialized case management program designed to provide assistance to all pregnant members, those experiencing an uncomplicated pregnancy, as well as additional medical, behavioral, and social risks. The goal is improving birth outcomes and lowering Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) admissions by managing prenatal and postpartum care needs of pregnant members. Care management staff are board-certified in maternal and neonatal medicine.

HFS-MATERNAL CARE MODEL

The HFS-Maternal care model strives to:

- Increase early identification of expectant mothers and facilitate case management enrollment.
- Assess the member's risk level and provide member-specific needs that support the care provider's plan of care.

- Help members understand the importance of early and ongoing prenatal care and direct them to receiving it.
- Multidisciplinary support for pregnant women to overcome social and psychological barriers to prenatal care.
- Increase the member's understanding of pregnancy and newborn care.
- Encourage pregnancy and lifestyle self-management and informed healthcare decision-making
- Encourage appropriate pregnancy, postpartum and infant care provider visits.
- Foster a care provider-member collaboration before and after delivery as well as for non-emergent settings.
- Encourage members to stop smoking with our Quit for Life tobacco program.
- Help identify and build the mother's support system including referrals to community resources and pregnancy support programs
- Program staff act as a liaison between members, care providers, and United Healthcare for care coordination



Tell UnitedHealthcare Community Plan when a member becomes pregnant. Faxing a Prenatal Risk Assessment form to the [Healthy First Steps program](#) at **877-353-6913** will initiate case management program outreach.

Hypoallergenic Bedding

Improve asthma control and reduce allergies caused by dust or synthetic bedding. Controlling these issues can help to lower asthma-related hospitalizations and emergency room visits.

Hypoallergenic bedding is limited to individuals with asthma in case management. It is limited to \$150 annually per member. The program requires prior authorization and documentation stating they have severe asthma. The member's service coordinator will decide eligibility.

My HealthLine (cellphone program)

My HealthLine, our free cellphone program, helps us more closely connect with our members. This is particularly important for high-risk members who need support for their overall health, wellness and access to care. Members can quickly and easily reach us to discuss health-related concerns or to locate a PCP. Our care managers make outbound calls to coordinate care and follow up on important activities to improve a member's health.

This Federal Lifeline program provides the cellphones. Our members who meet federal eligibility requirements receive 350 voice minutes per month and unlimited texting, plus a pre-programmed member services number that does not count against the minutes. They are also automatically enrolled in the Connect4health texting program.

Non-Emergency Transportation

Some members require non-emergency transportation (NEMT) to and from services beyond what the state agency covers. NEMT provides crucial support in helping improve our members' access to care. All members eligible for state-approved transportation services are qualified for this additional health benefit.

NEMT includes unlimited trips to and from WIC, methadone clinics, inpatient behavioral health and to the pharmacy immediately following a covered service appointment. To request and schedule rides, members call Medical Transportation Management (MTM) directly. If members need assistance in scheduling rides, the service coordinators, Member Services Advocates (MSAs) and the mobility manager can assist. Services may be scheduled up to 14 days in advance. Hotel stays will be paid for trips that require an overnight stay with prior approval for eligible members.

Urgent non-emergency trips, such as when a member is discharged from the hospital, may be made through the call center after 7 p.m. Central Time. Urgent calls are the ONLY calls taken in person by a reservation specialist after 7 p.m. Central Time. Schedule rides up to 30 days in advance.



For non-urgent appointments, members must call for transportation at least three days before their appointment.

Bus transportation will also be available if the member:

- Lives less than half a mile from a bus stop.
- Has an appointment less than half a mile from the bus stop.

NurseLine

NurseLine is available at no cost to our members 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Members may call NurseLine to ask if they need to go to the urgent care center, the emergency room or to schedule an appointment with their PCP. Our nurses also help educate members about staying healthy. Call **866-351-6827** to reach a nurse.

SUD Recovery Coaching

Our SUD (Substance Use Disorder) recovery coach works with members to develop coping skills. Skills include encouragement, safety and a sense of responsibility for their own recovery. This benefit also emphasizes support to those with a behavioral health diagnosis while working through SUD treatment and recovery.

Eligible members are identified through predictive modeling and claims data, a health risk assessment (HRA) or your referral. The program has no age limitation.

Chapter 7: Mental Health and Substance Use

United Behavioral Health, operating under Optum, provides UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members with mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) benefits. The national Optum network manual generally applies to all types of business. Some sections may apply differently based on state law.

The National Optum Behavioral Health manual is located on providerexpress.com.

This chapter does not replace the national Optum network manual. Rather, it supplements the national manual by focusing on MO HealthNet's specific services and procedures.

You must have a National Provider Identification (NPI) number to see Medicaid members and receive payment from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

To request an ID number, go to the Department of Social Services website at mmac.mo.gov > go to the section titled "Apply to be a Medicaid Provider."

Credentialing

Credentialing information is available at providerexpress.com > Clinical Resources > Guidelines/Policies & Manuals > Credentialing Plans > Optum

Covered Services

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan offers covered behavioral health services for mental, emotional and substance use disorders. We offer care management to help members, clinicians, and PCPs using and offering behavioral health services. We provide information and tools for mental health and substance abuse diagnoses, symptoms, treatments, prevention and other resources in one place.

liveandworkwell.com, accessed through a link on myuhc.com, includes mental health and well-being information, articles on health conditions, addictions and coping, and provides an option for members to take self-assessments on a variety of topics, read articles and locate community resources.



For member resources, go to providerexpress.com. Go to the Live and Work Well (LAWW) clinician center. Locate Health Condition Centers at the Clinical Resources tab. The Provider Express Recovery and Resiliency page includes tools to help members addressing mental health and substance use issues.

Benefits include:

- Crisis stabilization services (includes treatment crisis intervention).
- Inpatient psychiatric hospital (acute and sub-acute).
- Outpatient assessment and treatment
 - Medication management
 - Outpatient therapy (individual, family, or group)
 - SUD acute detoxification
 - Psychological evaluation and testing
 - Initial diagnostic interviews
 - Hospital observation room services (up to 23 hours and 59 minutes in duration)
 - Child-parent psychotherapy
 - Electroconvulsive therapy
 - Telemental health
- Community support.

Eligibility

Verify the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member's Medicaid eligibility on day of service before treating them. View eligibility online on the Eligibility and Benefits application on Link at UHCprovider.com.

Authorizations

Members may access all behavioral health outpatient services (mental health and substance use) without a referral. Prior authorization may be required for more intensive services, such as intensive outpatient program; day treatment; or partial, inpatient or residential care. Help ensure prior authorizations are in place before rendering non-emergent services. Get prior authorization by going to UHCprovider.com/priorauth or call **800-366-7304**.

Collaboration with Other Health Care Professionals

COORDINATION OF CARE

When a member receives services from more than one professional, you must coordinate to deliver comprehensive, safe and effective care. This is especially true when the member:

- Is prescribed medication,
- Has coexisting medical/psychiatric symptoms, or
- Has been hospitalized for a medical or psychiatric condition.

Please talk to your patients about the benefits of sharing essential clinical information.

Portal Access

Website: UHCprovider.com

Access Link, the gateway to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's online tools, on this site. Use the tools to verify eligibility, review electronic claim submission, view claim status, and submit notifications/ prior authorizations.

View the Prior Authorization list, find forms and access the care provider manual. Or call Provider Services at 866-815-5334 to verify eligibility and benefit information (available 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday).

Website: providerexpress.com

Update provider practice information, review guidelines and policies, and view the national Optum Network Manual. Or call Provider Services at 866-815-5334.

Appeals and Grievances

Call **866-815-5334**, and a provider services representative will assist you with the Appeals and Grievances process. Also see Chapter 12 for more information.

Claims

Submit claims using the 1500 Claim Form (v 02/12) or UB-04 form, whichever is appropriate. Use applicable coding, including ICD diagnosis code(s), CPT, Revenue and HCPCS coding. Include all necessary data to process a complete claim. Find out more about filing claims in Chapter 11.

Monitoring Audits

We conduct routine care provider on-site audits. These audits focus on the physical environment, policies and procedures, and quality record documentation.

Addressing the Opioid Epidemic

Combating the opioid epidemic must include prevention, treatment, recovery and harm reduction. We engage in strategic community partnerships and approaches for special populations with unique risks, such as pregnant women and infants. We use our robust data infrastructure to identify needs, drive targeted actions, and measure progress. Finally, we help ensure our approaches are trauma-informed and reduce harm where possible.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF FRAMEWORK

- Prevention:
 - Prevent Opioid-Use Disorders before they occur through pharmacy management, provider practices, and education.
- Treatment:
 - Access and reduce barriers to evidence-based and integrated treatment.
- Recovery:
 - Support case management and referral to person-centered recovery resources.
- Harm Reduction:

- Access to Naloxone and facilitating safe use, storage, and disposal of opioids.
- Strategic community relationships and approaches:
 - Tailor solutions to local needs.
- Enhanced solutions for pregnant mom and child:
 - Prevent neonatal abstinence syndrome and supporting moms in recovery.
- Enhanced data infrastructure and analytics:
 - Identify needs early and measure progress.

INCREASING EDUCATION & AWARENESS OF OPIOIDS

It is critical you are up-to-date on the cutting edge research and evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. We keep Opioid Use Disorders (OUD) related trainings and resources available on our provider portal to help ensure you have the information you need, when you need it. For example, state-specific Behavioral Health Toolkits are developed to provide access to clinical practice guidelines, free substance use disorders/OUD assessments and screening resources, and other important state-specific resources. Additionally, Pain Management Toolkits are available and provide resources to help you identify our members who present with chronic physical pain and may also be in need of behavioral health services to address the psychological aspects of pain. Continuing education is available and includes webinars such as, “The Role of the Health Care Team in Solving the Opioid Epidemic,” and “The Fight Against the Prescription Opioid Abuse Epidemic.” While resources are available, we also work to help ensure you have the educational resources you need. For example, our Drug Utilization Review Provider Newsletter includes opioid trends, prescribing, and key resources.

Access these resources at UHCprovider.com. Then click “Drug Lists and Pharmacy.” Click Resource Library to find a list of tools and education.

PREVENTION

We are invested in reducing the abuse of opioids, while facilitating the safe and effective treatment of pain. Preventing OUD before they occur through improved pharmacy management solutions, improved care provider prescribing patterns, and member and care provider education is central to our strategy.

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) combines behavioral therapy and medications to treat opioid use disorders (OUD). The Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications for OUD include buprenorphine, methadone, and naltrexone.

To prescribe buprenorphine, you must complete the waiver through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). You must also get a unique identification number from the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

As a medical care provider, you may provide MAT services even if you don’t offer counseling or behavioral health therapy in-house. However, you must refer your patients to a qualified care provider for those services. If you need help finding a behavioral health care provider, call the number on the back of the member’s health plan ID card. Or search for a behavioral health professional on liveandworkwell.com.

To find a medical MAT provider in: Missouri:

1. Go to UHCprovider.com.
2. Select “Find a Care Provider” from the menu on the home page.
3. Select “Search for Care Providers in the General UnitedHealthcare Plan Directory”.
4. Click on “Medical Directory”.
5. Click on “Medicaid Plans”.
6. Click on “Missouri”.
7. Select applicable plan.
8. Refine the search by selecting “Medication Assisted Treatment”.



For more SAMHSA waiver information:

Physicians: samhsa.gov

NPs and PAs: samhsa.gov



If you have questions about MAT, call Provider Services at **877-842-3210**. Enter your TIN, then enter “0” to speak to a representative.

Chapter 8: Member Rights and Responsibilities

Our Member Handbook has a section on member rights and responsibilities. In it, we ask that members treat you with respect and courtesy.

Privacy Regulations

HIPAA privacy regulations offer full federal protection to protect member health care information. These regulations control the internal and external uses and disclosures of such data. They also assert member rights.

ACCESS TO PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION

Members may access their medical records or billing information either held at your office or through us. If their information is electronic, they may ask that you or us send a copy in an electronic format. They may also ask that a copy of their information be provided to a third party.

AMENDMENT OF PHI

Our members have the right to ask that information be changed if they believe it is inaccurate or incomplete. Any request must be in writing and explain why they want the change. This request must be acted on within 60 days. The timing may be extended 30 days with written notice to the member. If the request is denied, members may have a disagreement statement added to their health information.

