

Premium Specialty: Neurosurgery, Orthopedics and Spine
Patient Episode Cost
Additional UnitedHealth Premium® methodology documents are located on unitedhealthpremium.uhc.com .
Condition-Based Episodes
Adult Rheumatoid Arthritis*
Autoimmune Rheumatologic Diseases, except Lupus*
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Elbow and Upper Arm, Bilateral
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Elbow and Upper Arm, Single Side
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Foot and Ankle, Bilateral
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Foot and Ankle, Single Side
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, Bilateral
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, Single Side
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Knee and Lower Leg, Bilateral
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Knee and Lower Leg, Single Side
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Shoulder
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis
Bursitis and Tendinitis - Unspecified
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
Complex Regional Pain Syndrome
Conditional Exam
Congenital Disorders of Central Nervous System
Gout*
Inflammation of Non-Cranial Nerves, except Carpal Tunnel
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Back, Bilateral
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Back, Single Side
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Elbow and Upper Arm
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Foot and Ankle, Bilateral
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Foot and Ankle, Single Side
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Hand, Wrist and Forearm
Joint Degeneration, Localized - Knee and Lower Leg, Bilateral

Condition-Based Episodes

Joint Degeneration, Localized - Knee and Lower Leg, Single Side

Joint Degeneration, Localized - Neck

Joint Degeneration, Localized - Shoulder

Joint Degeneration, Localized - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis

Joint Degeneration, Localized - Unspecified*

Joint Derangement - Elbow and Upper Arm

Joint Derangement - Foot and Ankle

Joint Derangement - Hand, Wrist and Forearm

Joint Derangement - Knee and Lower Leg

Joint Derangement - Shoulder, Bilateral

Joint Derangement - Shoulder, Single Side

Joint Derangement - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis, Bilateral

Joint Derangement - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis, Single Side

Joint Derangement - Unspecified

Low Back Pain Syndrome

Major Joint Inflammation - Back

Major Joint Inflammation - Elbow and Upper Arm

Major Joint Inflammation - Foot and Ankle

Major Joint Inflammation - Hand, Wrist and Forearm*

Major Joint Inflammation - Knee and Lower Leg

Major Joint Inflammation - Other

Major Joint Inflammation - Shoulder

Major Joint Inflammation - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis

Major Joint Inflammation - Unspecified*

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Back

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Elbow and Upper Arm

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Foot and Ankle, Bilateral

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Foot and Ankle, Single Side

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, Bilateral

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Hand, Wrist and Forearm, Single Side

Condition-Based Episodes

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Head and Face

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Knee and Lower Leg

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Neck

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Shoulder

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis, Bilateral

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis, Single Side

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Trunk

Minor Orthopedic Trauma - Unspecified

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Bone and Connective Tissue, Head and Neck

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Bone and Connective Tissue, Other than Head and Neck

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Central Nervous System

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Skin

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Skin, with Surgery, Bilateral

Non-Malignant Neoplasm of Skin, with Surgery, Single Side

Obesity

Orthopedic Deformity - Back

Orthopedic Deformity - Elbow and Upper Arm

Orthopedic Deformity - Foot and Ankle

Orthopedic Deformity - Hand, Wrist and Forearm

Orthopedic Deformity - Head and Face

Orthopedic Deformity - Knee and Lower Leg

Orthopedic Deformity - Neck

Orthopedic Deformity - Shoulder

Orthopedic Deformity - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis

Orthopedic Deformity - Trunk

Orthopedic Deformity - Unspecified

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Back

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Elbow and Upper Arm

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Foot and Ankle

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Hand, Wrist and Forearm

Condition-Based Episodes

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Knee and Lower Leg

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Neck

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Shoulder

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis

Orthopedic Signs and Symptoms - Unspecified

Osteoporosis*

Other Infectious Diseases

Other Inflammation of Skin*

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Back

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Elbow and Upper Arm

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Foot and Ankle

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Hand, Wrist and Forearm

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Knee and Lower Leg

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Neck

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Shoulder

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Thigh, Hip and Pelvis

Other Minor Orthopedic Disorders - Unspecified

Routine Exam

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Elbow and Upper Arm

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Foot and Ankle, Bilateral

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Foot and Ankle, Single Side

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Hand and Forearm, Bilateral

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Hand and Forearm, Single Side

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Head and Face

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Hip and Thigh

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Lower Leg

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Shoulder

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Trunk, Bilateral

Skin Trauma, except Burn and Open Wound - Trunk, Single Side

*Episodes for these conditions are excluded for patients whose pharmacy cost data is not available.

Procedure-Based Episodes	Claims Grouping Timeframe	
	Days Before	Days After
Achilles Tendon Repair (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	0	42
Ankle Ligament Repair (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Arthrodesis (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Arthrodesis - Single Joint (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Arthroscopic Removal of Foreign Body - Debridement of Shoulder (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Arthroscopic Repair Shoulder - Rotator Cuff or Slap Shoulder (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Bunionectomy (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Carpal Tunnel Release - Arthroscopy (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Carpal Tunnel Release - Open (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Cervical Spine Fusion	14	42
Hip Arthroscopy (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Hip Replacement (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Hip Replacement - Revision (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Knee Arthroscopy with Cruciate Ligament Repair (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	28
Knee Arthroscopy with Meniscectomy (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	28
Knee Replacement Surgery (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Lumbar Decompression	14	42
Lumbar Fusion	14	42
Lumbar Surgery - Curvature of the Spine	14	42
Lumbar Surgery - Disc Disease or Radiculopathy	14	42
Lumbar Surgery - Postlaminectomy Syndrome	14	42
Lumbar Surgery - Spinal Stenosis	14	42
Lumbar Surgery - Spondylolisthesis	14	42
Other Arthroscopic Procedures - Shoulder (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Other Knee Arthroscopy with Treatment (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	28
Rotator Cuff Repair (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42
Thoracic Spine Fusion	14	42
Total Shoulder Replacement (Note: evaluation for single-side and bilateral procedures is performed separately)	14	42

Procedure-Based Episodes	Claims Grouping Timeframe	
	Days Before	Days After
Vertebral Corpectomy	14	42

Episodes for procedures are excluded when they include a diagnosis code on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Trauma Diagnosis Code list (except meniscus tears), are a redo of a prior procedure, and or include services that are included in a cancer-related condition-based episode.

Important notes about UnitedHealth Premium

The information from UnitedHealth Premium is not an endorsement of a particular physician or health care professional's suitability for the health care needs of any member. UnitedHealthcare does not practice medicine nor provide health care services. Physicians are solely responsible for medical judgments and treatments.

A Premium Care Physician designation does not guarantee the quality, or the outcome of any health care services members receive. The fact that a physician does not have a Premium Care Physician designation does not mean the physician does not 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 described in 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 designation because that physician has not been evaluated. This occurs when a physician does not practice in a specialty or market that is evaluated by Premium, or the physician's evaluation is in process. This also occurs when there are not enough measures, patients, and or episodes attributed to the physician for evaluation. This is not an indicator of the total number of patients treated by the physician, or the number of procedures performed by the physician.

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. Members are encouraged to discuss designations with a physician before choosing them or consult with their current physician(s) for advice on selecting other physicians.

As with all programs that evaluate performance based on evaluation of a sample, there is a risk of error. There is a risk of error in the claims data used and in the way patient care is attributed to physicians. UnitedHealth Premium uses statistical testing to compare a physician's performance to benchmarks. 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. Physicians have the opportunity to review the data and evaluation results and may submit requests for changes and or corrections.

The information contained in this document is subject to change.