

UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary Update Bulletin: December 2021

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.

Coverage Summary Updates

Policy Title	Status	Approval Date
Brachytherapy Procedures	Retired	Nov. 16, 2021
Cardiovascular Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Cosmetic and Reconstructive Procedures	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Electrical and Spinal Cord Stimulators	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Enteral and Parenteral Nutritional Therapy	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Genetic Testing	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Laboratory Tests and Services	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Positron Emission Tomography (PET)/Combined PET-CT (Computed Tomography)	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Radiologic Therapeutic Procedures	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Respiratory Therapy, Pulmonary Rehabilitation and Pulmonary Services	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Spine Procedures	Revised	Nov. 16, 2021
Transvenous (Catheter) for Pulmonary Embolectomy	Retired	Nov. 16, 2021

General Information

The inclusion of a health service (e.g., test, drug, device or procedure) in this bulletin indicates only that UnitedHealthcare has recently adopted 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. In the event of an inconsistency or conflict between the information provided in this bulletin and the posted policy, the provisions of the posted policy will prevail. 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.

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 Policy Update Bulletin was developed to share important information regarding UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary updates. When information in this bulletin conflicts with applicable state and/or federal law, UnitedHealthcare follows such applicable federal and/or state law.

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 CMS, 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.

Policy Update Classifications

New

New coverage guidelines 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 coverage guidelines; however, items such as the definitions or references may have been updated

Revised

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

Replaced

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

Retired

An existing policy has been retired because national and local coverage determinations from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are no longer available or the applicable coverage guidelines are documented in another policy



The complete library of UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summaries is available at UHCprovider.com > Policies and Protocols > Medicare Advantage Policies > Coverage Summaries.