ACCOUNTING OF DISCLOSURES

Our members have the right to request an accounting of certain disclosures of their PHI, made by you or us, during six years prior to the request. This accounting must include disclosures by business associates. It will not include disclosures made:

- For treatment, payment and health care operations purposes

- To members or pursuant to member's authorization
- To correctional institutions or law enforcement officials
- For which federal law does not need us to give an accounting

RIGHT TO REQUEST RESTRICTIONS

Members have the right to ask you or us to restrict the use and disclosures of their PHI for treatment, payment and health care operations. This request may be denied. If it is granted, the covered entity is bound by any restriction to which is agreed. Document these restrictions. We must agree to restrict disclosure. Members may request to restrict disclosures to family members or to others who are involved in their care or its payment.

RIGHT TO REQUEST CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members have the right to request communications from you or us be sent to a separate location or other means. Accommodate reasonable requests, especially if the member states disclosure could endanger them. Requests for confidential communication do not require a member explanation. Keep a written copy of the request.

Member Rights and Responsibilities

The following information is in the Member Handbook at the following link under the Member Information tab: UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan > Member Information – Plan Details and More.

NATIVE AMERICAN ACCESS TO CARE

Native American members can access care to tribal clinics and Indian hospitals without approval.

MEMBER RIGHTS

Members may:

- Request information on advance directives.
- Give and be treated with respect, dignity and privacy.
- Receive courtesy and prompt treatment.
- Receive cultural assistance, including having an interpreter during appointments and procedures.
- Receive information about us, rights and responsibilities, their benefit plan and which services are not covered.
- Know the qualifications of their health care provider.
- Give their consent for treatment unless unable to do so because life or health is in immediate danger.
- Discuss any and all treatment options with you.
- Refuse treatment directly or through an advance directive.
- Be free from any restraint used as discipline, retaliation, convenience or force them to do something they do not want to do.
- Receive medically necessary services covered by their benefit plan.
- Receive information about in-network care providers and practitioners, and choose a care provider from our network.
- Change care providers at any time for any reason.
- Tell us if they are not satisfied with their treatment or with us; they can expect a prompt response.
- Tell us their opinions and concerns about services and care received.
- Register grievances or complaints concerning the health plan or the care provided.
- Appeal any payment or benefit decision we make.
- Review the medical records you keep and request changes and/or additions to any area they feel is needed.
- Receive information about their condition, understand treatment options, regardless of cost or whether such services are covered, and talk with you when making decisions about their care.
- Get a second opinion with an in-network care provider.
- Expect health care professionals are not kept from advising them about health status, medical care or treatment, regardless of benefit coverage.

- Make suggestions about our member rights and responsibilities policies.
- Get more information upon request, such as on how our health plan works and a care provider's incentive plan, if they apply.

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members should:

- Understand their benefits so they can get the most value from them.
- Show you their Medicaid member ID card.
- Prevent others from using their ID card.
- Understand their health problems and give you true and complete information.
- Ask questions about treatment.
- Work with you to set treatment goals.
- Follow the agreed-upon treatment plan.
- Get to know you before they are sick.
- Keep appointments or tell you when they cannot keep them.
- Treat your staff and our staff with respect and courtesy.
- Get any approvals needed before receiving treatment.
- Use the emergency room only during a serious threat to life or health.
- Notify us of any change in address or family status.
- Make sure you are in-network.
- Follow your advice and understand what may happen if they do not follow it.
- Give you and us information that could help improve their health.

Our member rights and responsibilities help uphold the quality of care and services they receive from you. The three primary member responsibilities as required by the National Committee of Quality Assurance (NCQA) are to:

- Supply information (to the extent possible) to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and to you that is needed for you to provide care.
- Follow care to which they have agreed.
- Understand their condition and take part in developing mutually agreed-upon treatment goals, to the degree possible.

Chapter 9: Medical Records

Medical Record Charting Standards

You are required to keep complete and orderly medical records, which fosters efficient and quality member care. You are subject to our periodic quality medical record review. The review determines compliance to the following requirements:

Topic	Contact
Confidentiality of Record	Office policies and procedures exist for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidentiality of the patient medical record. • Privacy of the member medical record. • Initial and periodic training of office staff about medical record privacy. • Release of information. • Record retention. • Availability of medical record if housed in a different office location.
Record Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a policy that provides medical records upon request. Urgent situations require copies be provided within 48 hours. • Maintain medical records in a current, detailed, organized and comprehensive manner. The records should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In order. - Fastened, if loose. - Separate for each member. - Filed in a manner for easy retrieval. - Readily available to the treating care provider where the member generally receives care. - Promptly sent to specialists upon request. • Medical records are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stored in a manner that helps ensure privacy and confidentiality. - Released only to entities as designated consistent with federal requirements. - Kept in a secure area accessible only to authorized personnel.

Topic	Contact
Procedural Elements	<p>Medical records are legible*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All entries are signed and dated. • Patient name/identification number is located on each page of the record. • Linguistic or cultural needs are documented as appropriate. • Medical records contain demographic data that includes name, identification numbers, date of birth, gender, address, phone number(s), employer, contact information, marital status and an indication whether the member’s first language is something other than English. • Mechanism for monitoring and handling missed appointments is evident. • An executed advance directive is in a prominent part of the current medical record for adults 18 years and older, emancipated minors and minors with children. Adults 18 years and older, emancipated minors and minors with children are given information regarding advance directives. • Procedure for monitoring and handling missed appointments is in place. • An advance directive is in a prominent part of the current medical record for adults 18 years and older, emancipated minors and minors with children. Adults 18 years and older, emancipated minors and minors with children are given information about advance directives. • A problem list includes a list of all significant illnesses and active medical conditions. • A medication list includes prescribed and over the counter medications and is reviewed annually.* • Document the presence or absence of allergies or adverse reactions.*
History	<p>An initial history (for members seen three or more times) and physical is performed. It should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical and surgical history* • A family history that includes relevant medical history of parents and/or siblings • A social history that includes information about occupation, living situations, education, smoking, alcohol use, and/or substance abuse use/ history beginning at age 11 • Current and history of immunizations of children, adolescents and adults • Screenings of/for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommended preventive health screenings/tests - Depression - High-risk behaviors such as drug, alcohol and tobacco use; if present, advise to quit - Medicare members for functional status assessment and pain - Adolescents on depression, substance abuse, tobacco use, sexual activity, exercise and nutrition and counseling as appropriate

Topic	Contact
Problem Evaluation and Management	<p>Documentation for each visit includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vital signs (Measurement of height, weight, and BMI annually) • Chief complaint* • Physical assessment* • Diagnosis* • Treatment plan* <p>Tracking and referral of age and gender appropriate preventive health services consistent with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventive health guidelines • Documentation of all elements of age appropriate federal EPSDT • Clinical decisions and safety support tools are in place to help ensure evidence based care, such as flow sheet • Treatment plans are consistent with evidence-based care and with findings/diagnosis • Time frame for follow-up visit as appropriate • Appropriate use of referrals/consults, studies, tests • X-rays, labs consultation reports are included in the medical record with evidence of practitioner review • Evidence of practitioner follow-up of abnormal results • Unresolved issues from a previous visit are followed up on the subsequent visit • There is evidence of coordination with behavioral health provider • Education, including lifestyle counseling is documented • Patient input and/or understanding of treatment plan and options is documented • Copies of hospital discharge summaries, home health care reports, emergency room care, physical or other therapies, as ordered by the practitioner are documented

*Critical element

SCREENING AND DOCUMENTATION TOOLS

These tools were developed to help you follow regulatory requirements and practice.

Medical Record Review

On an ad hoc basis, we conduct a review of our members' medical records. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will conduct a review of the medical records you maintain for our members. You are expected to achieve a passing score of 85% or better.

Medical records should include:

- Initial health assessment, including a baseline.
- Comprehensive medical history, which should be completed in less than two visits and documented, and ongoing physical assessments documented on each subsequent visit.
- Problem list, including the following documented data:
 - Biographical data, including family history.
 - Past and present medical and surgical intervention.
 - Significant illnesses and medical conditions with date of onset and resolution.
 - Documentation of education/counseling regarding HIV pre and post-test, including results.
- Entries dated and the author identified.
- Legible entries.
- Medication allergies and adverse reactions are prominently noted. Also note if there are no known allergies or adverse reactions.
- Past medical history is easily identified and included serious illnesses, injuries and operations (for patients seen three or more times). For children and adolescents (18 years or younger), past history relates to prenatal care, birth, operations and childhood illnesses.
- Medication record includes name of medication, dosage, amount dispensed and dispensing instructions.
- Immunization record.
- Document tobacco habits, alcohol use and substance abuse (12 years and older)

- Copy of advance directive, or other document as allowed by state law, or notate patient does not want one.
- History of physical examination (including subjective and objective findings).
- Unresolved problems from previous visit(s) addressed in subsequent visits.
- Diagnosis and treatment plans consistent with finding.
- Lab and other studies as appropriate.
- Patient education, counseling and/or coordination of care with other care providers or health care professionals.
- Notation regarding the date of return visit or other needed follow-up care for each encounter.
- Consultations, lab, imaging and special studies initialed by primary care provider to indicate review.
- Consultation and abnormal studies including follow-up plans.

Patient hospitalization records should include, as appropriate:

- History and physical
- Consultation notes
- Operative notes
- Discharge summary
- Other appropriate clinical information
- Documentation of appropriate preventive screening and services
- Documentation of behavioral health assessment (CAGE-AID, TWEAK AND PHQ-9)

Medical Record Documentation Standards Audit Tool Sample

Provider Name		
Provider ID#:	Provider Specialty:	
Reviewer Name:	Review Date:	Score:
Member Name/Initials:	Member ID#:	

Does the office have an electronic medical record system? Yes or No

Part 1 - PRACTITIONER OFFICE SITE CHECKLIST

Confidentiality & Record Organization & Office Procedures	Yes	No	N/A
1. The office has a policy regarding medical record confidentiality that addresses office staff training on confidentiality; release of information; record retention; and availability of medical records housed in a different office. location (as applicable).			
2. Staff is trained in medical record confidentiality.			
3. Confidentiality policy is available upon request.			
4. The office uses a Release of Information (ROI) form that requires patient signature.			
5. Member records are stored in an organized fashion for easy retrieval.			
6. Records are stored in a secure location only accessible by authorized personnel.			
7. Each member has a separate medical record.			
8. There is an identified order to the record assembly (EMR = Yes) .			
9. Pages are fastened in the record (EMR = Yes) .			
10. There is a policy for timely transfer of medical records to other locations or providers.			
11. Member records are available to the treating practitioner where the member generally receives care.			
12. Medical records are released to entities as designated consistent with federal regulations.			
13. There is a mechanism to monitor and handle missed appointments.			

Part 2 - MEMBER RECORD REVIEW

Section 1 – Procedural Elements	Yes	No	N/A
1. The medical record is legible.			
2. All entries are signed and dated.			
3. Patient name/identification number is located on each page of the record.			

Section 1 – Procedural Elements	Yes	No	N/A
4. Medical records contain patient demographic information.			
5. Medical records identifies primary language spoken and any cultural or religious preferences if applicable.			
6. Adults 18 and older, emancipated minors, and minors with children have an executed advance directive in a prominent part of the record.			
7. If answered no to #6 above; then adults 18 and older, emancipated minors, and minors with children were given information about advance directives.			
8. A problem list includes significant illnesses and active medical conditions.			
9. A medication list includes prescribed and over-the-counter medications and is reviewed annually.			
10. The presence or absence of allergies or adverse reactions is clearly displayed.			

Section 2 – History	Yes	No	N/A
1. Medical and surgical history is present.			
2. The family history includes pertinent history of parents and/or siblings.			
3. The social history minimally includes pertinent information such as occupation, living situation, etc.			

Section 3 – Preventive Services	Yes	No	N/A
1. Evidence of social screening; high-risk behaviors such as drug, alcohol and tobacco use, sexual activity, exercise and nutrition counseling (may answer N/A if < 12 yrs old).			
2. Evidence of current age-appropriate immunizations.			
3. Annual comprehensive physical (or more often for newborns).			
4. Documentation of mental and physical development for children and/or cognitive functioning for adults.			
5. Evidence of depression/mental health screening (may answer N/A if < 12 yrs old).			
6. Evidence of tracking and referral of age- and gender-appropriate preventive health services.			
7. Use of flow sheets or tools to promote adherence to Clinical Practice Guidelines/ Preventive Screenings.			
8. Documentation of all elements of age appropriate federal Early, Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT), if applicable.			

