

If you are unable to read this message or see the images, [view it online](#)



COVID-19 news from UnitedHealthcare

Temporary cost share waivers extended; additional billing guidance issued

COVID-19 continues to be an enormous challenge, and it will be for the foreseeable future. No one knows that better than you – the health care professionals on the front lines of the war on the virus. To help you care for patients and manage the administrative tasks that go along with that care, we're sharing several COVID-19 updates with you:

- Extension of the national public health emergency
- Updates regarding COVID-19 billing
- Resources to help you respond to patient concerns regarding COVID-19 vaccines

National public health emergency extended

The national public health emergency has been extended from Oct. 19, 2021 to Jan. 15, 2022. Here's how that extension affects temporary provisions for COVID-19 testing and testing-related visits:

- **Medicare Advantage, Individual Exchange, Individual and Group Market health plans:** From Feb. 4, 2020 through the national public health emergency period, UnitedHealthcare is waiving cost sharing for in-network and out-of-network COVID-19 tests and testing-related visits.
- **Medicaid:** State-specific rules and other state regulations may apply. For Medicaid and other state-specific regulations, please refer to your state-specific website or your state's UnitedHealthcare Community Plan website, if applicable.



Complete details on these temporary cost share waivers are available at UHCprovider.com/COVID19 and in the [Summary of COVID-19 Temporary Program Provisions](#).

COVID-19 billing updates

As the COVID-19 health emergency persists and evolves, we've implemented several new provisions that allow for more flexibility with patient care options.



Acute Hospital Care at Home waivers: UnitedHealthcare will accept the CMS Acute Hospital Care at Home program waiver for **qualifying Medicare Advantage claims** beginning Nov. 1, 2021. The waiver allows qualifying hospitals to receive inpatient payment for providing acute inpatient level of care services to Medicare beneficiaries in their homes.



Monoclonal antibody treatment in urgent care facilities: As of Oct. 15, 2021, we will reimburse claims for monoclonal antibody treatment provided by in-network urgent care facilities. Claims should be submitted with the appropriate HCPCS and administrative codes.

The **COVID-19 Billing Guide** and our **website** have been updated with these changes.

Helping patients with vaccine hesitancy

Health care professionals continue to play an important role as patients decide whether or not to be vaccinated for COVID-19. These 2 resources may be useful as you talk with patients:

- Check out the **vaccine hesitancy website** for materials that can help you have discussions with people who are vaccine hesitant. They are unbranded – meaning they don't have a UnitedHealthcare logo on them – so you can use them with patients regardless of what health care insurance they have.
- Review our **Building COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence** self-paced learning course for tips and scenarios that will help you respond during conversations with members.

We will continue to monitor the discussions regarding authorization of vaccine boosters, as well as vaccine availability for various age groups. We'll update our

materials as soon as possible after those decisions are made by the FDA and CDC.

We appreciate your continued focus on putting patient care first during the COVID-19 national public health emergency. You are providing exceptional care in unprecedented circumstances. Thank you for your continuous efforts to keep our members healthy and informed.

Insurance coverage provided by or through UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company or its affiliates. Health plan coverage provided by UnitedHealthcare of Arizona, Inc., UHC of California DBA UnitedHealthcare of California, UnitedHealthcare Benefits Plan of California, UnitedHealthcare of Colorado, Inc., UnitedHealthcare of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc., MAMSI Life and Health Insurance Company, UnitedHealthcare of New York, Inc., UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company of New York, UnitedHealthcare of Oklahoma, Inc., UnitedHealthcare of Oregon, Inc., UnitedHealthcare of Pennsylvania, Inc., UnitedHealthcare of Texas, Inc., UnitedHealthcare Benefits of Texas, Inc., UnitedHealthcare of Utah, Inc., UnitedHealthcare of Washington, Inc., Optimum Choice, Inc., Oxford Health Insurance, Inc., Oxford Health Plans (NJ), Inc., Oxford Health Plans (CT), Inc., All Savers Insurance Company, or other affiliates. Administrative services provided by OptumHealth Care Solutions, LLC, OptumRx, Oxford Health Plans LLC, United HealthCare Services, Inc., or other affiliates. Behavioral health products provided by U.S. Behavioral Health Plan, California (USBHPC), or its affiliates.

PCA-1-21-03947-MarComm-EM_10272021

© 2021 United HealthCare Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

This is a message from UnitedHealthcare. You are receiving this email because you are either a registered user of UHCprovider.com or have contracted or subscribed to receive email communications from UnitedHealthcare. We respect your right to privacy. Visit our website to read our [Privacy Policy](#) and [Security Notice](#). To unsubscribe from future email communications or to change your email address, visit our email preferences page.



This email was sent to: dwalsh@rsandf.com

This email was sent by:
UnitedHealthcare