

Medical Policy Update Bulletin: September 2020

Medical Policy, Medical Benefit Drug Policy, Coverage Determination Guideline, & Utilization Review Guideline Updates

Access a policy listed below for complete details on the latest updates. A comprehensive summary of changes is provided at the bottom of every policy document for your reference. To view a detailed version of this bulletin, click [here](#).

Take Note

Annual ICD-10 Code Updates

Effective Oct. 1, 2020, all applicable Medical Policies, Medical Benefit Drug Policies, Coverage Determination Guidelines, and Utilization Review Guidelines will be modified to reflect the annual ICD-10 code additions, revisions, and deletions. Refer to the following sources for information on the code updates:

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) Clinical Modification (CM) (Diagnosis) Codes
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) Procedure Coding System (PCS) Codes

Complete details on impacted policies and corresponding code edits will be provided in the October 2020 edition of the Medical Policy Update Bulletin.

Implementation Delayed: Outpatient Surgical Procedures – Site of Service Review for Medicare Advantage Plans

The Utilization Review Guideline titled [Outpatient Surgical Procedures – Site of Service](#) will not be revised to include site of service medical necessity review guidelines for Medicare Advantage plans on Sep. 1, 2020, as previously announced. Implementation of the new review requirement for services performed in the hospital outpatient setting for Medicare Advantage plans has been postponed until further notice.

Medical Policy Updates

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Minimally Invasive Procedures for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD) and Achalasia	Revised	Oct. 1, 2020
Sublingual Immunotherapy	Revised	Oct. 1, 2020

Medical Benefit Drug Policy Updates

Policy Title	Status	Effective Date
Crysvita® (Burosumab-Twza)	Revised	Oct. 1, 2020
Hereditary Angioedema (HAE), Treatment and Prophylaxis	Revised	Oct. 1, 2020
Respiratory Interleukins (Cinqair®, Fasenna®, & Nucala®)	Revised	Oct. 1, 2020
Rituximab (Rituxan®, Ruxience®, & Truxima®)	Revised	Oct. 1, 2020
Scenesse® (Afamelanotide)	New	Oct. 1, 2020
Uplizna™ (Inebilizumab-Cdon)	New	Oct. 1, 2020
Preventive Care Services	Revised	Oct. 1, 2020

General Information

The inclusion of a health service (e.g., test, drug, device or procedure) in this bulletin indicates only that UnitedHealthcare is adopting a new policy and/or updated, revised, replaced or retired an existing policy; it does not imply that UnitedHealthcare provides coverage for the health service. Note that most benefit plan documents exclude from benefit coverage health services identified as investigational or unproven/not medically necessary. Physicians and other health care professionals may not seek or collect payment from a member for services not covered by the applicable benefit plan unless first obtaining the member's written consent, acknowledging that the service is not covered by the benefit plan and that they will be billed directly for the service.

Note: The absence of a policy does not automatically indicate or imply coverage. As always, coverage for a health service must be determined in accordance with the member's benefit plan and any applicable federal or state regulatory requirements. Additionally, UnitedHealthcare reserves the right to review the clinical evidence supporting the safety and effectiveness of a medical technology prior to rendering a coverage determination.

UnitedHealthcare respects the expertise of the physicians, health care professionals, and their staff who participate in our network. Our goal is to support you and your patients in making the most informed decisions regarding the choice of quality and cost-effective care, and to support practice staff with a simple and predictable administrative experience. The Medical Policy Update Bulletin was developed to share important information regarding UnitedHealthcare Medical Policy, Medical Benefit Drug Policy, Coverage Determination Guideline, and Utilization Review Guideline updates. When information in this bulletin conflicts with applicable state and/or federal law, UnitedHealthcare follows such applicable federal and/or state law.

Policy Update Classifications

New

New clinical coverage criteria have been adopted for a health service (e.g., test, drug, device or procedure)

Updated

An existing policy has been reviewed and changes have not been made to the clinical coverage criteria; however, items such as the clinical evidence, FDA information, and/or list(s) of applicable codes may have been updated

Revised

An existing policy has been reviewed and revisions have been made to the clinical coverage criteria

Replaced

An existing policy has been replaced with a new or different policy

Retired

The health service(s) addressed in the policy are no longer being managed or are considered to be proven/medically necessary and are therefore not excluded as unproven/not medically necessary services, unless coverage guidelines or criteria are otherwise documented in another policy



The complete library of UnitedHealthcare Medical Policies, Medical Benefit Drug Policies, Coverage Determination Guidelines, and Utilization Review Guidelines is available at [UHCprovider.com](https://www.uhcprovider.com) > Policies and Protocols > Commercial Policies > [Medical & Drug Policies and Coverage Determination Guidelines](#).