Section 4: Problem Evaluation and Management Documentation for each visit includes:	Yes	No	N/A
1. Appropriate vital signs (TPR, BP).			
2. Documented annually – Height, Weight and BMI Measurement.			
3. Chief Complaint.			
4. Physical Assessment.			
5. Diagnosis.			
6. Treatment Plan. Treatment Plans are Consistent with Evidence-Based Care and with Findings/Diagnosis.			
7. Appropriate use of referrals/consults, studies, tests (N/A if services not warranted).			
8. X-rays, labs, consultation reports are included in the medical record with evidence of practitioner review (N/A if no testing conducted in past 12 months).			
9. Follow-up of all abnormal diagnostic tests, procedures, x-rays, consult or referrals.			
10. Time frame for follow-up visit as appropriate.			
11. Unresolved issues from the first visit are followed-up on the subsequent visit.			
12. There is evidence of coordination of care with behavioral health (N/A if not under the care of a BH provider).			
13. Education, including counseling is documented.			
14. Copies of hospital discharge summaries, home health care reports, emergency room care, physical or other therapies, as ordered by the practitioner are documented.			

Scoring	Yes	No	N/A
1. Audit Score			
2. UHC Clinical Practice Consultant:			
3. Provider or Representative:			
4. Review Date:			

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & + & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & = & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & + & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & = & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\
 \text{(Questions)} & & \text{(# N/A)} & & \text{(Adjusted \#} & & \text{(Adjusted \#} & & \text{(Score)} \\
 & & & & \text{of Questions)} & & \text{of Questions)} & &
 \end{array}$$

If a care provider scores less than 85%, review five more charts. Only review those elements the care provider received a “NO” on in the initial phase of the review. Upon secondary review, if a data element scores at 85% or above, that data element is recalculated as a “YES” in the initial scoring. If upon secondary review, a data element scores below 85%, the original calculation remains.

***Items are MUST PASS**

Chapter 10: Quality Management (QM) Program and Compliance Information

What is the Quality Improvement Program?

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's comprehensive Quality Improvement program falls under the leadership of the chief medical officer. A copy of our Quality Improvement program is available upon request.

The program consists of:

- Identifying the scope of care and services given
- Developing clinical guidelines and service standards
- Monitoring and assessing the quality and appropriateness of services given to our members based on the guidelines
- Promoting wellness and preventive health, as well as chronic condition self-management
- Maintaining a network of providers that meets adequacy standards
- Striving for improvement of member health care and services
- Monitoring and enhance patient safety
- Tracking member and provider satisfaction and take actions as appropriate

As a participating care provider, you may offer input through representation on our Quality Improvement Committees and your provider services representative/provider advocate.

COOPERATION WITH QUALITY-IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES

You must comply with all quality-improvement activities. These include:

- Providing requested timely medical records.
- Cooperation with quality-of-care investigations. For example, responding to questions and/or completing quality-improvement action plans.
- Participation in quality audits, such as site visits and medical record standards reviews, and taking part in the annual Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) record review.
- Requested medical records at no cost (or as indicated in your Agreement with us). You may provide records during site visits or by email, secure email or secure fax.
- Practitioner appointment access and availability surveys.

Quality Improvement Program

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's comprehensive Quality Improvement program falls under the leadership of the chief medical officer. A copy of our Quality Improvement program is available upon request.

As a participating care provider, you may offer input through representation on our Quality Improvement Committees and your provider services representative/provider advocate. We require your cooperation and compliance to:

- Allow the plan to use your performance data.
- Offer Medicaid members the same number of office hours as commercial members (or don't restrict office hours you offer Medicaid members.)

Care Provider Satisfaction

Every year, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan conducts care provider satisfaction assessments as part of our quality improvement efforts. We assess and promote your satisfaction through:

- Annual care provider satisfaction surveys.
- Regular visits.
- Town hall meetings.

Our chief concern with the survey is objectivity. That's why UnitedHealthcare Community Plan engages independent market research firm Center for the Study of Services (CSS) to analyze and report findings.

Survey results are reported to our Quality Management Committee. It compares the results year over year as well as to other UnitedHealthcare Community Plan plans across the country. The survey results include key strengths and improvement areas. Additionally, we carry out improvement plans as needed.

Credentialing Standards

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan credentials and re-credentials you according to applicable Missouri statutes and the National Committee of Quality Assurance (NCQA). The following items are required to begin the credentialing process:

- A completed credentialing application, including Attestation Statement
- Current medical license
- Current Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) certificate
- Current professional liability insurance

We verify information from primary sources regarding licensure, education and training. We also verify board certification and malpractice claims history.

Credentialing and Recredentialing Process

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's credentialing and recredentialing process determines whether you are a good fit for the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan care provider network. You must go through the credentialing and recredentialing process before you may treat our members.

CARE PROVIDERS SUBJECT TO CREDENTIALING AND RE-CREDENTIALING

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan evaluates the following practitioners:

- MDs (Doctors of Medicine)
- DOs (Doctors of Osteopathy)
- DDSs (Doctors of Dental Surgery)
- DMDs (Doctors of Dental Medicine)
- DPMs (Doctors of Podiatric Surgery)
- DCs (Doctors of Chiropractic)
- CNMs (Certified Nurse Midwives)
- CRNPs (Certified Nurse Practitioners)
- Behavioral Health Clinicians (Psychologists, Clinical Social Workers, Masters Prepared Therapists)

Excluded from this process are practitioners who:

- Practice only in an inpatient setting,
- Hospitalists employed only by the facility; and/or
- NPs and PAs who practice under a credentialed UnitedHealthcare Community Plan care provider.

FACILITY CARE PROVIDERS

Facility care providers such as hospitals, home health agencies, skilled nursing facilities and ambulatory surgery centers are also subject to applicable credentialing and licensure requirements.

Facilities must meet the following requirements or verification:

- Meet state and federal licensing and regulatory requirements and NPI number. - Have a current unrestricted license to operate.
- Confirm the care provider has been reviewed and approved by an accrediting body.

- Have space between minimums and Site Malpractice coverage/liability insurance that meets contract minimums. - Allow site visits if not accredited by the Joint Commission (JC) or other recognized accrediting agency.
- Have no Medicare/Medicaid sanctions.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan does not make credentialing and recredentialing decisions based on race, ethnic/ national identity, gender, age, sexual orientation or the type of procedure or patient in which the practitioner specializes.

The National Credentialing Center (NCC) completes these reviews. Find applications on the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH) website.



First-time applicants must call the [National Credentialing Center \(VETTS line\)](#) to get a CAQH number and complete the application online.



For chiropractic credentialing, call [800-873-4575](tel:800-873-4575) or go to myoptumhealthphysicalhealth.com.

Submit the following supporting documents to CAQH after completing the application:

- Curriculum vitae
- Medical license
- DEA certificate
- Malpractice insurance coverage
- IRS W-9 Form

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

As part of re-credentialing, we may audit records of primary care providers, hospitals, home health agencies, personal care providers and hospices. This process helps us determine whether you are following policies and procedures related to advance directives. These policies include:

- Respecting members' advance directives, and placing them prominently in medical records.
- Adhering to charting standards that reflect the member's advance directives.

Peer Review

CREDENTIALING PROCESS

A peer review committee reviews all credentialing applications and makes a final decision. The decisions may not be appealed if they relate to mandatory criteria at the time of credentialing. We will notify you of the decision in writing within 60 calendar days of the review.

RECREREDENTIALING PROCESS

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan recredentials practitioners every three years. This process helps assure you update time-limited documentation and identify legal and health status changes. We also verify that you follow UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's guidelines, processes and care provider performance standards. You are notified before your next credentialing cycle to complete your application on the CAQH website. Not responding to our request for recredentialing information results in administrative termination of privileges as a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan care provider. You have three chances to answer the request before your participation privileges are terminated.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

As part of the recredentialing process, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan looks in its Quality Management database for information about your performance. This includes member complaints and quality of care issues.

APPLICANT RIGHTS AND NOTIFICATION

You have the right to review information you submitted to support your credentialing/recredentialing application.

This excludes personal or professional references or peer review protected information. You have the right to correct erroneous information you find. You may call the NCC to correct your information at any time. If the NCC finds erroneous information, a representative will contact you by fax or in writing. You must submit corrections within 30 days of notification by phone, fax or in writing to the number or address the NCC representative provided.

You also have the right to receive the status of your credentialing or recredentialing application by calling the NCC (VETTS) number listed in How to Contact Us.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All credentialing information collected during the review process is kept confidential. It is only shared with your approval or as required by law with those involved in the credentialing process.

Resolving Disputes

CONTRACT CONCERNS

If you have a concern about your Agreement with us, send a letter to:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Central Escalation Unit
P.O. Box 5032
Kingston, NY, 12402-5032

A representative will work to resolve the issue with you. If you disagree with the outcome of this discussion, please follow the dispute resolution provisions of your Provider Agreement.

If your concern is about a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan procedure, such as the credentialing or Care Coordination process, we will resolve it by following the procedures in that plan. If you are still dissatisfied, please follow the dispute resolution provisions in your Provider Agreement.

If we have a concern about our Agreement with you, we will send you a letter. If the issue can't be resolved this way, please follow the dispute resolution provisions in your Provider Agreement.

If a member has authorized you in writing to appeal a clinical or coverage determination on their behalf, that appeal follows the member appeals process as outlined in the Member Handbook and Chapter 12 of this manual.

HIPAA Compliance – Your Responsibilities

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996 aims to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the United States health care system.

While the Act's core goals were to maintain insurance coverage for workers and fight health care fraud and abuse, its Administrative Simplification provisions have had the greatest impact on how the health care industry works. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is a "covered entity" under these regulations. So are all health care providers who conduct business electronically.

TRANSACTIONS AND CODE SETS

If you conduct business electronically, submit claims using the standard formats adopted under HIPAA. Otherwise, submit claims using a Clearinghouse.

UNIQUE IDENTIFIER

HIPAA also requires unique identifiers for employers, health care providers, health plans and individuals for use in standard transactions.

NATIONAL PROVIDER IDENTIFIER (NPI)

The National Provider Identifier (NPI) is your standard unique identifier. It is a 10-digit number with no embedded intelligence that covered entities must accept and use in standard transactions. While HIPAA only requires you to use the NPI in electronic transactions, many state agencies require it on fee-for-service claims and on encounter submissions. For this reason, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requires the NPI on paper transactions.

The NPI number is issued by the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES). Share it with all affected trading partners, such as care providers to whom you refer patients, billing companies and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

PRIVACY OF INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIABLE HEALTH INFORMATION

The privacy regulations limit how health plans, pharmacies, hospitals and other covered entities can use members' medical information. The regulations protect medical records and other identifiable health information. This includes electronic, paper or spoken data.

They enhance consumers' rights by giving them access to their health information and controlling its inappropriate use. They also improve health care delivery by extending the privacy efforts of states and health systems to a national level.

SECURITY

Covered entities must meet basic security measures:

- Help ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of all electronic protected health information (PHI) the covered entity creates,
- Protect against any reasonably anticipated threats, uses or disclosures of information not permitted or required under the Privacy Regulations, and
- Help ensure compliance with the security regulations by the covered entity's staff.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan expects you to comply with all HIPAA regulations.



Find additional information on HIPAA regulations at [cms.hhs.gov](https://www.cms.hhs.gov).

Ethics & Integrity

INTRODUCTION

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is dedicated to conducting business honestly and ethically with you, members, suppliers and government officials and agencies. Making sound decisions as we interact with you, other health care providers, regulators and others is necessary for our continued success and that of our business associates. It's also the right thing to do.

COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

As a segment of UnitedHealth Group, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is governed by the UnitedHealth Group Ethics and Integrity program. The UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Compliance program incorporates the required seven elements of a compliance program as outlined by the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines:

- Oversight of the Ethics and Integrity program.
- Development and implementation of ethical standards and business conduct policies.
- Creating awareness of the standards and policies by educating employees.
- Assessing compliance by monitoring and auditing.
- Responding to allegations of violations.
- Enforcing policies and disciplining confirmed misconduct or serious neglect of duty.

- Reporting mechanisms for workers to alert management and/or the Ethics and Integrity program staff to violations of law, regulations, policies and procedures, or contractual obligations.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan has compliance officers for each health plan. In addition, each health plan has a compliance committee consisting of senior managers from key organizational areas. The committee provides program direction and oversight.

REPORTING AND AUDITING

Report any unethical, unlawful or inappropriate activity by a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan employee to a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan senior manager or directly to the Compliance Office.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is an important part of the Compliance program. The SIU focuses on prevention, detection and investigation of potentially fraudulent and abusive acts committed by care providers and members. This department oversees coordination of anti-fraud activities.



To facilitate the reporting process of questionable incidents involving members or care providers, call our [Fraud and Abuse line](#).

Please refer to the Fraud, Waste and Abuse section of this manual for additional details about the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Fraud, Waste and Abuse program.

