## Premium Specialty: Family Medicine

Credentialed Specialties Include: Family Practice, General Practice, Preventive Medicine

## Patient Total Cost

Use this document with the UnitedHealth Premium<sup>®</sup> 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 Family Medicine Premium specialty using the <u>patient total cost</u> measurement using the condition-based episodes listed in the following chart.

Attribution methods determine which physicians are responsible for giving care to patients. Patient total cost measurement uses the patient attribution method. Please view the <u>Attribution Methods</u> document to learn more.

We use two methods to determine if we should include costs from an eligible treatment episode. These methods depend on the condition:

• Always include: Costs from an eligible treatment episode for an attributed patient, regardless of the attributed physician's level of involvement in the treatment of the patient's condition.

• **Include if involved:** Costs from an eligible treatment episode for an attributed patient if the attributed physician is responsible for at least 30% of the costs.

When the physician doesn't have a sufficient number of patients attributed, the Premium program uses the patient episode cost measurement.

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Acne*	Х	
Acute Alcohol Intoxication		X
Acute Bronchitis	X	
Acute Pancreatitis	X	
Acute Pancreatitis, with Surgery	X	
Acute Renal Failure	X	
Acute Renal Inflammation	X	
Acute Renal Inflammation, with Surgery	X	
Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome		X
Acute Sinusitis	X	
Acute Sinusitis, with Surgery	X	
Adult Rheumatoid Arthritis*	X	
Agranulocytosis		X
AIDS*		X
AIDS, with Surgery*		Х
Alcohol Dependence		X
Allergic Rhinitis	X	
Allergic Rhinitis, with Surgery	X	
Alzheimer's Disease	X	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Anxiety Disorder or Phobias		Х
Arterial Inflammation	Х	
Arterial Inflammation, with Surgery	Х	
Asthma*	Х	
Atrial Fibrillation and Flutter*	Х	
Atrial Fibrillation and Flutter, with Surgery*	Х	
Attention Deficit Disorder*		Х
Autism and Child Psychoses		Х
Autoimmune Rheumatologic Diseases, except Lupus*		Х
Bacterial Infection of Skin, Single Side	Х	
Bacterial Lung Infections	Х	
Bowel Obstruction		Х
Bowel Obstruction, with Surgery		Х
Brain Trauma	Х	
Brain Trauma, with Surgery	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Elbow and Upper Arm, Single Side	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Elbow and Upper Arm, with Surgery	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Foot and Ankle, Single Side	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Foot and Ankle, with Surgery	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, Single Side	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, with Surgery	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Knee and Lower Leg, Single Side	x	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Knee and Lower Leg, with Surgery	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Shoulder	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Shoulder, with Surgery	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis, with Surgery	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Unspecified	Х	
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Unspecified, with Surgery	Х	
Cardiac Infection		Х
Cardiac Infection, with Surgery		Х
Cardiomyopathy	Х	
Cardiomyopathy, with Angioplasty	Х	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Cardiomyopathy, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	Х	
Cardiomyopathy, with Valve	Х	
Cardiomyopathy, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	Х	
Cardiovascular Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome	Х	
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, with Surgery	Х	
Celiac Disease		Х
Cerebral Vascular Disease	Х	
Cerebral Vascular Disease, with Surgery	Х	
Cholelithiasis	Х	
Cholelithiasis, with Surgery	Х	
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease*	Х	
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, with Surgery*	Х	
Chronic Pancreatitis	Х	
Chronic Pancreatitis, with Surgery	Х	
Chronic Renal Failure	Х	
Chronic Sinusitis	Х	
Chronic Sinusitis, with Surgery	Х	
Chronic Skin Ulcers	Х	
Chronic Skin Ulcers, with Surgery	Х	
Cirrhosis*	Х	
Cirrhosis, with Surgery*	Х	
Complex Regional Pain Syndrome		Х
Conditional Exam		Х
Conditions Associated with Menstruation	Х	
Conditions Associated with Menstruation, with Surgery	Х	
Congenital and Acquired Anomalies of Ear/Nose/Throat		X
Congenital and Acquired Anomalies of Ear/Nose/Throat, with Surgery		x
Congenital Disorders of Central Nervous System		Х
