Premium Specialty: Cardiology

Credentialed Specialties Include: Cardiac Diagnostic, Cardiology, Cardiovascular Disease, Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology, Interventional Cardiology

Patient Total Cost

Use this document with the UnitedHealth Premium® Program Methodology document at UnitedHealthPremium.UHC.com. Please review all of the methodology documents to understand the entire Premium methodology.

We evaluate physicians in the Cardiology Premium specialty using the patient total cost measurement using the condition-based episodes listed in the following chart.

Attribution methods determine which physicians are responsible for giving care to patients. Patient total cost measurement uses the patient attribution method. Please view the Attribution Methods document to learn more.

We use two methods to determine if we should include costs from an eligible treatment episode. These methods depend on the condition:

• **Always include:** Costs from an eligible treatment episode for an attributed patient, regardless of the attributed physician's level of involvement in the treatment of the patient's condition.

• **Include if involved:** Costs from an eligible treatment episode for an attributed patient if the attributed physician is responsible for at least 30% of the costs.

When the physician doesn't have a sufficient number of patients attributed, the Premium program uses the patient episode cost measurement.

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Aortic Aneurysm		X
Aortic Aneurysm, with Surgery		X
Aortic Aneurysm, with Valve		X
Arterial Inflammation		X
Arterial Inflammation, with Surgery		X
Atrial Fibrillation and Flutter*	X	
Atrial Fibrillation and Flutter, with Surgery*	X	
Cardiac Congenital Disorder	X	
Cardiac Congenital Disorder, with Angioplasty	X	
Cardiac Congenital Disorder, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Cardiac Congenital Disorder, with Valve	X	
Cardiac Congenital Disorder, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Cardiac Infection	X	
Cardiac Infection, with Surgery	X	
Cardiac Infection, with Valve	X	
Cardiomyopathy	X	
Cardiomyopathy, with Angioplasty	X	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Cardiomyopathy, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Cardiomyopathy, with Valve	X	
Cardiomyopathy, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Cardiovascular Diseases Signs and Symptoms	X	
Cerebral Vascular Disease		X
Cerebral Vascular Disease, with Surgery		X
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease*		X
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, with Surgery*		X
Chronic Renal Failure		X
Conditional Exam		X
Congestive Heart Failure	X	
Congestive Heart Failure, with Angioplasty	X	
Congestive Heart Failure, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Congestive Heart Failure, with Valve	X	
Congestive Heart Failure, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Diabetes*		X
Diabetes, with Surgery*		X
Diastolic Heart Failure, with Valve	X	
Diastolic Heart Failure, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Embolism and Thrombosis of Veins*		X
Embolism and Thrombosis of Veins, with Surgery*		X
Heart Failure, Diastolic	X	
Heart Failure, Diastolic, with Angioplasty	X	
Heart Failure, Diastolic, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Hyperlipidemia, Other*		X
Hypertension		X
Hypo-Functioning Thyroid Gland*		X
Hypo-Functioning Thyroid Gland, with Surgery*		X
Inflammation of Esophagus		X
Inflammation of Esophagus, with Surgery		X
Ischemic Heart Disease	X	
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Angioplasty	X	
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	

Condition	Always Include	Include if Involved
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Valve	X	
Ischemic Heart Disease, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	X	
Non-Cerebral, Non-Coronary Atherosclerosis, Single Side	X	
Non-Cerebral, Non-Coronary Atherosclerosis, with Surgery, unilateral	X	
Obesity		X
Obesity, with Surgery		X
Other Conduction Disorders	X	
Other Diseases of Veins		X
Other Diseases of Veins, with Surgery		X
Pulmonary Embolism*		X
Pulmonary Heart Disease*	X	
Pulmonary Heart Disease, with Angioplasty*	X	
Pulmonary Heart Disease, with Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting*	X	
Pulmonary Heart Disease, with Valve*	X	
Pulmonary Heart Disease, with Valve and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting*	X	
Pulmonology Diseases Signs and Symptoms		X
Routine Exam		X
Severe Heart Block	X	
Severe Heart Block, with Surgery	X	
Severe Heart Block, with Valve	X	
Severe Ventricular Rhythms	X	
Valvular Disorder	X	
Valvular Disorder, with Angioplasty	X	
Valvular Disorder, with Valve	X	
Varicose Veins of Lower Extremity, Single Side		X
Varicose Veins of Lower Extremity, with Surgery, unilateral		X

*Episodes for these conditions are excluded from patient total cost measurement for patients whose pharmacy cost data isn't available.

(continued)

Important Notes

The information from the UnitedHealth Premium program is not an endorsement of a particular physician or health care professional's suitability for the health care needs of any particular member. UnitedHealthcare does not practice medicine nor provide health care services. Physicians are solely responsible for medical judgments and treatments supplied. A Premium Care Physician designation does not guarantee the quality of health care services members will receive from a physician and does not guarantee the outcome of any health care services members will receive. The fact that a physician doesn't have a Premium Care Physician designation doesn't mean the physician doesn't 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 further described under 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 Premium Care designation because that physician has not been evaluated for a Premium Care designation. This occurs when a physician does not practice in a specialty that is evaluated by the Premium program, or when a physician's evaluation is in process. It also occurs when a physician does not have enough health plan claims data to be evaluated, but it is not an indicator of the total number of patients treated by the physician or the number of procedures performed by the physician. Rather, it reflects the statistical requirements of the Premium program, which includes only health plan claims associated with specific Premium program measures and relevant to the physician's specialty. In some cases, there may not be enough data to complete the analytic process from a statistical standpoint. 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. As with all programs that evaluate performance based on analysis of a sample, there is a risk of error. There is a risk of error in the claims data used in the evaluation, the calculations used in the evaluation, and the way the Premium program determined that an individual physician was responsible for the treatment of the patient's condition. Physicians have the opportunity to review this data and submit a reconsideration request. UnitedHealthcare uses statistical testing to compare a physician's results to expected or normative results. 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. We inform members that it is important that they consider many factors and information when selecting a physician. We also inform our members that they may wish to discuss designations with a physician before choosing him or her, or confer with their current physician for advice on selecting other physicians. The information contained in this document is subject to change.

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