

## Premium Specialty: Gastroenterology

Credentialed Specialties include: Digestive Diseases, Gastroenterology, Hepatology - Liver Disease

### Patient Episode Cost

Use this document with the UnitedHealth Premium® Program Methodology document at [UnitedHealthPremium.UHC.com](http://UnitedHealthPremium.UHC.com). Please review all of the methodology documents to understand the entire Premium methodology.

We evaluate physicians in the Gastroenterology 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 Gastroenterology 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

Anomally of Stomach or Esophagus

Bowel Obstruction

Congenital Anomalies of Intestines & Abdomen

Diverticulitits & Diverticulosis

Gastritis &/or Duodenitis

Gastroenterology Diseases Signs & Symptoms

Hemorrhoids

Hernias, except Hiatal

Hiatal Hernia

Infection of Stomach & Esophagus

Inflammation of Esophagus

Inflammation of Rectum or Anus

Inflammatory Bowel Disease\*

Irritable Bowel Syndrome\*

Malignant Neoplasm of Large Intestine

Malignant Neoplasm of Rectum or Anus

Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach & Esophagus

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Intestines & Abdomen

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Rectum or Anus

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach & Esophagus

Other Inflammation of Intestines & Abdomen

Ulcer

Vascular Diseases of Intestines & Abdomen

Hematology Condition-Based Episodes
Iron Deficiency Anemia
Hepatology Condition-Based Episodes
Acute Pancreatitis
Cholelithiasis
Chronic Pancreatitis
Cirrhosis
Hepatology Diseases Signs & Symptoms
Infectious Hepatitis
Non-Infectious Hepatitis
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Hepatobiliary System
Preventive & Administrative Condition-Based Episodes
Conditional Exam
Routine Exam

\*Episodes for these conditions are excluded from patient episode cost measurement for patients whose pharmacy cost data isn't available.

Gastroenterology/Hepatology/Endoscopy/Hematology Procedure-Based Episodes	Claims Grouping Timeframe	
	Days Before	Days After
Colonoscopy - Diagnostic	5	10
Colonoscopy With Treatment	14	30
Dilation of Esophagus	14	14
ERCP With Treatment	14	42
Upper GI Endoscopy With Treatment No Bleeding	14	30
Upper GI Endoscopy With Treatment With Bleeding	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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