Congenital Disorders of Central Nervous System, with Surgery		x
Congenital Disorders of Peripheral Nerves*		Х
Congenital Disorders of Peripheral Nerves, with Surgery*		x
Congestive Heart Failure	Х	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Congestive Heart Failure, with Angioplasty	Х	
Congestive Heart Failure, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	Х	
Congestive Heart Failure, with Valve	Х	
Congestive Heart Failure, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	Х	
Conjunctivitis, Single Side	Х	
Contact Dermatitis, Single Side	Х	
Contraceptive Management		Х
Contraceptive Management, with Surgery		X
Dehydration		X
Dementia		X
Dermatological Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Development Disorder		Х
Diabetes*	Х	
Diabetes, with Surgery*	Х	
Diverticulitis and Diverticulosis	Х	
Diverticulitis and Diverticulosis, with Surgery	Х	
Eating Disorder		Х
Embolism and Thrombosis of Veins*	Х	
Embolism and Thrombosis of Veins, with Surgery*	Х	
Endocrine Disease Signs and Symptoms*	Х	
Endometriosis		Х
Endometriosis, with Surgery		Х
Environmental Trauma		Х
Epilepsy*	Х	
Epilepsy, with Surgery*	Х	
External Eye Infection, except Conjunctivitis, Single Side		x
External Eye Infection, except Conjunctivitis, with Surgery, unilateral		x
Female Sex Gland Disorders	Х	
Female Sex Gland Disorders, with Surgery	Х	
Fungal Skin Infection	Х	
Gastritis and/or Duodenitis	Х	
Gastritis and/or Duodenitis, with Surgery	Х	
Gastroenterology Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Gout*	Х	
Gout, with Surgery*	Х	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Gynecological Signs and Symptoms		Х
Hearing Disorders, Single Side	Х	
Hearing Disorders, with Surgery, unilateral	Х	
Heart Failure, Diastolic		Х
Hemorrhoids	Х	
Hemorrhoids, with Surgery	Х	
Hepatology Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Hereditary and Degenerative Diseases of Central Nervous System, Other		x
Hereditary and Degenerative Diseases of Central Nervous System, Other, with Surgery		x
Hernias, except Hiatal, Single Side		Х
Hernias, except Hiatal, with Surgery, unilateral		Х
Hiatal Hernia	Х	
Hiatal Hernia, with Surgery	Х	
HIV Sero-Positive without AIDS*		Х
Hyper-Functioning Adrenal Gland*		Х
Hyper-Functioning Parathyroid Gland		Х
Hyper-Functioning Parathyroid Gland, with Surgery		Х
Hyper-Functioning Thyroid Gland	Х	
Hyper-Functioning Thyroid Gland, with Surgery	Х	
Hyperlipidemia, Other*	Х	
Hypertension	Х	
Hypo-Functioning Adrenal Gland		Х
Hypo-Functioning Parathyroid Gland*		Х
Hypo-Functioning Thyroid Gland*	Х	
Hypo-Functioning Thyroid Gland, with Surgery*	Х	
Immunodeficiencies*		Х
Infection of Cervix		Х
Infection of Lower Genitourinary System, Not Sexually Transmitted	Х	
Infection of Ovary and/or Fallopian Tubes		Х
Infection of Ovary and/or Fallopian Tubes, with Surgery		x
Infection of Stomach and Esophagus	Х	
Infection of Stomach and Esophagus, with Surgery	Х	
Infection of Upper Genitourinary System	Х	
Infection of Upper Genitourinary System, with Surgery	Х	
Infection of Vagina, except Monilial	Х	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Infections of Oral Cavity	Х	
Infections of Oral Cavity, with Surgery	Х	
Infectious Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Infectious Hepatitis*	Х	
Inflammation of Central Nervous System, Other		Х
Inflammation of Central Nervous System, Other, with Surgery		X
Inflammation of Cranial Nerves	Х	
Inflammation of Cranial Nerves, with Surgery	Х	
Inflammation of Esophagus	Х	
Inflammation of Esophagus, with Surgery	Х	
Inflammation of Genitourinary System, except Kidney Stones	Х	
Inflammation of Genitourinary System, except Kidney Stones, with Surgery	Х	
Inflammation of Non-Cranial Nerves, except Carpal Tunnel		X
Inflammation of Non-Cranial Nerves, except Carpal Tunnel, with Surgery		x
Inflammation of Oral Cavity	Х	
Inflammation of Oral Cavity, with Surgery	Х	
Inflammation of Rectum or Anus	Х	
Inflammation of Rectum or Anus, with Surgery	Х	
Inflammatory Bowel Disease*	Х	
Inflammatory Bowel Disease, with Surgery*	Х	
Inflammatory Condition of Female Genital Tract, except Endometriosis	Х	
Inflammatory Condition of Female Genital Tract, except Endometriosis, with Surgery	Х	
Inflammatory Eye Disease*	Х	
Inflammatory Eye Disease, with Surgery*	Х	
Iron Deficiency Anemia	Х	
Irritable Bowel Syndrome*	Х	
Ischemic Heart Disease	Х	
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Angioplasty	Х	
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	Х	
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Valve	Х	
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	Х	
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Back, Single Side		Х

