

# Food is Medicine Benefit for pregnant with diabetes UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of New Mexico members

## Quick reference guide

### Overview

The Food is Medicine (FIM) benefit is designed to support pregnant women and healthy birth outcomes. This benefit includes 2 services that provide home-delivered medically tailored food, consisting of medically tailored meals and medically tailored grocery boxes.

FIM is available for pregnant UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of New Mexico members with a diabetes diagnosis (type 1, type 2 or gestational). To be eligible to receive benefits for 2 months postpartum, the benefit must be initially received while the member is pregnant.

### FIM benefit services

**Home-Delivered Medically Tailored Meals (MTM):** This service provides fully prepared meals that are designed by a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) to meet the unique nutritional requirements of pregnant members with diabetes. MTMs incorporate local agriculture, food vendors and food preparation services to the extent practicable.

**Home-Delivered Medically Tailored Grocery Boxes (MTGB):** This service provides distribution of unprepared or lightly processed foods that members are meant to prepare for consumption at home. The contents are designed by an RDN to meet the unique nutritional requirements of pregnant members with diabetes.

MTM and MTGB include up to 2 meals per day for the member (or the grocery box nutritional equivalent) for a duration of up to 11 months, not to extend beyond 2 months postpartum.

### Limitations of FIM benefit services

- Document the existing nutrition supports such as SNAP and WIC and factor into individualized FIM benefit amount. The Medicaid FIM benefit can supplement, but not replace, existing food supports at the local, state and federal level. If the member is not enrolled in SNAP or WIC, the MCO must refer the member to these programs.
- Have an individualized meal plan designed by an RDN in consultation with the member. The meal plan must follow the individual nutritional needs and cultural, religious and personal preferences.
- A member can't receive multiple FIM services at once but may choose between MTM and MTGB
- Case management and nutritional counseling will continue to be available through other benefits



### Questions

For chat options and contact information, visit [UHCprovider.com/contactus](https://UHCprovider.com/contactus).

Requirements for vendors supplying the meals

You'll need to meet the following requirements to provide the FIM benefit to members:

- Enroll in New Mexico Medicaid as provider type 346 lodging and meals
- Have knowledge of principles, methods and procedures of the covered nutrition interventions meant to support an individual in obtaining food security and meeting their nutritional needs
- Receive referrals from health care professionals and Turquoise Care managed care organizations (MCO)
- Track and report on service delivery (including unsuccessful deliveries)
- Comply during all stages of food service operation, with applicable federal, state and local regulations, codes and licensor requirements relating to fire, health, sanitation, safety, building and other provisions relating to the public health, safety and welfare of individuals receiving MTM or MTGB
- Follow best practice guidelines and industry standards for food safety
- Customize meals/grocery boxes to a member's cultural, religious and personal preferences
- Obtain information from members about their receipt of SNAP or WIC assistance and factor this assistance into the total number of meals requested for the member

Prior authorization requirements

We don't require prior authorizations. However, we require a referral from a prescribing health care professional to the meals provider for a nutritional assessment. This results in a personalized meal plan designed by an RDN. We also require you to be able to produce the personalized meal plan.

Billing and reimbursement

- **Claim type:** Claims for FIM are professional claims and must be submitted on a **CMS 1500 claim form**
- **Diagnosis codes:** FIM claims contain a diagnosis code reflecting diabetes and pregnancy in one of the first 5 positions.
  - Taxonomy: 17440000X
  - Procedure codes: Codes are outlined in the reimbursement chart
  - Reimbursement: MCOs must reimburse at a minimum the rates outlined in the reimbursement chart

Code	Description	Modifier	Rate
Medically tailored meals			
S5170	Home delivered meals, including preparation; per meal	NA	Per the fee schedule
Medically tailored grocery box			
S5170	Home delivered meals; including preparation; per meal	U1- Weekly grocery box. 1 unit quantity of groceries sufficient to for 1 week of meals. No more than 14 meals.	Per the fee schedule

