

Onychomycosis 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® 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 onychomycosis testing when billed with designated conditions.

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.

Direct Microscopic Examination

UnitedHealthcare will consider reimbursement of the procedure codes listed below for direct microscopic examination with potassium hydroxide, fungal culture of desquamated subungual material, or fungal stain of a nail clipping(s) when billed for individuals with signs of onychomycosis.

Procedure Code(s)

82542	87101	87149	87150	87153	87205
87206	87220				

Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing (NAAT)

UnitedHealthcare will consider reimbursement of nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT) for individuals with onychomycosis and for whom anti-fungal therapy has failed to resolve infection.

Procedure Code(s)

87480	87481	87482	87798	87800	87801
88312					

Diagnostic Testing

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement of attenuated total-reflectance fourier transform infrared (ATR-FTIR) spectroscopy to screen for, determine, or confirm onychomycosis.

Procedure Code(s)

88749					
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Fungal-Derived Sterols

UnitedHealthcare will not consider reimbursement for testing of the presence of fungal-derived sterols (e.g., ergosterol).

Procedure Code(s)

88749					
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UnitedHealthcare® Commercial and Individual Exchange
Reimbursement Policy
CMS 1500
UB04
Policy Number 2025R8011A

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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