An important aspect of the Compliance program is assessing high-risk areas of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan operations and implementing reviews to help ensure compliance with law, regulations and policies/contracts. When informed of potentially inappropriate or fraudulent practices within the plan or by you, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will conduct an investigation. You must cooperate with the company and government authorities. This means giving access to pertinent records (as required by your applicable Provider Agreement and this manual) as well as access to office staff. If we establish activity in violation of law or regulation, we will advise appropriate governmental authorities.

If you become the subject of a government inquiry or investigation, or a government agency requests documents relating to your operations (other than a routine request for documentation), you must provide UnitedHealthcare Community Plan with the details. You must also reveal what triggered the inquiry.

EXTRAPOLATION AUDITS OF CORPORATE-WIDE BILLING

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will work with the State of Missouri to perform “individual and corporate extrapolation audits.” This may affect all programs supported by dual funds (state and federal funding) as well as state-funded programs, as requested by the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services.

RECORD RETENTION, REVIEWS AND AUDITS

You must maintain an adequate record-keeping system for recording services, charges, dates and all other commonly accepted information for services rendered to our members. Records must be kept for at least 10 years from the close of the Missouri program agreement between the state and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan or another period as required by law. If records are under review, they must be retained until the audit is complete. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and its affiliated entities (including OptumHealth) will request and obtain prior approval from you for the records under review or inspection. You agree to refund the state any overpayment disclosed by any such audit.

If any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit or other action involving the records has been started before the 10-year period ends, you agree to keep the records until one year after the resolution of all issues that come from it. The state may also perform financial, performance and other special audits on such records during business hours throughout your Provider Agreement.

To help ensure members receive quality services, you must also comply with requests for on-site reviews conducted by the state. During these reviews, the state will address your capability to meet Missouri program standards.

You must cooperate with the state or any of its authorized representatives, the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services, the CMS, the Office of Inspector General, or any other agency prior-approved by the state, at any time during your Provider Agreement.

These entities may, at all reasonable times, enter your premises. You agree to allow access to and the right to audit, monitor and examine any relevant books, documents, papers and records to otherwise evaluate (including periodic information systems testing) your performance and charges.

We will perform reviews and audits without delaying your work. If you refuse to allow access, this will constitute a breach of your Provider Agreement.

DELEGATING AND SUBCONTRACTING

If you delegate or subcontract any function, the delegate or subcontractor must include all requirements of your applicable Provider Agreement and this manual.

DELEGATION OVERSIGHT

We may assign medical management to a medical group/ Independent Practice Association (IPA) with established medical management standards. We refer to the medical group/ IPA as a “delegate.” Care providers associated with these delegates may use the delegate’s office and protocols for authorizations. The delegate’s medical management protocols and procedures must comply with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan as well as all applicable state and federal regulatory requirements.

Before assigning medical management functions, we assess the delegate. Within 90 calendar days of the contract effective date, we assess it again to measure compliance with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan standards. We assess the delegate annually thereafter. We may also conduct an off-cycle assessment if needed.

Based on the assessment findings, we may have the delegate develop and implement a corrective action plan to bring the medical group/IPA back into compliance. Delegates who do not achieve compliance within the established timeframes may undergo further corrective action. If the action is not successful, the medical management function will be withdrawn.

APPEALS

When we review a member or care provider’s adverse determination appeal from a delegate, we use MCG (formerly Milliman Care Guidelines) as the externally licensed medical management guidelines. This happens even if the delegate used different externally licensed medical management guidelines to make the determination.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTING

The delegate provides UnitedHealthcare Community Plan with semi-annual reports as outlined in the delegation agreement. Reports must meet applicable requirements and accreditation standards.

Purpose of Medical Management Program

The Medical Management Program helps determine if medical services are:

- Medically necessary.
- Covered under the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan benefit.
- Performed at both the appropriate place and level of care.

DETERMINING MEDICAL NECESSITY

Delegates review nationally recognized criteria to determine medical necessity and appropriate level of care for services. This includes Medicaid coverage guidelines. For services not addressed in Medicaid coverage guidelines, delegates use UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's medical policies. If other nationally recognized criteria disagree with Medicaid coverage guidelines, delegates follow Medicaid coverage guidelines.

Members may call the delegate's general number (or the number listed in the denial letters) to request individual eligibility and benefit criteria. They may also call our Member Services department.

NCQA Accreditation standards require all health care organizations, health plans and delegates distribute a statement to members, care providers and employees who make UM decisions. The statement must note the following:

- UM decision-making is based only on appropriateness of care, service and coverage.
- You or others are not rewarded for issuing denials or encouraging decisions that result in under-utilization

CARE PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS

Render covered services at the most appropriate level of care based on nationally recognized criteria. With few exceptions, we do not reimburse for non-covered services and those not medically necessary. We do not reimburse for the wrong procedures (e.g., notification requirements, preauthorization, verification guarantee process). Authorization receipts do not affect how payment policies determine reimbursement.

We nor the member are responsible for reimbursing medical services, admissions, inappropriate facility days, and/or medically necessary services if you did not obtain required prior authorization. Regardless of the Medical Management Program determination, the decision to render medical services lies with the member and you, as the attending care provider. If you and the member decide to go forward with the medical services after UnitedHealthcare Community Plan or the delegate deny preauthorization, no care provider, facility or ancillary services will be reimbursed. The delegate's medical director can discuss the decisions and criteria with the member. The delegate also makes the medical policy decisions available upon request.

Medical Management Denials/Adverse Determinations

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan or a delegate may issue a denial when a non-covered benefit is requested but deemed not medically necessary. This may also happen when we receive insufficient information.

DENIALS, DELAYS OR MODIFICATIONS

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan or the delegate must make and communicate timely approvals, modifications or denials.

We or the delegate must also state the decision to delay a service based on medical necessity or benefit coverage appropriate to the member's medical condition, in accordance with the applicable state and federal law.

We base all authorization decisions on sound clinical evidence, including medical record review, consultation with the treating care providers, and review of nationally recognized criteria. You must clearly document the medical appropriateness with your authorization request. State and federal law applies to criteria disclosure.

The medical director, Utilization Management Committee (UMC) or you must review referral requests not meeting the authorization criteria. Otherwise, you must present the information to UMC or the subcommittee for discussion and a determination. Only a care provider (or pharmacist, psychiatrist, doctoral level clinical psychologist or certified addiction medicine specialist, as appropriate) may delay, modify or deny services for medical necessity reasons. Board-certified, licensed care providers from appropriate specialties must help make medical necessity decisions, as appropriate. Determination rules include:

- You may not review your own referrals.
- Care providers qualified to make an appropriate determination will review referral requests considered for denial.
- Any referral request where the medical necessity or the proposed treatment is not clear will be discussed with the care provider. Complex cases may be brought to the UMC/medical director for further discussion.

- Individual(s) who can hold financial ownership interest in the organization may not influence the clinical or payment decisions.

Possible request for authorization determinations include:

- Approved as requested – No changes.
- Approved as modified – Referral approved, but changed the requested care provider or treatment plan. (e.g., requested chiropractic, approved physical therapy).
- Extension – Delay of decision (e.g., need additional information, require consultation). CMS allows an extension when a Medicaid member requests one.
- Delay in Delivery – Postpone access to an approved service until a certain date. This is not the same as a modification. A written notification in the denial letter format is required.
- Denied – Non-authorization request for health care services.

Reasons for denials of requests for services include:

- Not a covered benefit – The requested service(s) is excluded under the member's benefit plan.
- Not medically necessary or benefit coverage limitation – Specify criteria or guidelines used to make the determination.
- Member not eligible at the time of service.
- Benefit exhausted - Include what benefit was exhausted and when.
- Not a participating care provider – A participating care provider/service is available within the medical group/ IPA in-network.
- Experimental or investigational procedure/treatment.
- Self-referred/no prior authorization (for non-emergent post-service).
- PCP can provide requested services.

WRITTEN DENIAL NOTICE

The written denial is an important part of the member's chart and the delegate's records. Regardless of the form used, the denial letter documents member and care provider notification of:

- The denial, delay, partial approval or modification of requested services.
- The reason for the decision, including medical necessity, benefits limitation or benefit exclusion.

- Member-specific information about how the member did not meet criteria.
- Appeal rights.
- An alternative treatment plan, if applicable.
- Benefit exhaustion or planned discharge date.

CMS requires the use of the CMS Integrated Denial Notice/Notice of Denial of Medical Coverage (IDN/NDMC) for Medicaid plan members. Do not alter this template except to add text to the requested areas.

Most states require approved standardized templates for member notices, such as denial of services. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will provide appropriate and approved templates to the delegates.

MINIMUM CONTENT OF WRITTEN OR ELECTRONIC NOTIFICATION

Written or electronic notices to deny, delay or modify a health care services authorization request must include the following:

- The requested service(s)
- A reference to the benefit plan provisions to support the decision
- The reason for denial, delay, modification, or partial approval, including:
 - Clear, understandable explanation of the decision
 - Name and description of the criteria used
 - How those criteria were applied to the member's condition
- Notification the member can get a free copy of the benefit provision, guideline, protocol or other criterion used to make the denial decision
- Contractual rationale for benefit denials
- Alternative treatments offered, if applicable
- A description of additional information needed to complete that request and why it is necessary
- Appeal and grievance processes, including:
 - When, when, how and where to submit a standard or expedited appeal
 - The member's right to appoint a representative to file the appeal
 - The right to submit written comments, documents or other additional relevant information

- The right to file a grievance or appeal with the applicable state agency, including information regarding the independent medical review process (IMR), as applicable
- The name and phone number of the health care professional responsible for the decision.

MEDICAL GROUP/IPA'S RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO MEMBER GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS

Occasionally, a member may contact the delegate instead of the plan. In such cases, delegates must:

- Within one hour of receipt, forward all member grievances and appeals to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan for processing.
- Respond to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requests for appeal or grievance information within the designated timeframe. (Standard appeals with 24 hours, expedited appeals within two hours. Timeframes apply to every calendar day.)
- Comply with all final UnitedHealthcare Community Plan determinations.
- Cooperate with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and the external independent medical review organization or State Fair Hearing. This includes promptly forwarding all medical records and information related to the disputed health care service.
- Provide UnitedHealthcare Community Plan with the authorization (pre-service) within the requested timeframes on adverse determinations reversals.
- Respond to requests for proof of overturned appeals.

Referrals

REFERRAL AUTHORIZATION PROCEDURE

The delegate may initiate a member referral. (Refer to the delegated group's pre-authorization list, as applicable). The following capitated medical services are examples of when a referral authorization may be needed:

- Outpatient services
- Laboratory and diagnostic testing (non-routine, performed outside the delegated medical group/IPA's facility)
- Specialty consultation/treatment

The delegate, PCP and/or other referring care provider must verify the care provider participates in UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

You must also comply with the following procedures:

- Review the service request for medical necessity.
- If the treatment is not medically necessary, discuss an alternative treatment plan with the member.
- If the treatment requires referral or prior authorization, submit the request to the delegate UMC for determination.

If the request is not approved, the delegate must issue the member a denial letter.

REFERRAL AUTHORIZATION FORM

The delegate may design its own authorization form, without approval from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

The form should include all the following:

- Member identification (e.g., Member ID number and birth date)
- Services requested (including appropriate ICD-10-CM and/or CPT codes)
- Authorized services (including appropriate ICD-10-CM and/or CPT codes)
- Proper billing procedures (including the medical group/ IPA address)
- Verification of member eligibility

The delegate provides this form to the following:

- Referral care provider
- Member
- Member's medical record
- Managed care administrative office

The delegate does so within 36 hours of receipt of information necessary to make a decision. This includes one working day and does not exceed 14 calendar days.

If UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is financially responsible for the services, the delegate submits the authorization information to the plan.

Continuity of Care

Continuity of care lets members temporarily continue receiving services from a non-participating care provider. It is intended to last a short period.

The delegate facilitates continuity of care for medically necessary covered services. If a member entering the health plan is receiving medically necessary services (in addition to or other than prenatal services) the day before enrollment, the health plan covers the continued costs of such services without prior approval. This is regardless of whether in-network or out-of-network care providers grant these services.

- The health plan provides continuation of such services for the lesser of 1) 60 calendar days or 2) until the member has transferred without disruption of care to an in-network care provider.
- For members eligible for care management, the new health plan provides service continuation authorized by the prior health plan for up to 60 calendar days after the member's enrollment in the new health plan. Services will not be reduced until the new health plan assesses the situation.

Members in their third trimester of pregnancy may receive services from their prenatal care provider (whether in-network or out-of-network) without any form of prior authorization through the postpartum period (defined as 60 calendar days from date of birth).

