

Enzyme Testing for Acute Pancreatitis 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
Overview

This policy describes the reimbursement methodology for services associated with pancreatic enzyme testing for acute pancreatitis when billed with designated conditions. Certain services are also subject to specific procedure code limitations.

Reimbursement Guidelines

NOTE: Procedure codes appearing in policy documents are included only as a general reference tool for each policy. They may not be all-inclusive.

Serum Lipase

UnitedHealthcare will consider reimbursement of the following serum lipase concentration procedure code for the initial determination of acute pancreatitis, no more than once per week, when billed for any of the conditions listed below:

Procedure Code(s)

83690			
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Condition(s)

- a. Mild to severe epigastric pain that begins slowly or suddenly (may spread to the back in the same patients)
- b. Nausea
- c. Vomiting
- d. Tender to palpitation of epigastrium
- e. Abdominal distention
- f. Hypoactive bowel sounds
- g. Fever
- h. Rapid pulse
- i. Tachypnea
- j. Hypoxemia
- k. Hypotension
- l. Anorexia
- m. Diarrhea
- n. Cullen sign
- o. Grey Turner sign

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of the serum lipase procedure codes above for any other conditions.

Serum Amylase

UnitedHealthcare will not consider separate reimbursement of serum amylase when submitted in conjunction with lipase for the same date of service.

Procedure Code(s)

82150	83690		
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Urine Amylase

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of urinary amylase concentration for the initial determination of acute pancreatitis for individuals presenting with signs and symptoms of acute pancreatitis.

Procedure Code(s)

82150					
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Serum or Urine Trypsin/Trypsinogen/TAP

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of serum or urine trypsin/trypsinogen/ TAP for the assessment, prognosis, and/or determination of acute pancreatitis.

Procedure Code(s)

83519					
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Biomarker Testing

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of the following biomarker procedure codes for the assessment, prognosis, and/or determination of acute pancreatitis.

Procedure Code(s)

83520	83529	84145	86140		
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Definitions	
Once per week	Seven consecutive calendar days from the initial date of service

Questions and Answers	
1	<p>Q: Is the once per week limitation based on individual provider per member?</p> <p>A: The once per week limitation is applicable across all billing and/or rendering providers (including any individual provider OR any facility) for each individual member for the same date of service.</p>
2	<p>Q: Is same date of service based on individual provider per member?</p> <p>A: Same date of service is applicable across all billing and/or rendering providers (including any individual provider OR any facility) for each individual member.</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

9/22/2025	Policy Version Change Policy Language and Code update in Reimbursement Guidelines section
9/1/2025	Policy published
12/1/2025	Policy implemented by UnitedHealthcare Employer & Individual and Individual Family Plan (IFP) Exchange