



Premium Specialty: Pulmonology
 Credentialed Specialties include: Pulmonary Medicine

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 quality and cost efficiency using national standardized measures and attribution methods. Quality measures are attributed to physicians in applicable specialties. The following chart lists the measures we use to evaluate physicians in the pulmonology Premium specialty by condition or procedure. These measures apply to our UnitedHealthcare commercial, UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan patient populations, unless otherwise noted. Please view the [Quality Evaluation Example](#) and [Attribution Methods](#) documents to learn more.

Condition/Procedure	Measure	Compliance Criteria	Measure Type	Attribution Method	Source
Acute Bronchitis	Patient(s) with a diagnosis of acute bronchitis that did not have a prescription for an antibiotic on or three days after the initiating visit	Patient with acute bronchitis did not have an antibiotic medication dispensed on or within three days after the initiating visit	Acute Condition Care	Rendering	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
Asthma	Patient(s) that did not have an asthma related emergency department encounter in last 12 reported months	Patient did not have an asthma-related emergency department encounter	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Synopsis
Asthma Medication Ratio	Patient(s) 5 - 11 with an asthma medication ratio ≥ 0.50 during the report period	Patient had an asthma medication ratio ≥ 0.50	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
	Patient(s) 12 - 18 with an asthma medication ratio ≥ 0.50 during the report period	Patient had an asthma medication ratio ≥ 0.51	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance

Condition/Procedure	Measure	Compliance Criteria	Measure Type	Attribution Method	Source
Asthma Medication Ratio (continued)	Patient(s) 19 - 50 with an asthma medication ratio \geq 0.50 during the report period	Patient had an asthma medication ratio \geq 0.50	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
	Patient(s) 51 - 64 with an asthma medication ratio \geq 0.50 during the report period	Patient had an asthma medication ratio \geq 0.51	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
Cardiac imaging for Preoperative Risk Assessment for Non-Cardiac; Low-Risk Surgery	Patients of low-risk who did not receive cardiac imaging 30 days prior to a non-cardiac, low-risk surgery	Patient of low-risk did not have cardiac imaging 30 days prior to a non-cardiac, low-risk surgery	Diagnostic Care	Ordering	Contact National Quality Forum or Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Carotid Imaging for Syncope	Patient(s) with syncope that had a carotid imaging test.	Patient with syncope did not have a carotid imaging test	Diagnostic Care	Ordering	Synopsis
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	Patient(s) compliant with prescribed long-acting antimuscarinic agent (minimum compliance 80%).	Patient was 80% or more compliant with prescribed long-acting antimuscarinic agent medication	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Synopsis
	Patient(s) 40 years of age and older with COPD exacerbation that received a bronchodilator within 30 days of hospital or ED discharge	Patient with COPD exacerbation had a bronchodilator medication dispensed within 30 days after hospital or ED discharge	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
	Patient(s) 40 years of age and older with COPD exacerbation that received a systemic corticosteroid within 14 days of hospital or ED discharge	Patient with COPD exacerbation had a systemic corticosteroid medication dispensed within 14 days after hospital or ED discharge	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
	Patient(s) that had appropriate spirometry testing to confirm chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) diagnosis	Patient had spirometry testing to confirm chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) diagnosis	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance

Condition/Procedure	Measure	Compliance Criteria	Measure Type	Attribution Method	Source
Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines	Patient(s) who did not have concurrent use of prescription opioids and benzodiazepines	Patient did not have prescription opioid and benzodiazepine medications concurrently dispensed	Patient Safety Care	Prescribing	Contact National Quality Forum or Pharmacy Quality Alliance
Congestive Heart Failure	Patient(s) currently taking an ACE inhibitor or acceptable alternative	Patient had an ACE inhibitor or acceptable alternative medication dispensed	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Synopsis
Coronary Artery Disease	Patient(s) compliant with prescribed beta-blocker-containing medication (minimum compliance 80%)	Patient was 80% or more compliant with prescribed beta-blocker-containing medication	Chronic Disease Care	Patient	Synopsis
Head Imaging for Syncope	Patient(s) with syncope that had a head imaging test	Patient with syncope did not have a head imaging test	Diagnostic Care	Ordering	Synopsis
Head Imaging for Uncomplicated Headache	Patient(s) with a headache that had a head imaging test	Patient with a headache did not have a head imaging test	Diagnostic Care	Ordering	Synopsis
Medication Management for People with Asthma	Patient(s) 5 - 11 years of age compliant with prescribed asthma controller medication (minimum compliance 75%)	Patient was 75% or more compliant with prescribed asthma controller medication	Patient Safety Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
	Patient(s) 12 - 18 years of age compliant with prescribed asthma controller medication (minimum compliance 75%)	Patient was 75% or more compliant with prescribed asthma controller medication	Patient Safety Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
	Patient(s) 19 - 50 years of age compliant with prescribed asthma controller medication (minimum compliance 75%)	Patient was 75% or more compliant with prescribed asthma controller medication	Patient Safety Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance

Condition/Procedure	Measure	Compliance Criteria	Measure Type	Attribution Method	Source
Medication Management for People with Asthma (continued)	Patient(s) 51 - 64 years of age compliant with prescribed asthma controller medication (minimum compliance 75%)	Patient was 75% or more compliant with prescribed asthma controller medication	Patient Safety Care	Patient	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
Medication Safety Monitoring	Elderly patient(s) with dementia who did not take an antiemetic; antipsychotic; benzodiazepine; tricyclic antidepressant; H2 receptor antagonist; nonbenzodiazepine hypnotic or anticholinergic agent after the earliest record of dementia	Patient with dementia did not have an antipsychotic, benzodiazepine, tricyclic antidepressant, H2 receptor antagonist, nonbenzodiazepine hypnotic or anticholinergic agent dispensed after the earliest record of dementia	Patient Safety Care	Patient or Prescribing	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
Pneumonia	Adult(s) with community-acquired bacterial pneumonia who have a chest X-ray	Patient with community-acquired bacterial pneumonia had a chest X-ray	Acute Condition Care	Rendering	Synopsis
Upper Respiratory Infection	Patient(s) with a diagnosis of upper respiratory infection (URI) that did not have a prescription for an antibiotic on or three days after the initiating visit	Patient with upper respiratory infection (URI) did not have an antibiotic medication dispensed on or within three days after the initiating visit	Acute Condition Care	Rendering	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
Use of High-Risk Medications in the Elderly	Patient(s) 66 years of age and older who did not receive two or more of the same high-risk medication in the last 12 reported months	Patient did not have two or more of the same high-risk medications dispensed	Patient Safety Care	Patient or Prescribing	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
	Patients 66 years of age and older who did not receive one or more high-risk medications in the elderly in the last 12 reported months	Patient did not have a high-risk medication dispensed	Patient Safety Care	Patient or Prescribing	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
Use of Opioid Medications	Patient(s) 18 years and older who did not have an average morphine equivalent dose (med) > 120 mg/day during the treatment period	Patient did not have an average morphine equivalent dose greater than 120 mg/day	Patient Safety Care	Prescribing	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance

Condition/Procedure	Measure	Compliance Criteria	Measure Type	Attribution Method	Source
Use of Opioid Medications	Patient did not have opioid medications from four or more different prescribers dispensed	Patient did not have opioid medications from four or more different prescribers dispensed	Patient Safety Care	Prescribing	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
Use of Opioid Medications	Patient did not have opioid medication for 15 or more days during the first 30 days following initial opioid treatment	Patient did not have access to opioid medication for 15 or more days during the first 30 days following first opioid treatment initiation	Patient Safety Care	Prescribing	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
	Patient did not have opioid medication for 31 or more days during the first 62 days following initial opioid treatment	Patient did not have access to opioid medication for 15 or more days during the first 30 days following first opioid treatment initiation	Patient Safety Care	Prescribing	Contact National Quality Forum or National Committee for Quality Assurance
Use of Contrast Material CT	in Patient(s) with a thorax CT test that did not have combined studies (with and without contrast material)	Patient did not have a thorax CT test using combined studies (with and without contrast material)	Diagnostic Care	Ordering	Contact National Quality Forum or Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Recognition Programs					
The Premium program also counts National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) recognition programs towards quality assessment. The Premium program adds the greater of 25 measures or 10 percent of the physician's total measures (whichever is larger) as compliant to the quality assessment for physicians who have achieved recognition in one or more of these programs applicable to their Premium specialty.					
National Committee for Quality Assurance					
Heart/Stroke					

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