A member should not continue care with a non-participating care provider without formal approval by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan or the delegate. Except for emergent or urgent out-of-area (OOA) care, payment for services performed by a non-participating medical group/IPA become the member's responsibility. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan (or the delegate) reviews all requests for continuity of care. We consider the member's condition and the potential effect on the member's treatment.

We also consider how changing the care provider can affect the health outcome.

A member may request to continue covered services with a care provider who has terminated from UnitedHealthcare

Community Plan for reasons other than cause or disciplinary action. As the care provider, you must agree in writing:

- To agree to the same contractual terms and conditions imposed on participating care providers, including credentialing, facility privileging, utilization review, peer review and quality assurance requirements; and

- To be compensated at rates and payment methods similar to those used by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and participating care providers granting similar services who are not capitated and are practicing in the same geographic area.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR FACILITY ADMISSIONS WHEN UNITEDHEALTHCARE PAYS CLAIMS

Contracted facilities are accountable to provide timely notification to both the delegate and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan within 24 hours of admission for all inpatient cases. This information is needed to verify eligibility, authorize care, and initiate concurrent review and discharge planning. In maternity cases, notify vaginal delivery or C-section delivery on or before the end of the mandated period 48 hours or 96 hours, respectively. We require notification if the baby stays longer than the mother. In all cases, separate notification is required immediately when a baby is admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit.

For emergency admissions, notification occurs once the member has been stabilized in the emergency department.

Authorization Log and Denial Log Submission

Authorization logs for all inpatient acute, observation status and skilled nursing facility cases must be accurately submitted at least twice a week to the Authorization Log Unit at clinicaloperations@uhc.com. When no inpatient acute, observation statuses or skilled nursing facility cases are active, the delegate must submit its weekly authorization log indicating either “no activity” or “no admissions” for each designated admission service type specified in this section and for the applicable reporting time.

Authorization logs covering facility and skilled nursing facility daily information includes the following:

- Member ID
- Member name
- Member date of birth
- Attending care provider: (Name and address, with TIN if available)
- Facility care provider: (Name and address, with TIN if available)
- Admitting diagnosis (ICD-10-CM or its successor code)
- Planned and actual admission dates
- Planned and actual discharge dates
- Level of care (i.e., bed type, observation status, outpatient procedures at acute facilities)
- Length of stay (LOS) (i.e., number of days approved, as well as the number of days denied)
- Procedure/surgery (CPT Code)
- Discharge disposition
- Service type
- Authorization number (if available)

The delegate must clearly define medical necessity and authorizing outpatient services paid as either shared risk or plan risk per the medical group/IPA contract. It must submit authorization or denials for services the group authorized or denied care on behalf of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

For more information, please contact your provider advocate.

Office Site Quality

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and affiliates monitor complaints for quality of services (QOS) concerning participating care providers and facilities. Complaints about you or your site are recorded and investigated. We conduct appropriate follow-up to assure that members receive care in a safe, clean and accessible environment. For this reason, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan has set Clinical Site Standards for all PCP office sites to help ensure facility quality.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requires you and your facilities meet the following site standards:

- Clean and orderly overall appearance.
- Available handicapped parking.
- Handicapped accessible facility.
- Available adequate waiting room space
- Adequate exam room(s) for providing member care.
- Privacy in exam room(s).
- Clearly marked exits.
- Accessible fire extinguishers.
- Post file inspection record in the last year.

CRITERIA FOR SITE VISITS

The following table outlines the criteria used to require a site visit. When the threshold is met, we conduct a site visit according to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan policy.

QOS Issue	Criteria	Threshold
Issue may pose a substantive threat to patient’s safety	Access to facility in poor repair to pose a potential risk to patients Needles and other sharps exposed and accessible to patients Drug stocks accessible to patients Other issues determines to pose a risk to patient safety	One complaint
Issues with physical appearance, physical accessibility and adequacy of waiting and examination room space	Access to facility in poor repair to pose a potential risk to patients Needles and other sharps exposed and accessible to patients Drug stocks accessible to patients Other issues determines to pose a risk to patient safety	Two complaints in six months
Other	All other complaints concerning the office facilities	Three complaints in six months

Chapter 11: Billing and Submission

Our Claims Process

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan follows the same claims process as UnitedHealthcare.



For a complete description of the process, go to UHCprovider.com/guides > View online version > Chapter 9 Our Claims Process.



For claims, billing and payment questions, go to UHCprovider.com.

National Provider Identifier

HIPAA requires you have a unique National Provider Identifier (NPI). The NPI identifies you in all standard transactions.



If you have not applied for a NPI, contact [National Plan and Provider Enumeration System \(NPPES\)](#). Once you have an identifier, report it to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan. Call [Provider Services](#).

Your clean claims must include your NPI and Federal Tax Identification Number. Also include the Unique Care Provider Identification Number (UPIN) laboratory claims.

General Billing Guidelines

We only consider reimbursing claims if you met billing and coverage requirements. Submitting a referral does not guarantee we will pay you. Payment depends on the member's coverage on the date(s) of service, medical necessity, plan rules about limitations and exclusions, and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan policies. We don't reimburse excessive, inappropriate or non-covered charges. To comply with applicable standards, policies

and law, we may adjust previous payments for services and audit claims. We may seek reimbursement for overpayments or offset future payments as allowed by law.

Fee Schedule

Reimbursements also depend on the fee schedule and the procedure performed. Refer to your bulletins for correct coding.

Modifier Codes

Use the appropriate [modifier codes](#) on your claim form. The modifier must be used based on the date of service.

Member ID Card for Billing

The member ID card has both the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member ID and the state Document Control Number (DCN). UnitedHealthcare Community Plan prefers you bill with the member ID.

Acceptable Claim Forms

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan only processes claims submitted on 1500 and UB-04 claim forms.

Use the 02/12 1500 form for ancillary services, ambulatory surgery centers, urgent care centers and hospital services.

Use the UB-04 form for hospital inpatient and outpatient services, dialysis services, skilled nursing homes inpatient services, long-term care facilities, hospice services and other care providers.

Clean Claims and Submission Requirements

Complete a CMS 1500 or UB-04 form whether you submit an electronic or a paper claim. Clean claims have:

- A health service provided by an eligible health care provider to a covered UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member.
- All the required documentation, including correct diagnosis and procedure codes.
- The correct amount claimed.

We may require additional information for some services, situations or state requirements.

Submit any services completed by NPs and PAs who are part of a collaborative agreement.

Care Provider Coding

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan complies with Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) state standards based on claims data and chart review. Use the [UnitedHealthcare ICD-10-CM CodeLookup Tool](#) to find an ICD-10 code.

Electronic Claims Submission and Billing

You may submit claims by electronic data interchange (EDI). EDI offers less paperwork, reduced postage, less time spent handling claims and faster turnaround.

- OptumInsight can provide you with clearinghouse connectivity or your software vendor can connect through an entity that uses OptumInsight.
- All claims are set up as “commercial” through the clearinghouse.
- Our payer ID is 86050.
- Clearinghouse Acknowledgment Reports and Payer-Specific Acknowledgment Reports identify claims that don’t successfully transmit.
- We follow CMS National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC) and National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC) guidelines for HCFA 1500 and UB-04 forms.

If you treat another diagnosis, use that ICD CM code as well.



For more information, contact [EDI Claims](#). You can also see [enshealth.com](#) or contact [Provider Services](#).

EDI Companion Documents

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan’s companion documents are intended to share information within Implementation Guides (IG) adopted by HIPAA. The companion documents identify the data content requested when it is electronically transmitted. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan uses companion documents to:

- Clarify data content that meets the needs of the health plan’s business purposes when the IG allows multiple choices.
- Provide values the health plan will return in outbound transactions.
- Outline which situational elements the health plan requires.

The companion document provides general information and specific details pertinent to each transaction. These documents should be shared with your software vendor for any programming and field requirements.



The companion documents are located on [UHCprovider.com/edi](#) > Go to companion guides

Importance and Usage of EDI Acknowledgment/Status Reports

Software vendor reports only show the claim left your office and was either accepted or rejected. They don’t confirm the claim status. Acknowledgment reports confirm the information you sent has been received. Review your reports, clearinghouse acknowledgment reports and the status reports to reduce processing delays and timely filing penalties.



To get your reports, make sure your software vendor has connected to our clearinghouse OptumInsight at [enshealth.com](#).

If you are not yet an OptumInsight client, we will tell you how to receive Clearinghouse Acknowledgment Reports.

e-Business Support

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan offices are open hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Central Time, Monday through Friday. They can help you with Electronic Remittance Advices (ERAs) and Electronic Funds Transfers (EFTs). To use ERAs, you must enroll through a clearinghouse or entity that uses OptumInsight.

Support is also available for [EDI Claims](#) and [EDI Log-on Issues](#).

Find more information at UHCprovider.com/EDI.

IMPORTANT EDI PAYER INFORMATION

- Claim Payer ID: 86050
- ERA Payer ID: UFNEP

Completing the CMS 1500 Claim Form



Companion documents for 837 transactions are on UHCprovider.com/edi.

Visit the [National Uniform Claim Committee](#) website to learn how to complete the CMS 1500 form.

Completing the UB-04 Form

Bill all hospital inpatient, outpatient and emergency room services using revenue codes and the UB-04 claim form:

- Include ICD CM diagnosis codes.
- Identify other services by the CPT/HCPCS and modifiers.

Capitated Services

CAPITATED CARE PROVIDERS

Capitation is a payment arrangement for health care providers. If you have a capitation agreement with us, we pay you a set amount for each member assigned to

you per period of time. We pay you whether or not that person seeks care. In most instances, the capitated care provider is either a medical group or an Independent Practice Association (IPA). In a few instances, however, the capitated care provider may be an ancillary provider or hospital.

We use the term ‘medical group/IPA’ interchangeably with the term ‘capitated care providers’. Capitation payment arrangements apply to participating physicians, health care providers, facilities and ancillary care providers who are capitated for certain UnitedHealthcare Community Plan products. This applies to all benefit plans for members:

1. Who have been assigned to or who have chosen a care provider who receives a capitation payment from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan for such member, and
2. Who are covered under an applicable benefit plan insured by or receiving administrative services from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

Additionally, capitated care providers may be subject to any or all delegated activities. Capitated care providers should refer to their Delegation Grids within their participation agreements to determine which delegated activities the capitated providers are performing on behalf of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

For capitated services, include all services related to an inpatient stay on the UB-04 when a member is admitted to the hospital they received emergency room treatment, observation or other outpatient hospital services.

We deny claims submitted with service dates that don't match the itemization and medical records. This is a billing error denial.

Form Reminders

- Note the Attending Provider Name and identifiers for the member's medical care and treatment on institutional claims for services other than non-scheduled transportation claims.
- Send the Referring Provider NPI and name on outpatient claims when this care provider is not the Attending Provider.

- Include the attending provider's NPI in the Attending Provider Name and Identifiers Fields (UB-04 FL76 or electronic equivalent) of your claims.
- Behavioral health care providers can bill using multiple site-specific NPIs.

Subrogation and Coordination of Benefit

Our benefits contracts are subject to subrogation and coordination of benefits (COB) rules:

- **Subrogation:** We may recover benefits paid for a member's treatment when a third party causes the injury or illness.
- **COB:** We coordinate benefits based on the member's benefit contract and applicable regulations.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is the payer of last resort. Other coverage should be billed as the primary carrier. When billing UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, submit the primary payer's Explanation of Benefits or remittance advice with the claim.

Hospital and Clinic Method of Billing Professional Services

Hospital and clinics must bill for professional services bill on a CMS 1500. The servicing provider's name is placed in box 31, and the servicing provider's group NPI number is placed in box 33a.

Correct Coding Initiative

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan performs coding edit procedures based on the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) and other nationally recognized sources.

COMPREHENSIVE AND COMPONENT CODES

Comprehensive and component code combination edits apply when a code pair(s) appears to be related. These edits can be further broken down to explain the bundling rationale. Some of the most common causes for denials in this category are:

- **Separate procedures:** Only report these codes when performed independently:

- **Most extensive procedures:** You can perform some procedures with different complexities. Only report the most extensive service.
- **With/without services:** Don't report combinations where one code includes and the other excludes certain services.
- **Medical practice standards:** Services part of a larger procedure are bundled.
- **Laboratory panels:** Don't report individual components of panels or multichannel tests separately.

Clinical Laboratory Improvements Amendments

Submit your laboratory claims with the Clinical Laboratory Improvements Amendments (CLIA) number. In box 23 of the CMS 1500 claim form, enter the 10-digit CLIA certification number for laboratory services billed by an entity performing CLIA-covered procedures.

If you bill electronically, report the CLIA number in Loop 2300 or 2400, REF/X4,02. For more information about the CLIA number, contact the CMS CLIA Central Office at 410-786-3531 or go to the [cms.gov](https://www.cms.gov).

