

## Allergen Testing Policy, Professional and Facility

### **IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THIS REIMBURSEMENT POLICY**

*You are responsible for submission of accurate claims. This reimbursement policy is intended to ensure that you are reimbursed based on the code or codes that correctly describe the health care services provided. UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy may use Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®\*), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or other coding guidelines. References to CPT or other sources are for definitional purposes only and do not imply any right to reimbursement.*

*This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on CMS 1500 forms and, when specified, to those billed on UB04 forms. Coding methodology, industry-standard reimbursement logic, regulatory requirements, benefits design and other factors are considered in developing reimbursement policy.*

*This information is intended to serve only as a general reference resource regarding UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to health care services provided in a particular case. Further, the policy does not address all issues related to reimbursement for health care services provided to UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy enrollees. Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors may include, but are not limited to: legislative mandates, the physician or other provider contracts, the enrollee's benefit coverage documents and/or other reimbursement, medical or drug policies. Finally, this policy may not be implemented exactly the same way on the different electronic claims processing systems used by UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy due to programming or other constraints; however, UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy strives to minimize these variations.*

*UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange Reimbursement Policy may modify this reimbursement policy at any time by publishing a new version of the policy on this Website. However, the information presented in this policy is accurate and current as of the date of publication.*

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### **Application**

This reimbursement policy applies to services reported using the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (a/k/a CMS-1500), UB04 claim form or its electronic equivalent or its successor form. This policy applies to all products, all network and non-network physicians and other qualified health care professionals, outpatient facility claims, Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC), Outpatient Surgical Centers (OSC), including, but not limited to, non-network authorized and percent of charge contract physicians, other qualified health care professionals or facilities.

#### **United Healthcare Commercial**

This Reimbursement Policy applies to all UnitedHealthcare Commercial benefit plans.

#### **UnitedHealthcare Individual Exchange**

This Reimbursement Policy applies to all Individual Exchange benefit plans.



Policy					
<b>Overview</b>					
This policy describes the reimbursement methodology for allergen testing.					
<b>Reimbursement Guidelines</b>					
<b>In Vitro Serum IgE</b>					
UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement for the following in vitro serum IgE testing procedure code(s) for individuals 20 years of age or older when billed for any condition other than those listed below.					
<b>Procedure Code(s)</b>					
82785					
<b>Condition(s)</b>					
a. For individuals with moderate to severe asthma. b. For individuals with signs or symptoms of allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis.					
<b>Allergy Testing Limitation</b>					
UnitedHealthcare will consider reimbursement for the following specific IgE in vitro allergy testing procedure codes for up to twenty allergen specific antibodies per year for individuals 20 years of age or older.					
<b>Procedure Code(s)</b>					
86003	86008				
<b>Antigen Leukocyte Antibody (ALCAT)</b>					
UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of the following antigen leukocyte antibody testing (ALCAT) procedure code(s).					
<b>Procedure Code(s)</b>					
83516					
<b>Immunoglobulins</b>					
UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of the following procedure codes for basophil activation flow cytometry testing and in-vitro testing of IgG, IgA, IgM, and/or IgD when billed for signs or symptoms of allergies.					
<b>Procedure Code(s)</b>					
82784	82787	86001	88184	88185	

### Bead-Based Epitope Assays

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of the following procedure codes for in vitro allergen testing using bead-based epitope assays.

**Procedure Code(s)**

0165U	0178U				
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### Multi-Allergen Screening

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement for the following qualitative specific IgE multi-allergen screen procedure code(s) that do not identify a specific allergen.

**Procedure Code(s)**

86005					
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### Definitions

**Twenty Allergen-Specific Antibodies Per Year**

Twenty units per 365 calendar days from initial date of service.

### Questions and Answers

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Q:</b> Is the frequency limitation based on individual provider per member?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Frequency limitation is applicable regardless of billing and/or rendering provider (any individual provider OR any facility) for each individual member for the same date of service.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Q:</b> Does the frequency limitation of in vitro specific IgE allergy testing apply to each procedure code individually or do all count toward the same limit?</p> <p><b>A:</b> The frequency limitation applies to each procedure code individually.</p>

### Resources

American Medical Association, *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)* and associated publications and services  
 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Recovery Audit Contractors (RAC)

### History

<b>9/1/2026</b>	Policy implemented by UnitedHealthcare Employer & Individual and Individual Family Plan (IFP) Exchange
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UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange  
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