

# 2021 UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage copay guidelines

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Overview

All UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plans have an annual out-of-pocket maximum for covered medical benefits. Copays and coinsurance may vary depending on the member's plan.

- Group Retiree plans may have different copays and coinsurance. Some groups may have different frequency for preventive services (per contract year instead of per calendar year).
- A copay applies for any care received for a medical condition that's treated or monitored during a preventive visit.

We follow the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare [coverage and coding guidelines](#) for all network services. You can view [Coverage Summaries](#) on **UHCprovider.com**.

Please use the following cost-sharing information when treating and servicing UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage members.

If you have questions, contact your Provider Advocate or call Provider Services at **877-842-3210**.

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Alcohol Misuse Counseling</b>	<p>Medicare covers one annual alcohol misuse screening for adults who misuse alcohol but aren't alcohol dependent. Coverage is limited to one screening per year.</p> <p>People who screen positive can receive up to four brief face-to-face counseling sessions per year (if they're competent and alert during counseling). A primary care doctor or practitioner must provide the counseling in a primary care setting.</p> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p><a href="#">Alcohol, Chemical and/or Substance Abuse: Detoxification and Rehabilitation - Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Allergy Testing and Treatment</b>	<p>A copay or coinsurance applies for allergy testing.</p> <p>There's no cost share for professional services for allergen immunotherapy, including provision of the allergen extracts.</p> <p><a href="#">Allergy Testing and Allergy Immunotherapy – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Ambulance Transportation</b>	<p>A cost share applies for every one-way ambulance trip, according to Medicare guidelines. If a provider group starts a transfer between facilities and arranges for transportation, cost sharing will be included either on the transferring hospital claim or the receiving hospital claim and will be included in the inpatient or ambulatory reimbursement.</p> <p>Covered ambulance services include air and ground services to the nearest facility that can provide care only if the member's health would be endangered by other means of transportation or if authorized by the plan.</p> <p>The member's condition must require both the ambulance transportation and the level of service provided for the billed service to be considered medically necessary.</p> <p>Non-emergency transportation by ambulance is appropriate only if it's documented that the member's condition is such that other means of transportation could endanger their health – regardless if another form of transportation is available – and that transportation by ambulance is medically necessary.</p> <p><a href="#">Ambulance Services – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Annual Wellness Visit</b>	<p>There's no coinsurance, copay or deductible for an annual wellness visit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the member has had Medicare Part B for more than 12 months, they're entitled to an annual wellness visit with a primary care provider to develop or update a personalized prevention plan, based on their current health and risk factors.</li> <li>• The annual wellness visit is covered once every calendar year. Visits don't need to be 12 months apart.</li> <li>• Visits do not include lab, X-ray or non-radiological diagnostic services. If ordered and performed during the preventive visit, these additional services will be billed separately, according to Medicare guidelines, and a cost share will apply.</li> <li>• The member's first annual wellness visit can't take place within 12 months of their "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit. However, a "Welcome to Medicare" visit isn't required if they've had Medicare Part B for 12 months.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

<b>Benefit</b>	<b>Copay and coinsurance guidelines</b>
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<b>Annual Routine Physical Exam</b>	<p>All of our Medicare Advantage plans cover an annual routine physical examination with no cost share. The exam includes a comprehensive physical exam and evaluates the status of chronic diseases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The annual routine physical exam doesn't include any other services such as lab, X-ray or non-radiological diagnostic services. If ordered and performed during the preventive visit, these additional services will be billed separately, according to Medicare guidelines, and a cost share will apply.</li><li>• The annual routine physical exam is covered once every calendar year. Visits don't need to be 12 months apart.</li></ul>
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[Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

<b>Behavior Therapy for Cardiovascular Disease</b>	<p>Coverage extends to one visit a year for members with high-risk factors to help lower risk for cardiovascular disease.</p> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p>
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[Cardiovascular Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

<b>Breast Cancer Screening</b>	<p>The following services are covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One baseline mammogram for women ages 35–39</li><li>• One screening mammogram every year for women ages 40 and older</li><li>• Clinical breast exams once every two years</li></ul>
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A screening mammogram is used for early detection of breast cancer in women who have no signs or symptoms of the disease. We cover both 2D and 3D mammograms.

All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.

Women with a history of breast cancer or any signs or symptoms of breast cancer are not eligible for a screening mammogram, but may be eligible for a diagnostic mammogram, which is typically subject to a radiologic diagnostic cost share under Original Medicare.