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Back, with Surgery, unilateral		х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Elbow and Upper Arm		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Elbow and Upper Arm, with Surgery		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Foot and Ankle, Single Side		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Foot and Ankle, with Surgery		x
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Hand, Wrist and Forearm		x
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, with Surgery		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Knee and Lower Leg, Single Side		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Knee and Lower Leg, with Surgery		x
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Neck		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Neck, with Surgery		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Shoulder		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Shoulder, with Surgery		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis, with Surgery		Х
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Unspecified*		Х
Joint Derangement - Knee and Lower Leg		Х
Joint Derangement - Knee and Lower Leg, with Surgery		x
Kidney Stones	Х	
Kidney Stones, with Surgery	Х	
Low Back Pain Syndrome	Х	
Lupus*	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Back	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Back, with Surgery	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Hand, Wrist and Forearm	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, with Surgery	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Knee and Lower Leg	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Knee and Lower Leg, with Surgery	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Other	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Other, with Surgery	Х	
Major Joint Inflammation - Unspecified*	Х	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Major Joint Inflammation - Unspecified, with Surgery*	Х	
Male Sex Gland Disorders*	Х	
Male Sex Gland Disorders, with Surgery*	Х	
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast		Х
Malignant Neoplasm of Cervix		Х
Malignant Neoplasm of Ear/Nose/Throat		Х
Malignant Neoplasm of Genitourinary System, except Prostate		х
Malignant Neoplasm of Large Intestine		X
Malignant Neoplasm of Ovaries		X
Malignant Neoplasm of Prostate		X
Malignant Neoplasm of Pulmonary System		Х
Malignant Neoplasm of Rectum or Anus		Х
Malignant Neoplasm of Skin, Major		Х
Malignant Neoplasm of Thyroid Gland		Х
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus		Х
Migraine Headache*	Х	
Minor Infectious Pulmonary Diseases, Other than Acute Bronchitis	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Back	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Elbow and Upper Arm	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Foot and Ankle, Single Side	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, Single Side	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Knee and Lower Leg	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Neck	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Neck, with Surgery	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Shoulder	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis, Single Side	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Trunk	Х	
Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Unspecified	Х	
Monilial Infection of Vagina (Yeast)	Х	
Mood Disorder, Bipolar*		Х
Mood Disorder, Depressed*		X
Nephrology Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Neurological Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Non-Cerebral, Non-Coronary Atherosclerosis, Single Side	Х	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Non-Cerebral, Non-Coronary Atherosclerosis, with Surgery, unilateral	х	
Non-Infectious Hepatitis	Х	
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Adrenal Gland		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Adrenal Gland, with Surgery		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Breast		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Breast, with Surgery		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Ear/Nose/Throat		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Ear/Nose/Throat, with Surgery		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Female Genital Tract		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Female Genital Tract, with Surgery		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Genitourinary System, except Prostate, Single Side		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Genitourinary System, except Prostate, with Surgery, unilateral		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Intestines and Abdomen		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Intestines and Abdomen, with Surgery		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Pituitary Gland*		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Pituitary Gland, with Surgery*		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Prostate		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Prostate, with Surgery		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Rectum or Anus		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Rectum or Anus, with Surgery		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Skin		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Skin, with Surgery, Single Side		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Thyroid Gland		Х
Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Thyroid Gland, with Surgery		Х
Non-Toxic Goiter	Х	
Non-Toxic Goiter, with Surgery	Х	
Nutritional Deficiency	Х	
Nutritional Deficiency, with Surgery	Х	
Obesity	Х	
Obesity, with Surgery	Х	
Obstructive Sleep Apnea		Х
Occupational and Environmental Pulmonary Diseases		Х

