

Premium Specialty: Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT)

Credentialed Specialties include: Laryngology, Otolaryngology, Otology, Pediatric Otolaryngology, Rhinology, Surgery Head and Neck

Patient Episode Cost

Use this document with the UnitedHealth Premium® Program Methodology document at UnitedHealthPremium.UHC.com. Please review all of the methodology documents to understand the entire Premium methodology.

We evaluate physicians in the ENT Premium specialty using the patient episode cost measurement with the condition-based and procedure-based episodes listed in the following chart.

Attribution methods determine which physicians and groups are responsible for care given to patients. Please view the Attribution Methods document to learn more.

Patient episode cost measurement for ENT uses the cost-attribution method for condition-based episodes and the rendering-attribution method for procedure-based episodes.

- **Cost:** The physician who was responsible for generating the highest percentage of services, based on normalized cost, in the episode. To make sure there was significant involvement, the attributed physician must be responsible for at least 50% of the normalized cost of the episode.
- **Rendering:** The physician who performed the primary procedure. Performing the primary procedure constitutes significant involvement and therefore no cost percentage threshold is applied.

For procedure-based episodes, once an anchor procedure is identified, non-anchor claims from related episode treatment groups and “target” procedures that are clinically related to the anchor procedure, are grouped to each episode within the Claims Grouping Timeframe noted below. Please view the Patient Episode Cost document to learn more.

Gastroenterology Condition-Based Episodes

Inflammation of Esophagus	
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Otolaryngology Condition-Based Episodes

Acute Sinusitis	
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Allergic Rhinitis	
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Chronic Sinusitis	
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Congenital & Acquired Anomalies of Ear/Nose/Throat	
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Hearing Disorders	
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Inflammation of Oral Cavity	
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Malignant Neoplasm of Ear/Nose/Throat	
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Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Ear/Nose/Throat	
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Other Disorders of Ear/Nose/Throat	
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Other Infections of Ear/Nose/Throat	
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Other Inflammatory Conditions of Ear/Nose/Throat	
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Otitis Media	
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Otolaryngology Disease Signs & Symptoms	
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Tonsillitis, Adenoiditis or Pharyngitis	
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Preventive & Administrative Condition-Based Episodes

Conditional Exam	
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Preventive & Administrative Condition-Based Episodes (continued)

Routine Exam	
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Otolaryngology Procedure-Based Episodes	Claims Grouping Timeframe	
	Days Before	Days After
Adenoidectomy	14	30
Laryngoscopy with Treatment	14	42
Myringotomy	14	14
Nasal Ablation	14	42
Nasal Endoscopy with Treatment	14	14
Nasal Vestibule Repair	14	42
Septoplasty	14	42
Thyroidectomy	14	42
Tonsillectomy	14	30
Tonsillectomy & Adenoidectomy	14	30
Turbinate Excision	14	42
Tympanic Membrane Repair	14	42
Tympanoplasty	14	42
Tympanostomy with General Anesthesia	14	30
Tympanostomy with Local Anesthesia	14	30

General Exclusions:

- Procedure-based episodes with a diagnosis code included on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Trauma Diagnosis Code list (except meniscus tears)
- Procedure-based episodes that are a redo of a prior surgical procedure
- Procedure-based episodes that include services that are grouped to a cancer-related condition-based episode

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PCA-5-20-01273-UHN-WEB_05182020

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