- However, in 2021, most UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plans have a \$0 copayment in-network for diagnostic mammograms. (Exception: Institutional Special Needs Plans and Group Retiree plans may apply radiologic diagnostic cost sharing.)

[Radiologic Diagnostic Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Cervical and Vaginal Cancer Screening (Pap Test and Pelvic Exam)</b>	<p>Covered once a year for high-risk women and every two years for all other women.</p> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p><a href="#">Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Colorectal Cancer Screening</b>	<p>We follow Medicare coverage coding guidelines to determine whether a colonoscopy is screening or diagnostic.</p> <p>For members, ages 50 and older, we cover the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guaiac-based fecal occult blood test (gFOBT) or fecal immunochemical test (FIT) once a year</li> <li>• Screening colonoscopy once every 10 years or every two years for members at high risk of colorectal cancer, but not within four years of a screening sigmoidoscopy</li> <li>• Flexible sigmoidoscopy or screening barium enema once every four years</li> <li>• Cologuard™ multitarget stool DNA test once every three years</li> </ul> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p>No cost share will be applied to a screening colonoscopy, including when a colonoscopy that started as a screening procedure turns into a diagnostic procedure because of the discovery of an abnormality, requiring further surgery during the same operative session.</p> <p>Under Original Medicare, diagnostic colonoscopies and therapeutic colonoscopies and sigmoidoscopies are typically subject to cost sharing. However, in 2021, all UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plans have a \$0 copayment for in-network diagnostic colonoscopies and therapeutic colonoscopies and sigmoidoscopies, in addition to \$0 copayment for preventive services. (Exception: Group Retiree plans may apply outpatient surgery cost sharing.) This includes the following scenarios:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Members who have a history of colon cancer, or have had polyps removed during a previous colonoscopy, are not eligible for a screening colonoscopy, but may be eligible for a diagnostic colonoscopy.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy conducted for polyp removal or biopsy.</p> <p><a href="#">Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Depression Screening</b>	<p>We cover one screening for depression per year in a primary care setting that can provide follow-up treatment and referrals. Annual depression screenings may be performed separately by a primary care provider and can take place during a scheduled office visit.</p> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p>The “Welcome to Medicare” visit and first annual wellness visit include an annual depression screening. If a member needs further evaluation to diagnose their condition, or if they need mental health treatment, a cost share may be applied.</p> <p><a href="#">Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Diabetes Self-Management Training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 10 hours of training per year in 30-minute group sessions. This includes education about how to monitor blood sugar, diet, exercise, medication and reducing risks. We cover individual sessions if no group sessions are available or if you believe special needs prevent the member from participating in a group setting.</li> <li>• May also qualify for up to two hours of follow-up training each year when ordered by you or another provider as part of the patient’s care plan. The follow-up training must take place in a calendar year after the date the initial training was received.</li> </ul> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p><a href="#">Diabetes Management, Equipment and Supplies – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Diabetes Screening (Fasting Plasma Glucose)</b>	<p>Diabetes screening is covered when provided, according to Medicare coverage guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The member has any of the following risk factors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High blood pressure (hypertension)</li> <li>- History of abnormal cholesterol and triglyceride levels (dyslipidemia)</li> <li>- Obesity</li> <li>- History of high blood sugar (glucose)</li> <li>- Overweight with a family history of diabetes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The member may be eligible for up to two diabetes screenings a year based on test results.</li> </ul> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p><a href="#">Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
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**Diabetes Self-Management Training, Diabetic Services and Supplies**

Covered services are subject to the diabetic supplies cost share and include supplies to monitor blood glucose:

- Blood glucose monitor
- Blood glucose test strips
- Lancet devices and lancets
- Glucose-control solutions for checking the accuracy of test strips and monitors

Therapeutic continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) are subject to the same cost share as the diabetic-monitoring supplies, not the DME cost share. Coverage is in accordance with Medicare guidelines; CGMs not covered by Medicare will be denied.

[Diabetes Management, Equipment and Supplies – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

Insulin and insulin syringes

Insulin and insulin syringes are covered under the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit.

Insulin pumps worn outside the body are subject to the durable medical equipment cost share.

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**Dialysis**

The outpatient dialysis treatment cost share applies for dialysis and all related services performed in a dialysis facility, whether in or out of the service area.

- A separate Medicare Part B drug cost share is assessed for medications administered in the dialysis facility and billed separately from the dialysis service.
- For dialysis performed in an inpatient hospital, the inpatient hospital cost share applies.
- For dialysis (peritoneal or hemodialysis) in a member's home and for home support services such as visits by trained dialysis workers, the home health agency cost share applies.
- For home dialysis equipment and supplies and for certain drugs for home dialysis, the durable medical equipment (DME) and related supplies cost share applies.

