

Intestinal Dysbiosis and Fecal Microbiota Transplant Testing 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 reimbursement policies 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's reimbursement policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, UnitedHealthcare 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 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 due to programming or other constraints; however, UnitedHealthcare strives to minimize these variations. UnitedHealthcare 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 fecal analysis for the evaluation of intestinal dysbiosis, irritable bowel syndrome, malabsorption, or small intestinal overgrowth of bacteria.

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.

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of the following diagnostic testing procedure codes for fecal analysis in suspected or determined intestinal dysbiosis, irritable bowel syndrome, malabsorption, or small intestinal overgrowth of bacteria.

Procedure Code(s)

82542	82710	82715	82725	82784	83986
84311	87102	87106	89160		

Fecal Analysis components include:

- a. Triglycerides
- b. Chymotrypsin
- c. Iso-butyrate, iso-valerate, and n-valerate
- d. Meat and vegetable fibers
- e. Long chain fatty acids
- f. Cholesterol
- g. Total short chain fatty acids
- h. Quantification of Lactobacilli, bifidobacteria, and E. coli and other "potential pathogens," including Aeromona,
- i. Bacillus cereus, Campylobacter, Citrobacter, Klebsiella, Proteus, Pseudomonas, Salmonella, Shigella, S. aureus, Vibrio
- j. For the identification and quantitation of fecal yeast (including C. albicans, C. tropicalis, Rhodoptorul and Geotrichum)
- k. N-butyrate
- l. Beta-glucoronidase
- m. pH
- n. Short chain fatty acid distribution (adequate amount and proportions of the different short chain fatty acids reflect the basic status of intestinal metabolism)
- o. Fecal secretory IgA

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

12/1/2025	Policy implemented by UnitedHealthcare Employer & Individual and Individual Family Plan (IFP) Exchange
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