

Peer Specialty: Rheumatology
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
Adult Rheumatoid Arthritis*	X	
Arterial Inflammation		X
Arterial Inflammation, with Surgery		X
Autoimmune Rheumatologic Diseases, except Lupus*	X	
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Elbow and Upper Arm - Single Side		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Elbow and Upper Arm, with Surgery		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Foot and Ankle - Single Side		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Hand, Wrist and Forearm - Single Side		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Hand, Wrist and Forearm, with Surgery		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Knee and Lower Leg - Single Side		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Shoulder		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Shoulder, with Surgery		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Thigh, Hip and Pelvis		X
Bursitis and Tendinitis, Unspecified		X
Chronic Renal Failure		X
Conditional Exam		X
Diabetes*		X
Diabetes, with Surgery*		X
Gout*		X
Hypertension		X
Hypo-Functioning Thyroid Gland*		X
Immunodeficiencies*		X
Inflammatory Eye Disease*		X
Inflammatory Eye Disease, with Surgery*		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Back - Single Side		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Back, with Percutaneous Intervention - Single Side		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Back, with Surgery - Single Side		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Elbow and Upper Arm		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Foot and Ankle - Single Side		X

Condition	Always include	Include if involved
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		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Neck, with Percutaneous Intervention		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Neck, with Surgery		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Shoulder		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Shoulder, with Surgery		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Thigh, Hip and Pelvis		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Thigh, Hip and Pelvis, with Surgery		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Unspecified*		X
Joint Degeneration, Localized, Unspecified, with Surgery*		X
Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis*	X	
Low Back Pain Syndrome		X
Lupus*	X	
Major Joint Inflammation, Back		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Elbow and Upper Arm		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Foot and Ankle		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Hand, Wrist and Forearm		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Hand, Wrist and Forearm, with Surgery		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Knee and Lower Leg		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Other		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Shoulder		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Thigh, Hip and Pelvis		X
Major Joint Inflammation, Unspecified*		X
Nutritional Deficiency		X
Obesity*		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Back		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Elbow and Upper Arm		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Foot and Ankle		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Hand, Wrist and Forearm		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Knee and Lower Leg		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Neck		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Shoulder		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Thigh, Hip and Pelvis		X
Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms, Unspecified		X

Condition	Always include	Include if involved
Osteoporosis*		X
Other Inflammatory Lung Diseases*		X
Other Inflammatory Lung Diseases, with Surgery*		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Back		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Foot and Ankle		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Hand, Wrist and Forearm		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Knee and Lower Leg		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Neck		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Neck, with Surgery		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Shoulder		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Thigh, Hip and Pelvis		X
Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders, Unspecified		X
Psoriasis*		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.