[Dialysis Services – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

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**DME and Related Supplies**

The DME cost share applies to all medically necessary, Medicare-covered DME and related supplies including, but not limited to:

- Wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home, IV infusion pumps, speech-generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers and walkers

[Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Corrective Appliances/Orthotics and Medical Supplies – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

[Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Corrective Appliances/Orthotics and Medical Supplies – Grid](#)

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
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**Emergency and Urgent Services**

The cost share for emergency and urgently needed services, including worldwide emergency coverage, varies by benefit plan.

- An emergency department copay applies but may be waived if the emergency department visit results in admission. Please refer to the member's evidence of coverage for details.
- An urgent care cost share applies and could differ based on whether the urgent care center is contracted or non-contracted. Additional cost shares may apply depending on services received.

[Emergent/Urgent Services, Post-Stabilization Care and Out-of-Area Services – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

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**Immunizations and Vaccinations**

Covered services include:

- Pneumonia vaccine
- Flu shots, each flu season in the fall and winter, with additional flu shots if medically necessary (flu shots are covered for a \$0 copay with both in-network and out-of-network providers)
- Hepatitis B vaccine for members at high or intermediate risk
- Other vaccines if members are at risk and they meet Medicare Part B coverage rules

All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.

There's no office visit cost share if the immunization or vaccination was the only reason for the visit.

The office visit cost share will apply if services that would incur a cost share were provided during the same visit as the immunization or vaccination.

Other vaccinations and immunizations not covered by Medicare may be covered under Medicare Part D.

[Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Inpatient Hospital Admissions and Care</b>	<p>Depending on the member's benefit plan, an all-inclusive inpatient hospital cost share may apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the member's plan requires a per-day copay, the member will have a copay for each day and/or hospital for the same admission. Once the member reaches the copay maximum, or their out-of-pocket maximum, there's no additional copay.</li> <li>• If the member's plan requires a per-admission copay, the member is responsible for one copay for the admission, even if they're transferred to another hospital during the same stay.</li> <li>• If the member's plan requires coinsurance, the coinsurance amount applies per admit for each hospital stay and also applies to professional services in addition to the hospital charges. These amounts are capped at a certain amount depending on the plan, or until the member reaches the out-of-pocket maximum.</li> <li>• Some plans cover unlimited days for each hospital stay while other plans follow Original Medicare coverage and limit inpatient hospital stays to 90 days per benefit period.</li> <li>• Transfer to a separate facility type, such as an inpatient rehabilitation hospital, is considered a new admission.</li> <li>• For mental health admissions, some benefit plans may have a different inpatient acute hospital cost share: either a different per-day copay or different maximum number of days.</li> </ul>

[Hospital Services \(Inpatient and Outpatient\) – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)



Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
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<b>Laboratory Services</b>	<p>If the plan calls for a laboratory cost share, the cost share applies per day per provider, not per laboratory test. To prevent multiple lab cost shares for a single visit, all lab services must be billed by the same provider on the same date of service on a single claim.</p> <p>If a member has blood drawn or a specimen collected at the physician's office, cost sharing is not assessed for venipuncture or labs billed with an office place of service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An additional cost share for the physician office visit isn't assessed if the blood draw or specimen collection was the primary reason for the member's visit.</li><li>• An additional cost share for the physician office visit applies if other physician services are rendered.</li></ul> <p>If a member goes to an outpatient hospital or freestanding lab for lab services only, the lab cost share applies.</p> <p>If a re-draw is required, members will not be assessed an additional lab cost share.</p> <p>Additional lab cost shares apply for labs performed on later dates.</p> <p>The lab cost share assessed cannot exceed the total contracted or payable amount of the lab charges per visit. The member's cost share should not exceed the provider's reimbursement rate.</p> <p>Lab tests associated with the following Medicare-covered preventive services will not be assessed a cost share, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pap smear</li><li>• Colorectal, prostate and cardiovascular screenings</li></ul>
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[Laboratory Tests and Services – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

