

New Respiratory Virus Panel Testing Professional and Facility Reimbursement Policy

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is implementing a new Respiratory Virus Panel Testing Reimbursement Policy for professional and facility claims with dates of services on or after Dec. 1, 2019.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recognizes the Infectious Disease Society of American (IDSA) guidelines, which indicate that the use of the multiplex RT-PCR assays, targeting respiratory viral panel testing, including Influenza viruses, should be used for hospitalized patients.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will consider for reimbursement Multiplex Reverse-Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing (CPT® codes 87631, 87632, and 87633) only when performed in an inpatient facility, observation or an emergency department setting.

Claims submitted with procedure code 87631, 87632 or 87633 in any other places of service will be denied. Care providers will be instructed that the procedure code is not reimbursable.

Note About Reimbursement Policies

As with all UnitedHealthcare Community Plan policies, other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or in some cases supersede this policy. These factors include but are not limited to federal and/or state regulatory requirements, physician or other provider contracts, and/or the member's benefit coverage documents. Unless otherwise noted, these reimbursement policies apply to services reported using the CMS-1500 or its electronic equivalent, or its successor form.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan reimbursement policies don't address all issues related to reimbursement for services rendered to our members, such as the member's benefit plan documents, our medical policies and the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Administrative Guide or Care Provider Manual. Meeting the terms of a particular reimbursement policy is not a guarantee of payment. Likewise, retirement of a reimbursement policy affects only those system edits associated with the specific policy being retired. Retirement of a reimbursement policy is not a guarantee of payment. Other applicable reimbursement and medical policies and claims edits will continue to apply.

Once implemented, the policies may be viewed at UHCprovider.com/policies > [Community Plan Policies](#) > Reimbursement Policies for Community Plan.

If there's an inconsistency or conflict between the information in this provider notification and the posted policy, the provisions of the posted reimbursement policy prevail.

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If you have questions about policy updates, please contact your Network Account Manager or Provider Advocate. Thank you.