

**Peer Specialty: Allergy**
**Patient Annual Cost**

UnitedHealth Premium® methodology documents are located on [unitedhealthpremium.uhc.com](https://unitedhealthpremium.uhc.com).

There are 2 methods used to determine if costs from an eligible treatment episode are included. The method used depends on the condition and the physician's specialty.

- **Always include:** Include regardless of the attributed physician's level of treatment of the patient's condition
- **Include if involved:** Include if the attributed physician is responsible for at least 50% of the costs

Condition	Always include	Include if involved
Acne*		X
Acute Bronchitis		X
Acute Sinusitis		X
Allergic Rhinitis	X	
Allergic Rhinitis, with Endoscopic Intervention	X	
Allergic Rhinitis, with Surgery	X	
Asthma*	X	
Chronic Sinusitis		X
Chronic Sinusitis, with Endoscopic Intervention		X
Chronic Sinusitis, with Surgery		X
Conditional Exam		X
Conjunctivitis - Single Side		X
Contact Dermatitis - Single Side		X
Environmental Trauma		X
Immunodeficiencies*		X
Inflammation of Esophagus		X
Inflammation of Esophagus, with Endoscopic Intervention		X
Inflammation of Esophagus, with Surgery		X
Other Disorders of Ear/Nose/Throat		X
Other Disorders of Ear/Nose/Throat, with Surgery		X
Otitis Media - Single Side		X
Otitis Media, with Surgery - Single Side		X
Otolaryngology Diseases Signs and Symptoms		X
Poisonings and Toxic Effects of Drugs		X
Pulmonology Diseases Signs and Symptoms		X
Routine Exam		X
Tonsillitis, Adenoiditis or Pharyngitis		X
Tonsillitis, Adenoiditis or Pharyngitis, with Surgery		X

\*Episodes for these conditions are excluded for patients whose pharmacy cost data is not available.

## **Important notes about UnitedHealth Premium®**

The information from UnitedHealth Premium is not an endorsement of a particular physician or health care professional's suitability for the health care needs of any member. UnitedHealthcare does not practice medicine nor provide health care services. Physicians are solely responsible for medical judgments and treatments.

A Premium Care Physician designation does not guarantee the quality or the outcome of any health care services members receive. The fact that a physician does not have a Premium Care Physician designation does not mean the physician does not 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 described in 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 designation because that physician has not been evaluated. This occurs when a physician does not practice in a specialty or market that is evaluated by Premium, or the physician's evaluation is in process. This also occurs when there are not enough measures, patients, and/or episodes attributed to the physician for evaluation. This is not an indicator of the total number of patients treated by the physician, or the number of procedures performed by the physician.

**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. Members are encouraged to discuss designations with a physician before choosing them or consult with their current physician(s) for advice on selecting other physicians.**

**As with all programs that evaluate performance based on evaluation of a sample, there is a risk of error.** There is a risk of error in the claims data used and in the way patient care is attributed to physicians. UnitedHealth Premium uses statistical testing to compare a physician's performance to benchmarks. 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. Physicians have the opportunity to review the data and evaluation results and may submit requests for changes and/or corrections.

**The information contained in this document is subject to change.**