Billing Multiple Units

When billing multiple units:

- If the same procedure is repeated on the same date of service, enter the procedure code once with the appropriate number of units.
- The total bill charge is the unit charge multiplied by the number of units.

Billing Guidelines for Obstetrical Services

Follow this reporting procedure when submitting obstetrical delivery claims. Otherwise, we will deny the claim:

- If billing for both delivery and prenatal care, use the date of delivery.

- Use one unit with the appropriate charge in the charge column.
- Gather all required referrals and evaluations to complete the pre-transplant evaluation process once the member is a possible candidate.

Billing Guidelines for Transplants

The Department of Health and Human Services covers medically necessary, non-experimental transplants. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan covers the transplant evaluation and work-ups. Get prior authorization for the transplant evaluation.

Ambulance Claims (Emergency)

Ambulance claims must include the point of origin, destination address, city, state, and ZIP.

National Drug Code

Claims must include:

- National Drug Code (NDC) and unit of measurement for the drug billed.
- HCPCS/CPT code and units of service for the drug billed.
- Actual metric decimal quantity administered.

The claims must show the NDC that appears on the product. Enter the identifier N4, the 11-digit NDC code, unit/basis of measurement qualified, and metric decimal quantity administered. Include HCPCS/CPT codes.

Medical Necessity

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan only pays for medically necessary services. See Chapter 4 for more information about medical necessity.

Place of Service Codes

Go to [CMS.gov](https://www.cms.gov) for Place of Service codes.

Asking About a Claim

You can ask about claims through UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Provider Service and the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Provider Portal. To access the portal, go to UHCprovider.com. Follow the instructions to get a user ID. You will receive your user ID and password within 48 hours.

PROVIDER SERVICES

Provider Services helps resolve claims issues. Have the following information ready before you call:

- Member's ID number
- Date of service
- Procedure code
- Amount billed
- Your ID number
- Claim number

Allow Provider Services 45 days to solve your concern. Limit phone calls to five issues per call.

UNITEDHEALTHCARE COMMUNITY PLAN PROVIDER PORTAL

You can view your online transactions with Link by signing in to Link on UHCprovider.com with your Optum ID. This portal offers you with online support any time. If you are not already registered, you may do so on the website.

LINK: YOUR GATEWAY TO UNITEDHEALTHCARE COMMUNITY PLAN ONLINE PROVIDER TOOLS AND RESOURCES

Link lets you move quickly between applications. This helps you:

- Check member eligibility.
- Submit claims reconsiderations.
- Review coordination of benefits information.
- Use the integrated applications to complete multiple transactions at once.
- Reduce phone calls, paperwork and faxes.

You can even customize the screen to put these common tasks just one click away.

Find Link training on [UHCprovider.com](https://www.uhcprovider.com).

Resolving Claim Issues



To resolve claim issues, contact [Provider Services](#), use Link or resubmit the claim by mail.

Mail paper claims and adjustment requests to:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
P.O. Box 5240
Kingston, NY 12402

Allow up to 30 days for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan to receive payment for initial claims and adjustment requests.

FOR PAPER CLAIMS

Submit a screen shot from your accounting software that shows when you submitted the claim. The screen shot must show the correct:

- Member name.
- Date of service.
- Claim date submission (within the timely filing period).

TIMELY FILING

Timely filing issues may occur if members give the wrong insurance information when you treat them. This results in receiving:

- A denial/rejection letter from another carrier.
- Another carrier's explanation of benefits.
- A letter from another insurance carrier or employer group saying that the member either has no coverage or had their coverage terminated before the date of service.

All of the above must include documentation the claim is for the correct member and the correct date of service. A submission report alone is not considered proof of timely filing for electronic claims. They must be accompanied by an acceptance report.

The date on the other carrier's payment correspondence starts the timely filing period for submission to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

To be timely, you must receive the claim within the timely filing period from the date on the other carrier's correspondence. If we receive the claim after the timely filing period, it will not meet the criteria.

If a claim is rejected, and corrections are not received within 90 days from date of service or close of business from the primary carrier, the claim is considered late billed. It will be denied timely filing.

Timely filing limits can vary based on state requirements and contracts. If you don't know your timely filing limit, refer to your Provider Agreement.

Third-Party Resources

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is, by law, the payer of last resort for eligible members. Therefore, you must bill and obtain an explanation of benefits (EOB) from any other insurance or health care coverage resource before billing UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, as required by contract. Refer to your Agreement for third-party claim submission deadlines. Once you bill the other carrier and receive an EOB, the claim may then be submitted to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan. Please attached a copy of the EOB to the submitted claim. The EOB must be complete to understand the paid amount or denial reason.

Chapter 12: Claim Reconsiderations, Appeals and Grievances

There are a number of ways to work with us to resolve claims issues or disputes. We base these processes on state and federal regulatory requirements and your provider contract.



For claims, billing and payment questions, go to UHCprovider.com.

The following grid lists the types of disputes and processes that apply:

APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES STANDARD DEFINITIONS AND PROCESS REQUIREMENTS								
SITUATION	DEFINITION	WHO MAY SUBMIT?	SUBMISSION ADDRESS	ONLINE FORM FOR FAX OR MAIL	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER/ FAX	WEBSITE (Care Providers Only) for Online Submissions	CARE PROVIDER FILING TIMEFRAME	UnitedHealthcare Community Plan RESPONSE TIMEFRAME
Member Appeal	A request to change an adverse benefit determination that we made.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member Care provider on behalf of a member with member consent 	UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Grievances and Appeals P.O. Box 31364 Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364	N/A	866-292-0359, TTY 711 Fax: 801-994-1082	N/A	Within 60 calendar days	Expedited appeals We will respond within 72 hours Standard appeals = 30 days These may be extended 14 calendar days.
Member Grievance	An expression of dissatisfaction regarding the plan and/or care provider, including quality of care concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member Care provider on behalf of a member with member consent 	UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Grievances and Appeals P.O. Box 31364 Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364	N/A	866-292-0359, TTY 711 Fax: 801-994-1082	N/A	N/A	30 calendar days May be extended 14 calendar days.

APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES STANDARD DEFINITIONS AND PROCESS REQUIREMENTS

SITUATION	DEFINITION	WHO MAY SUBMIT?	SUBMISSION ADDRESS	ONLINE FORM FOR FAX OR MAIL	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER/FAX	WEBSITE (Care Providers Only) for Online Submissions	CARE PROVIDER FILING TIMEFRAME	UnitedHealthcare Community Plan RESPONSE TIMEFRAME
Care Provider Claim Resubmission	Creating a new claim. If a claim was denied and you resubmit the claim (as if it were a new claim), then you will normally receive a duplicate claim rejection on your resubmission	Care Provider	UnitedHealthcare Community Plan P.O. Box 5240 Kingston, NY 12402-5240	UHC provider.com	866-815-5334, TTY 711	Use the Claims Management or ClaimsLink application on Link. To access Link, go to UHCprovider.com/link .	365 days from claim denial/paid date	365 days from claim denial/paid date
Care Provider Claim Reconsideration (step 1 of claim dispute)	Overpayment, underpayment, payment denial, or an original or corrected claim determination you do not agree with.	Care Provider	UnitedHealthcare Community Plan P.O. Box 5240 Kingston, NY 12402-5240	UHC provider.com	866-815-5334, TTY 711 Fax 801-994-1224	Use the Claims Management or ClaimsLink application on Link. To access Link, go to UHCprovider.com/link .	365 days from claim denial/paid date	365 days from claim denial/paid date
Care Provider Claim Formal Appeal (step 2 of claim dispute)	A second review in which you did not agree with the outcome of the reconsideration.	Care Provider	Community Plan Grievances and Appeals P.O. Box 31364 Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364	UHC provider.com	816-815-5334, TTY 711 Fax 801-994-1082	Use the Claims Management or ClaimsLink application on Link. To access Link, go to UHCprovider.com/link .	90 calendar days from reconsideration decision date	90 calendar days from last adverse action
Care Provider Grievance	A complaint expressing dissatisfaction with operations, activities, or behavior of a health plan or member.	Care Provider	Community Plan Grievances and Appeals P.O. Box 31364 Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364	N.A	866-815-5334 or TTY: 711	N/A	90 days from incidence date	90 calendar days

The above definitions and process requirements are subject to modification by state contract or regulations. States may impose more stringent requirements.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and its contracted providers may agree to more stringent requirements within provider contracts than described in the standard process.

These definitions and process requirements are subject to modification by state contract or regulations. States may impose more stringent requirements.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and its in-network care providers may agree to more stringent requirements within care provider contracts than described in the standard process.

Denial

Your claim may be denied for administrative or medical necessity reasons.

An **Administrative denial** is when we didn't get notification before the service, or the notification came in too late.

Denial for **medical necessity** means the level of care billed wasn't approved as medically necessary.

If a claim is denied for these reasons, you may be able to request a claim reconsideration or file an appeal.

Other top reasons for denial include:

Duplicate claim – This is one of the most common reasons for denial. It means resubmitting the same claim information. This can reset the clock on the time it takes to pay a claim.

Claim lacks information. Basic information is missing, such as a person's date of birth; or information incorrect, such as spelling of a name. You can resubmit this type of claim with the correct information.

Eligibility expired. Most practices verify coverage beforehand to avoid issues, but sometimes that doesn't happen. One of the most common claim denials involving verification is when a patient's health insurance coverage has expired and the patient and practice were unaware. Also, in a lot of cases, practices may check eligibility when an appointment is made, but between the appointment being made and the actual visit, coverage can be dropped. We recommend an eligibility check again once the patient has arrived.

Claim not covered by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan. Another claim denial you can avoid is when procedures are not covered by us. You can easily avoid this problem by using real-time verification.

Time limit expired. This is when you don't send the claim in time.

Claim Correction

What is it?

You may need to update information on a claim you've already submitted. A corrected claim replaces a previously processed or denied claim submitted in error.

When to use:

Submit a corrected claim to fix one that has already processed.

How to use:

Use the claims reconsideration application on Link. To access Link, sign in to UHCprovider.com using your Optum ID. You may also submit the claim by mail with a claim reconsideration request form. Allow up to 30 days to receive payment for initial claims and a response.

Mailing address:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
P.O. Box 5240
Kingston, NY 12402-5240

Additional Information:

When correcting or submitting late charges on 837 institution claims, use bill type xx7: Replacement of Prior Claim. Do not submit corrected or additional information charges using bill type xx5: Late Charge Claim.

Resubmitting a Claim

What is it?

When you resubmit a claim, you create a new claim in place of a rejected one. A rejected claim has not been processed due to problems detected before processing.

When to use it:

Resubmit the claim if it was rejected. A rejected claim is one that has not been processed due to problems detected before claim processing. Since rejected claims have not been processed yet, there is no appeal - the claim needs to be corrected through resubmission.

Common Reasons for Rejected Claims:

Some of the common causes of claim rejections happen due to:

- Errors in member demographic data – name, age, date of birth, sex or address.

- Errors in care provider data.
- Wrong member insurance ID.
- No referring care provider ID or NPI number.

How to use:

To resubmit the claim, follow the same submission instructions as a new claim. To mail your resubmission, provide all claim information to:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
P.O. Box 5240
Kingston, NY 12402-5240

Warning! If your claim was denied and you resubmit it, you will receive a [duplicate claim rejection](#). A denied claim has been through claim processing and we determined it cannot be paid. You may appeal a denied claim by submitting the corrected claim information or appealing the decision. See Claim Correction and Reconsideration sections of this chapter for more information.

Claim Reconsideration (step one of dispute)

What is it?

Claim issues include overpayment, underpayment, denial, or an original or corrected claim determination you do not agree with. A claim reconsideration request is the quickest way to address your concern about whether the claim was paid correctly.

When to use:

Submit a claim reconsideration when you think a claim has not been properly processed.

For administrative denials:

- In your reconsideration request, please ask for a medical necessity review and include all relevant medical records.

For medical necessity denials:

- In your request, please include any additional clinical information that may not have been reviewed with your original claim.
- Show how specific information in the medical record supports the medical necessity of the level of care performed – for example, inpatient instead of observation.

How to use:

If you disagree with a claim determination, submit a claim reconsideration request electronically, by phone, mail or fax:

- **Electronically:** Use the Claim Reconsideration application on Link. Include electronic attachments. You may also check your status using Link.
- **Phone:** Call Provider Services at **866-815-5334** or use the number on the back of the member's ID card. The tracking number will begin with SF and be followed by 18 numbers.
- **Mail:** Submit the Claim Reconsideration Request Form to:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
P.O. Box 5240
Kingston, NY 12402-5240

This form is available at [UHCprovider.com](https://www.uhcprovider.com).

