

# Smart Edits Release Notification: CLIA

## CLIA Overview

UnitedHealthcare has implemented a reimbursement policy that applies to all laboratory services to align with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) requirements. The effective date for the policy was Nov. 1, 2016, for participating providers and Aug. 1, 2016, for non-participating providers. The reimbursement policy applies to UnitedHealthcare commercial, Medicare Advantage and Medicaid members' claims submitted on either a CMS-1500 claim form or HIPAA 5010 837P claim file.

The policy requires that all claims for laboratory services include the CLIA number for the servicing care provider. The laboratory servicing care provider's physical address is also required if the address differs from the billing provider's address noted on the claim. The billing or servicing care provider's address must match the address associated with the CLIA ID number. CLIA regulatory requirements vary by the kind of test each laboratory conducts. Tests are categorized as waived, moderate complexity or high complexity. CLIA requires all laboratory testing sites to have one of the following certificates to legally perform clinical laboratory testing: Certificate of Waiver, Certificate of Registration, Certificate of Accreditation, Certificate for Physician-Performed Microscopy or Certificate of Compliance.

## Smart Edits Release Update: CLIA

UnitedHealthcare has a tool, Smart Edits, which identifies problematic claims before entering our claims processing system. Smart Edit messages are sent to the industry standard **277CA** clearinghouse rejection report. All CLIA Smart Edits are Rejection Edits, which mean they will not enter UnitedHealthcare's claims processing system unless a CLIA ID is corrected or added to the claim. CLIA Smart Edits are active for our Medicare, Medicaid and commercial lines of business (Oxford included). All laboratory services (subject to CLIA oversight) submitted on a HIPAA 5010 837P professional claim form are subject to missing or invalid CLIA Smart Edits. Active CLIA Smart Edits include: **uMCID**, **uIBC** and **uISC**.

### **uMCID – Missing CLIA ID**

- This edit indicates that the CLIA ID was not submitted on the claim for the billing provider or servicing provider. Please resubmit the returned claim with a valid CLIA ID.

### **uIBC – Invalid Billing CLIA ID**

- This edit indicates that the billing provider CLIA ID submitted on the claim was not located in the QIES and CDC files. Please verify that your CLIA ID is listed in [cdc.gov/clia/resources/labsearch.aspx](http://cdc.gov/clia/resources/labsearch.aspx) and resubmit with the valid CLIA ID.
- If a newly registered provider's CLIA ID is valid, but claims have been returned and denied, please follow the established reconsideration process.

### **uISC – Invalid Servicing CLIA ID**

- This edit indicates that the Rendering Provider CLIA ID submitted in the claim service line detail was not located in the QIES and CDC files. Please check that your CLIA ID is listed in [cdc.gov/clia/resources/labsearch.aspx](http://cdc.gov/clia/resources/labsearch.aspx) and resubmit with the valid CLIA ID.
- If a newly registered provider CLIA ID is valid, but claims have been returned and denied, please follow

the established reconsideration process.

## CLIA UnitedHealthcare Payment Policy

CLIA applies to all laboratories that examine “materials derived from the human body for the purpose of providing information for the diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of any disease or impairment of, or the assessment of the health of human beings.” This applies if even one test is to be performed. CLIA regulatory requirements vary according to the kind of test(s) each laboratory conducts. All entities that meet the definition of a “laboratory” under the CLIA statutes and regulations must obtain an appropriate CLIA certificate prior to conducting patient testing.

For purposes of this policy, a valid CLIA certificate identification number will be required for reimbursement of clinical laboratory services reported on a CMS-1500 form or its electronic equivalent.

Any claim that does not contain the CLIA ID, includes an invalid ID and/or does not contain the complete servicing provider demographic information will be considered incomplete and rejected or denied. Claim line edits will also be applied if the laboratory certification level does not support the billed service code(s). Laboratory servicing providers who do not meet the reporting requirements and/or do not have the appropriate level of CLIA certification for the services reported will not be reimbursed.

## Stay Informed

Stay up-to-date on all active Smart Edits and resources by visiting [UHCprovider.com/smartedits](https://UHCprovider.com/smartedits). Visit [UHCprovider.com](https://UHCprovider.com) for more information regarding UnitedHealthcare’s CLIA Payment Policy:

### Medicare:

[UHCprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/policies/medadv-reimbursement/medadv-clia-id-requirement-policy.pdf](https://UHCprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/policies/medadv-reimbursement/medadv-clia-id-requirement-policy.pdf)

### Medicaid:

[UHCprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/policies/medicaid-comm-plan-reimbursement/uhccp-clinical-laboratory-improvement-amend-id-requirement-policy-\(r6000\).pdf](https://UHCprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/policies/medicaid-comm-plan-reimbursement/uhccp-clinical-laboratory-improvement-amend-id-requirement-policy-(r6000).pdf)

### Commercial:

[UHCprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/policies/comm-reimbursement/COMM-CLIA-ID-Requirements-Policy.pdf](https://UHCprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/policies/comm-reimbursement/COMM-CLIA-ID-Requirements-Policy.pdf)

For more information on CLIA requirements and test complexity categories, go to [cms.hhs.gov/clia](https://cms.hhs.gov/clia).

If you have additional questions or concerns regarding Smart Edits, please contact the UnitedHealthcare EDI Support team at [supportedi@uhc.com](mailto:supportedi@uhc.com).

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