

UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Policy Guideline Update Bulletin: April 2021

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

Take Note

New Look for UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Policy Guidelines

On Apr. 1, 2021, we refreshed the look of the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Policy Guidelines. Unless otherwise announced, there has been no change to policy content/guidelines as a result of the new look.

Policy Guideline Updates

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Bariatric Surgery for Treatment of Co-Morbid Conditions Related to Morbid Obesity (NCD 100.1)	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Blood Platelet Transfusions (NCD 110.8)	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Capsule Endoscopy	Revised	Mar. 10, 2021
Category III CPT Codes	Revised	Mar. 10, 2021
Chiropractic Services	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Hemophilia Clotting Factors	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Infusion Pumps (NCD 280.14)	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Laser Procedures (NCD 140.5)	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Long-Term Wearable Electrocardiographic Monitoring	Revised	Mar. 10, 2021
Molecular Diagnostic Infectious Disease Testing	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Molecular Pathology/Molecular Diagnostics/Genetic Testing	Revised	Mar. 10, 2021
Percutaneous Ventricular Assist Device	Revised	Mar. 10, 2021
Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scan (Including NCDs 220.6-220.6.20)	Revised	Mar. 10, 2021
Tier 2 Molecular Pathology Procedures	Revised	Mar. 10, 2021
Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) (NCD 20.32)	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Ultrasound Diagnostic Procedures (NCD 220.5)	Updated	Mar. 10, 2021
Retired Policies		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extracorporeal Shock Wave Treatment (ESWT) • Non-Implantable Pelvic Floor Electrical Stimulator (NCD 230.8) 		

General Information

This bulletin provides a list of new, updated, revised, replaced and/or retired UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Policy Guidelines to reflect the most current clinical coverage rules and guidelines developed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The inclusion of a health service (e.g., test, drug, device or procedure) in this bulletin indicates only that UnitedHealthcare has recently adopted a new policy and/or updated, revised, replaced or retired an existing policy; it does not imply that UnitedHealthcare provides coverage for the health service. In the event of an inconsistency or conflict between the information provided in this bulletin and the posted policy, the provisions of the posted policy will prevail. Note that most benefit plan documents exclude from benefit coverage health services identified as investigational or unproven/not medically necessary. Physicians and other health care professionals may not seek or collect payment from a member for services not covered by the applicable benefit plan unless first obtaining the member's written consent, acknowledging that the service is not covered by the benefit plan and that they will be billed directly for the service.

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

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

Policy Update Classifications

New

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

Updated

An existing policy has been reviewed and changes have not been made to the coverage guidelines; however, items such as the definitions or references may have been updated

Revised

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

Replaced

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

Retired

An existing policy has been retired because national and local coverage determinations from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are no longer available or the applicable coverage guidelines are documented in another policy



The complete library of UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Policy Guidelines is available at UHCprovider.com > Policies and Protocols > Medicare Advantage Policies > [Policy Guidelines](#).