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Occupational and Environmental Pulmonary Diseases, with Surgery		x
Opioid or Barbiturate Dependence*		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Back	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Elbow and Upper Arm	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Foot and Ankle	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Hand, Wrist and Forearm	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Knee and Lower Leg	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Neck	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Neck, with Surgery	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Shoulder	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis	Х	
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Unspecified	Х	
Osteoporosis*	Х	
Other and Unspecified Diseases and Disorders of Eye and Adnexa		x
Other and Unspecified Diseases and Disorders of Eye and Adnexa, with Surgery		X
Other Conduction Disorders	Х	
Other Diseases and Disorders of Rectum and Anus	Х	
Other Diseases and Disorders of Rectum and Anus, with Surgery	Х	
Other Diseases of Female Genital Tract		X
Other Diseases of Female Genital Tract, with Surgery		X
Other Diseases of Hepatobiliary System	Х	
Other Diseases of Hepatobiliary System, with Surgery	Х	
Other Diseases of Thyroid Gland		X
Other Diseases of Thyroid Gland, with Surgery		X
Other Diseases of Veins		Х
Other Diseases of Veins, with Surgery		X
Other Disorders of Breast	Х	
Other Disorders of Breast, with Surgery	Х	
Other Drug Dependence		Х
Other Infections of Ear/Nose/Throat	Х	
Other Infections of Ear/Nose/Throat, with Surgery	Х	
Other Infectious Diseases		Х
Other Infectious Diseases, with Surgery		X

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Other Inflammation of Intestines and Abdomen	Х	
Other Inflammation of Intestines and Abdomen, with Surgery	Х	
Other Inflammation of Skin*	Х	
Other Inflammatory Conditions of Ear/Nose/Throat	Х	
Other Inflammatory Conditions of Ear/Nose/Throat, with Surgery	Х	
Other Inflammatory Lung Diseases*		Х
Other Inflammatory Lung Diseases, with Surgery*		Х
Other Metabolic Disorders*		X
Other Metabolic Disorders, with Surgery*		Х
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Back		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Elbow and Upper Arm		x
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Foot and Ankle		Х
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Hand, Wrist and Forearm		x
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Knee and Lower Leg		x
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Neck		Х
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Neck, with Surgery		x
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Shoulder		Х
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis		x
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Unspecified		Х
Other Skin Disorders	Х	
Other Skin Disorders, with Surgery	Х	
Other Sleep Disorders*		X
Otitis Media, Single Side	Х	
Otitis Media, with Major Surgery, unilateral	Х	
Otitis Media, with Surgery, unilateral	Х	
Otolaryngology Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Parasitic Skin Infection*	Х	
Parkinson's Disease*		Х
Parkinson's Disease, with Surgery*		Х
Phlebitis and Thrombophlebitis of Veins*	Х	
Phlebitis and Thrombophlebitis of Veins, with Surgery*	Х	
Pregnancy, with Delivery		Х
Pregnancy, with Delivery, with Caesarean Section		Х

