

## Home Health Services Policy, Professional and Facility

### **IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THIS REIMBURSEMENT POLICY**

This policy is applicable to UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Plans offered by UnitedHealthcare and its affiliates.

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 Medicare Advantage reimbursement policies 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 UB04 forms (CMS 1450) and to those billed on CMS 1500 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 resource regarding UnitedHealthcare's Medicare Advantage reimbursement policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage 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 Medicare Advantage 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 facility 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 Medicare Advantage due to programming or other constraints; however, UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage strives to minimize these variations.

UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage may modify this reimbursement policy at any time to comply with changes in CMS policy and other national standard coding guidelines by publishing a new version of the reimbursement policy on this website. However, the information presented in this reimbursement policy is accurate and current as of the date of publication. UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage encourages physicians and other health care professionals to keep current with any CMS policy changes and/or billing requirements by referring to the CMS or your local carrier website regularly. Facilities can sign up for regular distributions for policy or regulatory changes directly from CMS and/or your local carrier. UnitedHealthcare's Medicare Advantage reimbursement policies do not include notations regarding prior authorization requirements.

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\*\* For more information on a specific enrollee's benefit coverage, please call the customer service number on the back of the member ID card.

### Table of Contents

[Application](#)

[Policy](#)

[Overview](#)

[Reimbursement Guidelines](#)

[Modifiers](#)

[Definitions](#)

[Questions and Answers](#)

[Attachments](#)

[Resources](#)

[History](#)

## Application

This reimbursement policy applies to all Medicare Advantage products and for network provider services reported using the UB04 and CMS 1500 form or its electronic equivalent or its successor form.

## Policy

### Overview

This policy addresses reimbursement for home health services reported on a UB-04 claim form or services with Place of Service (POS) 12 on a CMS-1500 claim form, during an inpatient stay.

Home health services may include part-time or intermittent skilled nursing services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology services, part-time or intermittent home health aide services, medical social services, Durable Medical Equipment (DME), and medical supplies.

### Reimbursement Guidelines

To align with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if both home health services (POS 12 on a CMS-1500 claim form or type of bill 321-329, 341-345, or 347-349 on a UB-04 claim form) and inpatient care are billed for the same dates of service, UnitedHealthcare will reimburse the inpatient care only. During this period, the home health services will not be eligible for reimbursement.

The dates of admission and discharge for inpatient care are exceptions. If home health services are provided on these dates, those days may still be eligible for reimbursement.

Home health services must be submitted either with POS 12 on a CMS-1500 claim form or type of bill 321-329, 341-345, or 347-349 on a UB-04 claim form, which indicates the patient received these services in a private residence and not a hospital or other facility.

## Definitions

### Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Medical equipment which:  
 \*Can withstand repeated use  
 \*Is not disposable  
 \*Is used to serve a medical purpose  
 \*Is generally not useful to a person in the absence of sickness or injury  
 \*Is appropriate for use in the home

### Place of Service

A two-digit code used on health care professional claims to indicate the setting in which a service was provided.

## Questions and Answers

1

**Q:** Do health care professionals need to be contracted with UnitedHealthcare to be considered for reimbursement under this policy?

**A:** For benefit plans that include out-of-network coverage, this policy applies to claims submitted by both participating and non-participating care providers.

2

**Q:** Does Durable Medical Equipment (DME) with POS 12 apply to this policy?

**A:** Yes, this policy is applicable to billing that falls within the dates of an inpatient claim (not including the dates of admission and discharge)

<b>3</b>	<p><b>Q:</b> What happens if the patient is discharged and receives home health services on the same day as the discharge with POS 12?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Home health services provided on the dates of admission and discharge are still eligible for reimbursement.</p>
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### Resources

American Medical Association, *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)* and associated publications

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS Manual System and other CMS publications and services  
Section: Pub. 100-04, Ch. 10, 30.B

### History

10/01/2024	New Policy Implemented by UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage
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