- **Fax:** Send the Claim Reconsideration Request Form to **801-994-1224**.

Valid Proof of Timely Filing Documentation (Reconsideration)

What is it?

Proof of timely filing occurs when the member gives incorrect insurance information at the time of service. It includes:

- A denial or rejection letter from another insurance carrier.
- Another insurance carrier's explanation of benefits.
- Letter from another insurance carrier or employer group indicating:
 - Coverage termination prior to the date of service of the claim
 - No coverage for the member on the date of service of the claim

A submission report is not proof of timely filing for electronic claims. It must be accompanied by an acceptance report. Timely filing denials are often upheld due to incomplete or wrong documentation submitted with a reconsideration request. You may also receive a timely filing denial when you do not submit a claim on time.

How to use:

Submit a reconsideration request electronically, phone, mail or fax with the following information:

- **Electronic claims:** Include the EDI acceptance report stating we received your claim.
- **Mail or fax reconsiderations:** Submit a screen shot from your accounting software that shows the date you submitted the claim. The screen shot must show:
 - Correct member name.
 - Correct date of service.
 - Claim submission date.

Additional Information:

Timely filing limits can vary based on state requirements and contracts. If you do not know your timely filing limit, refer to your Provider Agreement.

Appeals (step two of dispute)

What is it?

An appeal is a second review of a reconsideration claim.

When to use:

If you do not agree with the outcome of the claim reconsideration decision in step one, use the claim appeal process.

How to use:

Submit related documents with your appeal. These may include a cover letter, medical records and additional information. Send your information electronically, by mail or fax. In your appeal, please include any supporting information not included with your reconsideration request.

- **Electronic claims:** Use the Claims Management or ClaimsLink application on Link. You may upload attachments.
- **Mail:** Send the appeal to:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
Grievances and Appeals
P.O. Box 31364
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364
- **Fax:** Send the appeal to **801-994-1082**.

TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL CLAIMS RESOLUTION

To help process claim reconsiderations:

- Do not let claim issues grow or go unresolved.
- Call [Provider Services](#) if you can't verify a claim is on file.
- Do not resubmit validated claims on file unless submitting a corrected claim.
- File adjustment requests and claims disputes within contractual time requirements.
- If you must exceed the maximum daily frequency for a procedure, submit the medical records justifying medical necessity. If you have questions, call [Provider Services](#).
- UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is the payer of last resort. This means you must bill and get an EOB from other insurance or source of health care coverage before billing UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.
- When submitting adjustment requests, provide the same information required for a clean claim. Explain the dispute, what should have been paid and why.
- Refer to your contract for submission deadlines concerning third-party claims. Once you have billed the other carrier and received an EOB, submit the claim to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan. Attach a copy of the EOB to the submitted claim. The EOB must be complete to understand the paid amount or the denial reason.

Overpayment

What is it?

An overpayment happens when we overpay a claim you don't dispute.

How to use:

If you or UnitedHealthcare Community Plan finds an overpaid claim, send us the overpayment within the time specified in your contract. If your payment is not received by that time, we may apply the overpayment against future claim payments in accordance with our Agreement and applicable law.

If you prefer we recoup the funds from your next payment, call Provider Services.

If you prefer to mail a refund, send an Overpayment Return Check or the Return Overpayment through the Adjustment Request form.

Also send a letter with the check. Include the following:

- Name and contact information for the person authorized to sign checks or approve financial decisions.
- Member identification number.
- Date of service.
- Original claim number (if known).
- Date of payment.
- Amount paid.
- Amount of overpayment.
- Overpayment reason.
- Check number.

Where to send:

Mail refunds with an Overpayment Return Check or the Return Overpayment through Adjustment Request form to:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
 ATTN: Recovery Services
 P.O. Box 101760
 Atlanta, GA 30392-1760

Instructions and forms are on UHCprovider.com.

If you do not agree with the overpayment findings, submit a dispute within the required timeframe as listed in your contract.

If you disagree with a claim adjustment or our decision not to make a claim adjustment, you can appeal. See Dispute section in this chapter.

We make claim adjustments without requesting additional information from you. You will see the adjustment on the EOB or Provider Remittance Advice (PRA). When additional information is needed, we will ask you to provide it.

Sample Overpayment Report

***The information provided is sample data only for illustrative purposes. Please populate and return with the data relevant to your claims that have been overpaid.**

Member ID	Date of Service	Original Claim #	Date of Payment	Paid Amount	Amount of Overpayment	Reason for Overpayment
11111	01/01/14	14A000000001	01/31/14	115.03	115.03	Double payment of claim
2222222	02/02/14	14A000000002	03/15/14	279.34	27.19	Contract states \$50, claim paid 77.29
3333333	03/03/14	14A000000003	04/01/14	131.41	99.81	You paid 4 units, we billed only 1
44444444	04/04/14	14A000000004	05/02/14	412.26	412.26	Member has other insurance
55555555	05/05/14	14A000000005	06/15/14	332.63	332.63	Member terminated

Provider Grievance

What is it?

Grievances are complaints related to your UnitedHealthcare Community Plan policy, procedures or payments.

When to file:

You may file a grievance about:

- Benefits and limitations.
- Eligibility and enrollment of a member or care provider.
- Member issues or UnitedHealthcare Community Plan issues.
- Availability of health services from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan to a member.
- The delivery of health services.
- The quality of service.

How to file:

File verbally or in writing.

- **Phone:** Call Provider Services toll free at **866-815-5334** or (TTY **711**)
- **Mail:** Send care provider name, contact information and your grievance to:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
Grievances and Appeals
P.O. Box 31364
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364

You may only file a grievance on a member's behalf with their written consent. See Member Appeals and Grievances Definitions and Procedures.

Member Appeals and Grievances Definitions and Procedures

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan uses the CMS definitions for appeals and grievances.

MEMBER BENEFIT APPEALS

What is it?

An appeal is a formal way to share dissatisfaction with an adverse benefit determination, such as the denial or limited authorization of a requested service. It also includes determinations based on the service type or level, medical necessity requirements, appropriateness, setting, or

effectiveness of a covered benefit.

You or a member may appeal when the plan:

- Makes a determination or limits a requested service(s). This includes the type or level of service.
- Lowers, suspends or ends a previously authorized service.
- Refuses, in whole or part, payment for services.
- Fails to provide services in a timely manner, as defined by the state or CMS.

When to use:

You may act on the member's behalf with their written consent. You may provide medical records and certification of the appeal as appropriate.

Where to send:

You or the member may file an appeal by calling (unless expedited must be followed up in writing) Member Services or writing UnitedHealthcare Community Plan within 60 calendar days from the date on the adverse benefit determination notice:

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
Grievances and Appeals
P.O. Box 31364
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364

Toll-free: **866-292-0359** (TTY **711**)

How to use:

When UnitedHealthcare Community Plan denies a service, you must provide the member with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan appeal rights. The member has the right to:

- Receive a copy of the rule used to make the decision.
- A member may give written consent to a family member friend lawyer health care provider to appeal on his or her behalf. The member may present evidence, and allegations of fact or law, in person and in writing.
- The member or representative may review the case file before and during the appeal process. The file includes medical records and any other documents.
- Send written comments or documents considered for the appeal.
- Ask for an expedited appeal if waiting for this health service could harm the member's health.
- Ask for continuation of services during the appeal. However, the member may have to pay for the health service if it is continued or if the member should not have received the service.

- We must resolve a standard appeal 30 calendar days from the day we receive it.
- We must resolve an expedited appeal 72 hours from when we receive it.
- All appeals can be extended for standard and expedited requests.
 1. Member requests we take longer.
 2. We request additional information and explain how the delay is in the member's interest.



If submitting the appeal by mail or fax, you must complete the Authorization of Review (AOR) form-Claim Appeal. A copy of the form is on UHCprovider.com.

MEMBER GRIEVANCE

What is it?

An expression of dissatisfaction about any matter other than an adverse benefit determination. Grievances may include quality of care or services concerns.

When to use:

You may act on the member's behalf with their written consent.

Where to send:

You or the member may file a grievance by calling Member Services or writing UnitedHealthcare Community Plan:

- **Mailing address:**

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
Attn: Appeals and Grievances
P.O. Box 31364
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364

- **866-292-0359 (TTY 771).**

We will send an answer within 30 calendar days from when we receive the grievance or as quickly as the member's condition requires. We may extend the response up to 14 calendar days if the following conditions apply:

- Member requests we take longer than 30 calendar days.
- We request more information and explain how the delay is in the member's interest.

State Fair Hearings

What is it?

A Fair Hearing lets members share why they think MO HealthNet Medicaid services should not have been denied, reduced or terminated.

When to use:

Members have 120 calendar days from the date on the adverse appeal resolution letter to ask for a hearing.

How to use:

The UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member may ask for a state fair hearing by writing a letter to:

MO HealthNet Division
Stakeholders Services, Participant
Services Unit
P.O. Box 6500
Jefferson City, MO 65102-6500

- The member may ask UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Customer Service for help writing the letter.
- If the member has not been given their rights to a hearing contact the Participant Services Unit at **800-392-2161**.
- The member may have someone attend with them. This may be a family member, friend, care provider or lawyer.

Fraud, Waste and Abuse



Call the toll-free [Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline](http://UHCprovider.com) to report questionable incidents involving plan members or care providers.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's Anti-Fraud, Waste and Abuse Program focuses on prevention, detection and investigation of false and abusive acts committed by you and plan members. The program also helps identify, investigate and recover money UnitedHealthcare Community Plan paid for such claims. We also refer suspected fraud, waste and abuse cases to law enforcement, regulatory and administrative agencies according to state and federal law. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan seeks to protect the ethical and financial

integrity of the company and its employees, members, care providers, government programs and the public. In addition, it aims to protect member health.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan includes applicable federal and state regulatory requirements in its Anti-Fraud, Waste and Abuse Program. We recognize state and federal health plans are vulnerable to fraud, waste and abuse. As a result, we tailor our efforts to the unique needs of its members and Medicaid, Medicare and other government partners. This means we cooperate with law enforcement and regulatory agencies in the investigation or prevention of fraud, waste and abuse.

An important aspect of the Compliance Program is reviewing our operation's high-risk areas. Then we implement reviews and audits to help ensure compliance with law, regulations and contracts. You are contractually obligated to cooperate with the company and government authorities.



Find the UnitedHealth Group policy on Fraud, Waste and Abuse at [UHCprovider.com](https://www.uhcprovider.com). You may also call **866-242-7727**.

The Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) has provisions reforming Medicare and Medicaid and reducing fraud within the federal health care programs. Every entity that receives at least \$5 million in annual Medicaid payments must have written policies for entity employees and contractors. They must provide detailed information about false claims, false statements and whistleblower protections under applicable federal and state fraud and abuse laws. As a participating care provider with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, you and your staff are subject to these provisions.

This policy details our commitment to compliance with the federal and state false claims acts. It provides a detailed description of these acts and of organizational mechanisms that detect and prevent fraud, waste and abuse. It also details how whistleblowing employees are protected. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan prohibits retaliation if a report is made in good faith.

EXCLUSION CHECKS

First-tier, downstream and related entities (FDRs), must review federal (HHS-OIG and GSA) and state exclusion lists before hiring/contracting employees (including temporary workers and volunteers), the CEO, senior administrators or managers, and sub-delegates. Employees and/or contractors may not be excluded from participating in federal health care programs. FDRs must review the federal and state exclusion lists every month. For more information or access to the publicly accessible, excluded party online databases, please see the following links:

- [Health and Human Services – Office of the Inspector General OIG List of Excluded Individuals and Entities \(LEIE\)](#)
- [General Services Administration \(GSA\) System for Award Management](#)

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO FOR EXCLUSION CHECKS

Review applicable exclusion lists and maintain a record of exclusion checks for 10 years. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan or CMS may ask for documentation to verify they were completed. If you identify compliance issues and/or potential fraud, waste, or abuse, please report it to us immediately so that we can investigate and respond. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan prohibits retaliation if a report is made in good faith.

Chapter 13: Care Provider Communications & Outreach

The UnitedHealthcare Community Plan care provider education and training program is built on years of experience with you and Missouri's managed care program. It includes the following care provider components:

- Website
- Forums/town hall meetings
- Office visit
- Newsletters and bulletins
- Manual

Care Provider Websites

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan promotes the use of web-based functionality among its provider population. The [UHCprovider.com/mocommunityplan](https://www.uhcprovider.com/mocommunityplan) portal facilitates care provider communications related to administrative functions. Our interactive website empowers you to electronically determine member eligibility, submit claims, and view claim status.

