

Peer Specialty: Nephrology
Patient Annual Cost

UnitedHealth Premium® methodology documents are located on 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
Acute Renal Failure	X	
Acute Renal Inflammation	X	
Acute Renal Inflammation, with Percutaneous Intervention	X	
Acute Renal Inflammation, with Surgery	X	
Chronic Renal Failure	X	
Chronic Renal Inflammation	X	
Chronic Renal Inflammation, with Surgery	X	
Conditional Exam		X
Congestive Heart Failure		X
Congestive Heart Failure, with Angioplasty		X
Congestive Heart Failure, with Surgery (other than CABG or Valve)		X
Congestive Heart Failure, with Valve		X
Diabetes*		X
Diabetes, with Percutaneous Intervention*		X
Diabetes, with Surgery*		X
Gout*		X
Hyperlipidemia, Other*		X
Hypertension		X
Infection of Lower Genitourinary System, not Sexually Transmitted		X
Infection of Upper Genitourinary System		X
Inflammation of Genitourinary System, except Kidney Stones		X
Inflammation of Genitourinary System, except Kidney Stones, with Endoscopic Intervention		X
Inflammation of Genitourinary System, except Kidney Stones, with Surgery		X
Ischemic Heart Disease		X
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Angioplasty		X
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting		X
Kidney Stones		X
Kidney Stones, with Endoscopic Intervention		X
Lupus*		X

Condition	Always include	Include if involved
Nephrology Diseases Signs and Symptoms	X	
Nephrotic Syndrome	X	
Nephrotic Syndrome, with Surgery	X	
Nutritional Deficiency		X
Obesity*		X
Other Metabolic Disorders*		X
Other Renal Conditions	X	
Other Renal Conditions, with Endoscopic Intervention	X	
Other Renal Conditions, with Percutaneous Intervention	X	
Other Renal Conditions, with Surgery	X	
Routine Exam		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.