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Psoriasis*	Х	
Psychosexual Disorder		Х
Pulmonary Embolism*	Х	
Pulmonary Heart Disease*		Х
Pulmonary Heart Disease, with Angioplasty*		Х
Pulmonary Heart Disease, with Valve*		Х
Pulmonary Heart Disease, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting*		X
Pulmonary Tuberculosis*		Х
Pulmonology Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Routine Exam		Х
Septicemia		Х
Septicemia, with Surgery		Х
Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Disseminated	Х	
Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Primary	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Elbow and Upper Arm	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Elbow and Upper Arm, with Surgery	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Foot and Ankle, Single Side	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Foot and Ankle, with Surgery, unilateral	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Hand and Forearm, Single Side	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Hand and Forearm, with Surgery, unilateral	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Head and Face	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Head and Face, with Surgery	х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Hip and Thigh	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Hip and Thigh, with Surgery	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Lower Leg	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Lower Leg, with Surgery	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Other	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Shoulder	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Shoulder, with Surgery	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Trunk, Single Side	Х	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Trunk, with Surgery, unilateral	Х	
Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Unspecified	Х	
Thrombocytopenia*	Х	
Thrombocytopenia, with Surgery*	Х	
Tonsillitis, Adenoiditis or Pharyngitis	Х	
Tonsillitis, Adenoiditis or Pharyngitis, with Surgery	Х	
Trauma of Eye, Single Side		Х
Trauma of Eye, with Surgery, unilateral		Х
Ulcer	Х	
Ulcer, with Surgery	Х	
Uncomplicated Neonatal Management		Х
Urinary Incontinence*	Х	
Urinary Incontinence, with Surgery*	Х	
Urological Diseases Signs and Symptoms	Х	
Valvular Disorder	Х	
Valvular Disorder, with Angioplasty	Х	
Valvular Disorder, with Valve	Х	
Varicose Veins of Lower Extremity, Single Side	Х	
Varicose Veins of Lower Extremity, with Surgery, unilateral	Х	
Viral Pneumonia	Х	
Viral Skin Infection	Х	
Visual Disturbances, Single Side		Х
Visual Disturbances, with Surgery, unilateral		Х

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

## Important Notes

The information from the UnitedHealth Premium program is not an endorsement of a particular physician or health care professional's suitability for the health care needs of any particular member. UnitedHealthcare does not practice medicine nor provide health care services. Physicians are solely responsible for medical judgments and treatments supplied. A Premium Care Physician designation does not guarantee the guality of health care services members will receive from a physician and does not guarantee the outcome of any health care services members will receive. The fact that a physician doesn't have a Premium Care Physician designation doesn't mean the physician doesn't provide quality health care services. All physicians in the UnitedHealthcare Network have met certain minimum credentialing requirements. Regardless of whether a physician has received a Premium Care Physician designation, members have access to all physicians in the UnitedHealthcare Network, as further described under the member's benefit plan. There are various reasons why a physician may not be designated as a Premium Care Physician. A physician may not receive a Premium Care designation because that physician has not been evaluated for a Premium Care designation. This occurs when a physician does not practice in a specialty that is evaluated by the Premium program, or when a physician's evaluation is in process. It also occurs when a physician does not have enough health plan claims data to be evaluated, but it is not an indicator of the total number of patients treated by the physician or the number of procedures performed by the physician. Rather, it reflects the statistical requirements of the Premium program, which includes only health plan claims associated with specific Premium program measures and relevant to the physician's specialty. In some cases, there may not be enough data to complete the analytic process from a statistical standpoint. UnitedHealthcare informs members that designations are intended only as a guide when choosing a physician and should not be the sole factor in selecting a physician. As with all programs that evaluate performance based on analysis of a sample, there is a risk of error. There is a risk of error in the claims data used in the evaluation, the calculations used in the evaluation, and the way the Premium program determined that an individual physician was responsible for the treatment of the patient's condition. Physicians have the opportunity to review this data and submit a reconsideration request. UnitedHealthcare uses statistical testing to compare a physician's results to expected or normative results. There is a risk of error in statistical tests when applied to the data and a result based on statistical testing is not a guarantee of correct inference or classification. We inform members that it is important that they consider many factors and information when selecting a physician. We also inform our members that they may wish to discuss designations with a physician before choosing him or her, or confer with their current physician for advice on selecting other physicians. The information contained in this document is subject to change.

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