Bone Turnover Marker Testing of Osteoporosis Policy, Professional and Facility

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THIS REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

You are responsible for submission of accurate claims. This reimbursement policy is intended to ensure that you are reimbursed based on the code or codes that correctly describe the health care services provided. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan reimbursement policies uses Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or other coding guidelines. References to CPT or other sources are for definitional purposes only and do not imply any right to reimbursement.*

This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on CMS 1500 forms and, when specified, to those billed on UB04 forms. Coding methodology, industry-standard reimbursement logic, regulatory requirements, benefits design, and other factors are considered in developing reimbursement policy.

This information is intended to serve only as a general reference resource regarding UnitedHealthcare Community Plan's reimbursement policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to health care services provided in a particular case. Further, the policy does not address all issues related to reimbursement for health care services provided to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan enrollees.

Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors include, but are not limited to: federal &/or state regulatory requirements, the physician or other provider contracts, the enrollee's benefit coverage documents, and/or other reimbursement, medical or drug policies.

Finally, this policy may not be implemented exactly the same way on the different electronic claims processing systems used by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan due to programming or other constraints; however, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan strives to minimize these variations.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan may modify this reimbursement policy at any time by publishing a new version of the policy on this Website. However, the information presented in this policy is accurate and current as of the date of publication.

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Application

This reimbursement policy applies to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Medicaid products.

This reimbursement policy applies to services reported using the UB-04 Form, the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (a/k/a CMS-1500) or their electronic equivalents or their successor forms. This policy applies to all products, all network and non-network providers, including, but not limited to, non-network authorized and percent of charge contract hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, physicians, and other qualified health care professionals.

Policy

Overview

This policy describes the reimbursement methodology for bone turnover marker testing associated with osteoporosis that are subject to frequency limitations.

Reimbursement Guidelines

NOTE: Procedure codes appearing in policy documents are included only as a general reference tool for each policy. They may not be all-inclusive.

UnitedHealthcare will consider reimbursement of each of the following bone turnover marker testing procedure codes, once every three months, when billed for osteoporosis.

Procedure Code(s)

83500	83505	83937	84080		

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UnitedHealthcare will consider reimbursement for the bone turnover marker testing procedure codes listed above when billed with any other condition. Frequency limitation is only applicable when the codes are billed for the conditions listed above.

State Exceptions	
Arizona	Arizona is exempt from this policy.
Idaho	Idaho is exempt from this policy.
Maryland	Maryland is exempt from this policy.
Massachusetts	Massachusetts is exempt from this policy.
Missouri	Missouri is exempt from this policy.
Nebraska	Nebraska is exempt from this policy.
New Jersey	New Jersey is exempt from this policy.
Ohio	Ohio is exempt from this policy.
Texas	Texas is exempt from this policy.
Virginia	Virginia is exempt from this policy.
Washington DC	Washington DC is exempt from this policy.
Washington	Washington is exempt from this policy.

Definitions	
Once every 3 Months	90 consecutive calendar days from the initial date of service

Questions and Answers	
1	**Q:** Is the once every three months limitation based on individual provider per member? **A:** The once every three months limitation is applicable regardless of billing and/or rendering provider (any individual provider OR any facility) for each individual member for the same date of service.
2	**Q:** Does the frequency limitation apply per procedure code or do all procedure codes count toward the same limit? **A:** The frequency limitation applies to each procedure code individually.
3	**Q:** Will UnitedHealthcare consider reimbursement of bone marker testing procedure codes when billed with other conditions? **A:** Yes. The frequency limitation in this policy only applies when the bone marker testing procedure codes are billed for osteoporosis.

Resources
Individual state Medicaid regulations, manuals & fee schedules

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American Medical Association, *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)* and associated publications and services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS Manual System and other CMS publications and services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) Relative Value Files

History	
8/16/2026	Policy Version Change State Exceptions: Indiana & Tennessee removed
7/19/2026	Policy Version Change State Exceptions: Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island removed
5/1/2026	Policy implemented by UnitedHealthcare Community & State
2/1/2026	Policy Published
8/26/2025	Policy approved by the Reimbursement Policy Oversight Committee

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