We have also implemented an internet-based prior authorization system on [UHCprovider.com](https://www.uhcprovider.com). This site lets you request medical and advanced outpatient imaging procedures online rather than by phone. The website also has:

- An online version of this manual
- Clinical practice guidelines (which cover diabetes, ADHD, depression, preventive care, prenatal, and other guidelines)
- Electronic data interchange

- Quality and utilization requirements
- Educational materials such as newsletters and bulletins
- Provider service updates – new tools and initiatives (UHC on Air, PreCheck MyScript, etc.)

In addition, we have created a member website that gives access to the Member Handbook, newsletters, provider search tool and other important plan information. It is [UHCCommunityPlan.com](https://www.uhccommunityplan.com) > select Member.

Care Provider Office Visits

Care Provider Advocates regularly visit PCPs and specialist offices. Each advocate is assigned to a care provider group to deliver face-to-face support. We do this to create program awareness, promote compliance and problem resolution.

Care Provider Newsletters and Bulletins

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan produces a care provider newsletter to the entire Missouri network at least three times a year. The newsletters include articles about:

- Program updates
- Claims guidelines
- Information regarding policies and procedures
- Cultural competency and linguistics
- Clinical practice guidelines
- Special initiatives
- Emerging health topics

The newsletters also include notifications about changes in laws and regulations. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan posts electronic bulletins on [UHCprovider.com](https://www.uhcprovider.com). Click Menu, then Resource Library, News to quickly share urgent information that affects the entire network.



Find more information about the Network Bulletin, Medical Policy Update Bulletin and other communications on [UHCprovider.com/guides](https://www.uhcprovider.com/guides) > Provider Communication Chapter 17.

Care Provider Manual

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan publishes this manual online. It includes an overview of the program, a toll-free number for Provider Services, a removable quick reference guide and a list of additional care provider resources. If you do not have internet access, request a hard copy of this manual by contacting Provider Services.

Find the following forms on the state's website at dss.mo.gov and click Healthcare or go to dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers for more information.

For all the **Missouri Department of Health** contact numbers, go to dss.mo.gov and click Find Offices.:

- Sterilization Consent Form
- Informed Consent for Hysterectomies Form
- Provider Service Agreement (MC 19 Form)

Chapter 14: Glossary

Abuse (by care provider)

Care provider practices that are inconsistent with sound fiscal, business or medical practices, and result in an unnecessary cost, or in reimbursement for services not medically necessary, or that fail to meet professionally recognized standards for health care. It also includes recipient practices that result in unnecessary cost, as defined by 42 CFR 455.2.

Abuse (of member)

Intentional infliction of physical, emotional or mental harm, caused by negligent acts or omissions, unreasonable confinement, sexual abuse or sexual assault as defined by A.R.S 46-451.

Action

The denial or limited authorization of a requested service, including the type, level or care provider of service; reduction, suspension or termination of a previously authorized service; the denial, in whole or in part, of payment of a service; or failure to provide services or act in a timely manner as required by law or contract.

Acute Inpatient Care

Care provided to members sufficiently ill or disabled requiring:

- Constant availability of medical supervision by attending care provider or other medical staff
- Constant availability of licensed nursing personnel
- Availability of other diagnostic or therapeutic services and equipment available only in a hospital setting to help ensure proper medical management by the care provider

Advance directive

Legal papers that list a member's wishes about their end-of-life health care.

Adverse Benefit Determination

Denial or limited authorization of a requested service. This includes determinations based on:

- The type or level of service.
- Requirements for medical necessity.

- Appropriateness.
- Setting.
- Effectiveness of a covered benefit.
- The denial, in whole or in part, of payment for a service.
- The failure to provide services in a timely manner or act within the grievances and appeals time frames.
- A member's request who is a resident of a rural area with only one MCO, the denial to obtain services outside the network.
- The denial of member's request to dispute a financial liability.

Ambulatory Care

Health care services that do not involve spending the night in the hospital. Also called "outpatient care". Examples include chemotherapy and physical therapy.

Ambulatory Surgical Facility

A state facility that is licensed, equipped and operated to provide surgeries and obstetrical deliveries. Members can leave the facility the same day surgery or delivery occurs.

Ancillary Provider Services

Extra health services, like laboratory work and physical therapy, which a member gets in the hospital.

Appeal (Care Provider)

When a care provider disagrees with the claim reconsideration decision.

Appeal (Member)

A member request to review an adverse benefit determination.

Authorization

Approval obtained by care providers from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan for a service before the service is rendered. Used interchangeably with "preauthorization" or "prior authorization."

Billed Charges

Charges you bill for rendering services to a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member.

Capitation

A prepaid, periodic payment to providers, based upon the number of assigned members made to a care provider for providing covered services for a specific period.

Case Manager

The individual responsible for coordinating the overall service plan for a member in conjunction with the member, the member's representative and the member's Primary Care Provider (PCP).

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

A federal agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that administers Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP programs.

CHIP

Children's Health Insurance Program.

Clean Claim

A claim with no defect (including lack of any required substantiating documentation) or circumstance requiring special treatment that prevents timely payment.

CMS

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the federal regulatory agency for these programs.

Contracted Health Professionals

Primary care providers, care provider specialists, medical facilities, allied health professionals and ancillary service providers under contract with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan. These care providers deliver specific covered services to members. They represent those individuals and entities used through the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan prior authorization and referral policies and procedures.

Coordination of Benefits (COB)

A process of figuring out which of two or more insurance policies has the main responsibility of processing or paying a claim and how much the other policies will contribute.

Covered Services

The portion of a medical, dental or vision expense that a health insurance or plan has agreed to pay for or reimburse.

Credentialing

The verification of applicable licenses, certifications and experience. This process assures care provider status is

extended only to professional, competent care providers who continually meet UnitedHealthcare Community Plan qualifications, standards and requirements.

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Codes

A code assigned to a task or service a health care provider does for a member. Every medical task or service has its own CPT code. These codes are used by the insurer to know how much they need to pay the physician. CPT codes are created and published by the American Medical Association.

Delivery System

The mechanism by which health care is delivered to a member. Examples include hospitals, provider offices and home health care.

Disallow Amount (Amt)

Medical charges for which the network provider may not receive payment from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and cannot bill the member. Examples are:

- The difference between billed charges and in-network rates.
- Charges for bundled or unbundled services as detected by Correct Coding Initiative edits.

Discharge Planning

Screening eligible candidates for continuing care following treatment in an acute care facility. It involves care planning, scheduling, arranging and steps that move a member from one level of care to another.

Disenrollment

The discontinuance of a member's eligibility to receive covered services from a contractor.

Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Equipment and supplies ordered by a health care provider for everyday and extended use, for medical reasons other than convenience or comfort. DME may include: oxygen equipment, wheelchairs, crutches or blood testing strips for diabetics.

Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment Program (EPSDT)

A package of services in a preventive (well child) exam covered by Medicaid as defined in SSA Section 1905 (R). Covered services include a complete health history and developmental assessment; an unclothed physical exam; immunizations; laboratory tests; health education; and screenings for vision, dental, substance abuse, mental

health and hearing. They also include any medically necessary services found during the preventive exam.

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)

The electronic exchange of information between two or more organizations.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

The electronic exchange of funds between two or more organizations.

Electronic Medical Record (EMR)

An electronic version of a member's health record and the care they have received.

Eligibility Determination

Deciding whether an applicant meets the requirements for federal or state eligibility.

Emergency Care

The provision of medically necessary services required for immediate attention to review or stabilize a medical emergency.

Encounter

A record of health care-related services by care providers registered with Medicaid to a patient enrolled with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan on the date of service. You are required to report all service encounters to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, including prepaid services. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan electronically reports these encounters to state Medicaid. The state audits encounter submission accuracy and timeliness on a regular basis.

Enrollee

Enrollee is interchangeable with the term member. Any person enrolled with a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan product as a subscriber or dependent.

Enrollment

The process where a person is determined eligible to receive Medicaid or Medicare benefits becomes an enrollee or member of a health plan.

Evidence-Based Care

An approach that helps care providers use the most current, scientifically accurate research to make decisions about members' care.

Expedited Appeal

When a member or care provider asks for a faster appeal decision. This speed is necessary when the standard resolution time frame could seriously jeopardize the

member's life, health or ability to regain full function.

Expedited Grievance

A grievance where delay in resolution could harm the member's health or life.

Fee For Service (FFS)

A method of payment to care providers on an amount-per-service basis, up to a maximum allowed by the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan fee schedule.

FHC

Family Health Center

Fraud

A crime that involves misrepresenting or concealing information to receive benefits or to make a financial profit.

Grievance

A member's expression of dissatisfaction about UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and/or care provider about any matter other than an adverse benefit determination. This includes quality of care or service concerns.

Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS)

A rating system developed by NCQA that helps health insurance companies, employers, and consumers learn about the value of their health plan(s) and how it compares to other plans.

HIPAA

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. A federal law that provides data privacy protection and security provisions for safeguarding health information.

Home Health Care (Home Health Services)

Health care services and supplies provided in the home, under physician's orders. Services may be provided by nurses, therapists, social workers or other licensed health care providers. Home health care usually does not include help with non-medical tasks, such as cooking, cleaning or driving.

In-Network Provider

A care provider who has a written Agreement with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan to provide services to members under the terms of their Agreement.

Medicaid

A federal health insurance program for low-income families and children, eligible pregnant women, people

with disabilities, and other adults. The federal government pays for part of Medicaid and sets guidelines for the program. States pay for part of Medicaid and have choices in how they design their program. Medicaid varies by state and may have a different name in your state.

Medical Emergency

An illness, injury, symptom or condition that is severe enough (including severe pain), that if a member did not get immediate medical attention you could reasonably expect one of the following to result:

- Their health would be put in serious danger; or
- They would have serious problems with their bodily functions; or
- They would have serious damage to any part or organ of their body.

Medically Necessary

Medically necessary health care services or supplies needed to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury, condition, disease or its symptoms and that meet accepted standards of medicine.

Member

An individual who is eligible and enrolled with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and can receive services pursuant to the Agreement.

NPI

National Provider Identifier. Required by CMS for all care providers who bill, prescribe or refer for health care services and is used on all electronic transactions. It is a single unique provider identifier assigned to a care provider for life that replaces all other health care provider identifiers. It does NOT replace your DEA number.

Out-Of-Area Care

Care received by a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member when they are outside of their geographic territory.

Preventive Health Care

Health care emphasizing priorities for prevention, early detection and early treatment of conditions. It generally includes routine/physical examination and immunization.

Primary Care Provider (PCP)

A physician, including an M.D. (Medical Doctor) or D.O.

(Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine), nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or physician assistant, as allowed under state law and the terms of the plan who provides, coordinates or helps members access a range of health care services.

Prior Authorization (Notification)

The process where health care providers seek approval prior to rendering health care services, drugs or DME as required by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan policy.

Provider Group

A partnership, association, corporation, or other group of care providers.

Quality Management (QM)

A methodology that professional health personnel use to achieve desired medical standards and practices. The formal program includes activities to help improve and maintain quality service and care and involve multiple organizational components and committees.

Reconsideration

When a care provider disagrees with the payment of a service, supply or procedure.

Rural Health Clinic

A clinic, located in a rural area, designed to increase access to health and medical care as an area having either a shortage of personal health services or a shortage of primary medical care.

Service Area

The geographic area served by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, designated and approved by Missouri DSS.

Specialist

A care provider licensed in the state of Missouri and has completed a residency or fellowship focusing on a specific area of medicine or group of patients to diagnose, manage, prevent or treat certain types of symptoms and conditions. A non-physician specialist is a care provider who has special training in a specific area of health care.

State Fair Hearing

A member's request for a hearing when the member does not agree with a Notice of Decision or Notice of Appeal Resolution from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.

TANF

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families. A state program that gives cash assistance to low-income families with children.

Third-Party Liability (TPL)

A company or entity other than UnitedHealthcare Community Plan liable for payment of health care services rendered to members. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan pays claims for covered benefits and pursues refunds from the third party when liability is determined.

Timely Filing

When UnitedHealthcare Community Plan puts a time limit on submitting claims.

Title XIX

Section of Social Security Act describing the Medicaid program coverage for eligible persons.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan

An affiliate of UnitedHealth Group with corporate headquarters located in Minnetonka, Minnesota. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan operates nationwide, serving aging, vulnerable and chronically ill people through Medicare, Medicaid and private-pay programs for long-term care products and programs.

Utilization Management (UM)

Involves coordinating how much care members get. It also determines each member's level or length of care. The goal is to help ensure members get the care they need without wasting resources.