

UnitedHealthcare Value & Balance Exchange Medical Policy Update Bulletin: May 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](#).

Medical Policy Updates

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Airway Clearance Devices	Revised	May 1, 2021
Articular Cartilage Defect Repairs	Revised	June 1, 2021
Attended Polysomnography for Evaluation of Sleep Disorders	Updated	June 1, 2021
Cell-Free Fetal DNA Testing	Revised	July 1, 2021
Chromosome Microarray Testing	Updated	June 1, 2021
Cognitive Rehabilitation	Revised	May 1, 2021
Computerized Dynamic Posturography	Updated	May 1, 2021
Deep Brain and Cortical Stimulation	Revised	May 1, 2021
Epidural Steroid Injections for Spinal Pain	Updated	June 1, 2021
Hearing Aids and Devices Including Wearable, Bone Anchored and Semi-Implantable	Revised	June 1, 2021
Implanted Electrical Stimulator for Spinal Cord	Updated	June 1, 2021
Molecular Oncology Testing for Cancer Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment Decisions	Revised	June 1, 2021
Obstructive Sleep Apnea Treatment	Revised	June 1, 2021
Otoacoustic Emissions Testing	Revised	July 1, 2021
Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography (SPECT) and Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scans	Retired	May 1, 2021
Surgery of the Elbow	Revised	July 1, 2021
Total Artificial Disc Replacement for the Spine	Revised	May 1, 2021

Medical Benefit Drug Policy Updates

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Alpha1-Proteinase Inhibitors	Updated	May 1, 2021
Buprenorphine (Probuphine® & Sublocade®)	Updated	May 1, 2021
Cimzia® (Certolizumab Pegol)	Updated	June 1, 2021
Evenity® (Romosozumab-Aqqg)	Updated	May 1, 2021
Evkeeza™ (Evinacumab-dgnb)	New	June 1, 2021
Ketalar® (Ketamine) and Spravato® (Esketamine)	Revised	June 1, 2021
Krystexxa® (Pegloticase)	Updated	May 1, 2021
Ophthalmologic Policy: Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF) Inhibitors	Revised	June 1, 2021

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Simponi Aria® (Golimumab) Injection for Intravenous Infusion	Revised	June 1, 2021
Vyepti™ (Eptinezumab-Jjmr)	Revised	June 1, 2021
Zilretta® (Triamcinolone Acetonide Extended Release)	Revised	June 1, 2021
Zolgensma® (Onasemnogene Abeparvovec-Xioi)	Revised	June 1, 2021

Coverage Determination Guideline Updates

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Clinical Trials	Updated	May 1, 2021
Pectus Deformity Repair	Revised	May 1, 2021

General Information

The inclusion of a health service (e.g., test, drug, device or procedure) in this bulletin indicates only that UnitedHealthcare is adopting 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. 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.

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 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.

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 Medical Policy Update Bulletin was developed to share important information regarding UnitedHealthcare Medical Policy, Medical Benefit Drug Policy, Coverage Determination Guideline, and Utilization Review Guideline updates. When information in this bulletin conflicts with applicable state and/or federal law, UnitedHealthcare follows such applicable federal and/or state law.

Policy Update Classifications

New

New clinical coverage criteria 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 clinical coverage criteria; however, items such as the clinical evidence, FDA information, and/or list(s) of applicable codes may have been updated

Revised

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

Replaced

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

Retired

The health service(s) addressed in the policy are no longer being managed or are considered to be proven/medically necessary and are therefore not excluded as unproven/not medically necessary services, unless coverage guidelines or criteria are otherwise documented in another policy



The complete library of UnitedHealthcare Value & Balance Exchange Medical Policies, Medical Benefit Drug Policies, Coverage Determination Guidelines, and Utilization Review Guidelines is available at UHCprovider.com > Policies and Protocols > Exchange Plans Policies > [Medical & Drug Policies and Coverage Determination Guidelines for UnitedHealthcare® Value & Balance Exchange Plans](#).