<b>Medical Nutritional Therapy</b>	<p>Medical nutritional therapy is covered for members with diabetes or renal disease, or after a kidney transplant when referred by their doctor, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Three hours of individual counseling during their first year and two hours each year after that</li><li>• If the member's condition, treatment or diagnosis changes, the member may receive additional hours of treatment</li></ul> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p><a href="#">Diabetes Management, Equipment and Supplies – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
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Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
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<b>Medicare Part B: Outpatient Injectable and Infusion Medications</b>	Physician-administered outpatient injectable and infusion medication policies:
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- The Medicare Part B drug cost share applies, per drug per day, for covered outpatient injectable drugs when administered at the physician’s office.
- If the injectable medication is given in the physician’s office and an office visit is billed, there will be cost sharing for both the physician office visit and the injectable.
- There is no separate cost share, other than the office visit cost share, for administering the injection.
- Refer to “Immunizations and Vaccinations” on page 8 for more information on cost sharing.
- When an injectable medication is administered in an outpatient hospital setting, there will be cost sharing for both the outpatient hospital services and the injectable.

Home health injectable and infusion drug policies:

- Medically necessary medications dispensed for home infusion therapy that are administered through an infusion pump are covered under either Medicare Part B or the Part D prescription drug benefit, depending on the medication.
- Medically necessary medications dispensed for home infusion therapy that are administered as injectables are covered under Medicare Part D.
- To authorize these services, continue using the established protocol based on your contract with UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage or its affiliates. If you have questions, call the Provider Services number on the back of the member’s ID card.
- A cost share for durable medical equipment and components may apply when the medications are administered in a home setting.

Self-administered outpatient injectable and infusion medications

- We cover self-administered outpatient injectable and infusion medications under the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit.

Chemotherapy

- Chemotherapy drugs are Medicare Part B drugs when administered in an outpatient or office setting, regardless of the method of administration.
- The chemotherapy drug cost share applies to the chemotherapy drug and its administration.
- Chemotherapy drugs administered in the home by infusion may be either Part B or Part D.

Immunosuppressive drugs

The Medicare Part B cost share applies to all members for covered immunosuppressive drugs provided post-transplant.

[Medications/Drugs \(Outpatient/Part B\) – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

[Chemotherapy and Associated Drugs and Treatments – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

[Transplants: Organ and Tissue Transplants – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)



Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Mental Health – Inpatient</b>	<p>Some benefit plans have a different inpatient acute hospital cost share for mental health admissions — either a different per day amount or different maximum number of days. Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health services that require a hospital stay with a 190-day lifetime limit for inpatient services in a psychiatric hospital. The 190-day limit doesn't apply to mental health services provided in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital.</li> <li>• Inpatient substance abuse services.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Mental Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Non-Radiological Diagnostic Tests</b>	<p>A cost share applies to the following common non-radiological diagnostic tests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECG</li> <li>• EKG</li> <li>• Holter monitor</li> <li>• Pulmonary function testing</li> <li>• Sleep studies</li> <li>• Stress test</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Cardiovascular Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p> <p><a href="#">Sleep Apnea: Diagnosis and Treatment – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p> <p><a href="#">Respiratory Therapy, Pulmonary Rehabilitation and Pulmonary Services – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Obesity Screening and Counseling</b>	<p>Medicare covers body mass index (BMI) screenings and behavioral counseling in a primary care setting for members who meet the clinical definition of obese: BMI 30 or higher. Obesity screening is covered once per year.</p> <p>Obesity counseling coverage includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One in-person visit every week for the first month</li> <li>• One in-person visit every other week during months 2–6</li> <li>• One in-person visit every month during months 7–12, if they lose at least 6.6 pounds within the first six months</li> </ul> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p><a href="#">Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Observation Care</b>	<p>Hospital observation billed with an emergency room place of service is subject to the emergency services cost share. Observation billed with an outpatient hospital place of service is subject to the outpatient hospital cost share.</p> <p>If emergency room and observation are billed together, only the emergency room cost share applies.</p> <p>Observation services shouldn't be billed concurrent with diagnostic or therapeutic services that include active monitoring. A separate cost share applies to diagnostic or therapeutic services billed with observation, when appropriate.</p> <p><a href="#">Observation Care (Outpatient Hospital) – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Opioid Treatment Program Services</b>	<p>Opioid use disorder treatment services are covered under Medicare Part B. Members receive coverage for these services through the plan. Covered services are subject to an outpatient Opioid Treatment Services cost share and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FDA-approved opioid agonist and antagonist treatment medications and the dispensing and administration of such medications, if applicable</li> <li>• Substance use counseling</li> <li>• Individual and group therapy</li> <li>• Toxicology testing</li> </ul>
<b>Outpatient Hospital Services</b>	<p>Medically necessary services provided in an outpatient facility or outpatient department of a hospital for diagnosis or treatment are covered and may be subject to cost sharing.</p> <p>When members receive services for multiple benefit categories during the same visit, a separate cost share applies for each service received. The following benefit categories may incur a separate cost share:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicare Part B drugs, including chemotherapy and chemotherapy administration</li> <li>• Blood</li> <li>• Physical, occupational, speech and pulmonary therapy</li> <li>• Mental health and psychiatric services</li> <li>• Renal dialysis</li> <li>• Lab</li> <li>• Radiological services</li> <li>• Non-radiological tests</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Hospital Services (Inpatient and Outpatient) – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Outpatient Surgery, Including Services Provided at Hospital Outpatient Facilities and Ambulatory Surgical Centers</b>	<p>Outpatient surgery and procedures may be subject to cost sharing at the time of service, according to the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The facility or physician must be licensed by the state as an ambulatory surgery center or outpatient hospital facility.</li> <li>• The copay is applied per visit.</li> <li>• Medicare Part B drug cost share could be applied separately to outpatient injectable and infusion medications administered in an outpatient hospital and billed separately from the procedure.</li> <li>• Separate cost sharing applies for any radiological or non-radiological diagnostic testing or lab work billed, along with outpatient procedures.</li> </ul> <p>If coinsurance is applied under the member’s benefit plan, the coinsurance is applied to the entire allowable cost of the outpatient procedure, including both facility and professional charges.</p>
<b>Physician Office Visits, Including Telephonic, Online Consults, Anticoagulation Monitoring</b>	<p>The physician office visit copay may apply when services are received in an office setting. Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation and management services</li> <li>• Office visit</li> <li>• Medical or surgical services furnished in a physician office</li> <li>• Monitoring services, consultation, diagnosis and treatment</li> </ul> <p>For physician house calls, the physician office visit cost share applies to evaluation and management services done in the member’s home.</p> <p>For monitoring anticoagulation medications such as Coumadin, Heparin and Warfarin, the physician office visit cost share will be assessed only if the monitoring is provided during an office visit. To qualify, the physician must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personally perform an initial evaluation of the member</li> <li>• Order and supervise the anticoagulation monitoring</li> <li>• Be physically present in the immediate office at the time of service</li> </ul> <p>A doctor of pharmacy can provide services at a Coumadin clinic or facility as long as they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensed by the state and performing within the scope of practice</li> <li>• Performing under the supervision of a doctor of medicine or osteopathy, who must be in the office to offer assistance if needed</li> </ul> <p>The physician office visit cost share applies to Medicare-covered telephone or online consultations. Some plans offer an additional telehealth benefit not covered by original Medicare.</p> <p>Separate surgery-related office visits performed during the global post-operative period aren’t included in the office visit cost share provision, since these services are already included in the surgical allowance.</p> <p><a href="#">Physician Services – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
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<b>Preventive Care</b>	We follow Medicare coverage and coding guidelines for network preventive services. If the member is treated or monitored for an existing medical condition during the preventive visit, a cost share applies for the existing medical condition.
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The following preventive services are covered with no cost share at the same frequency as with Original Medicare and should be billed according to Medicare guidelines:

- Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening
- Alcohol misuse screening and counseling
- Annual routine physical exam (not Medicare-covered)
- Annual wellness visit
- Bone mass measurements (bone density)
- Breast cancer screening (2D and 3D mammograms)
- Cardiovascular disease risk reduction visit (behavioral therapy)
- Cardiovascular disease screening
- Cervical and vaginal cancer screening (pap test and pelvic exam)
- Colorectal cancer screening
- Depression screening
- Diabetes screening
- Diabetes self-management training
- Flu, pneumonia and hepatitis B vaccines
- Glaucoma tests for those at high risk
- Hepatitis C screening
- HIV screening
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) screening
- Lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography
- Medical nutrition therapy services
- Medicare Diabetes Prevention program (MDPP)
- Obesity screening and counseling to promote sustained weight loss
- Prostate-specific antigen test
- Sexually transmitted infections screening and counseling
- Tobacco use cessation counseling
- “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit

All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.

[Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Prostate Cancer Screening</b>	<p>For men, ages 50 and older, covered services include the following once per year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital rectal exam: Subject to cost sharing per the member's evidence of coverage. Cost sharing applies to this preventive service according to Medicare guidelines. However, many UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plans do not charge member cost sharing for this service.</li> <li>• Prostate-specific antigen test (refer to the Medicare Coverage Summary)</li> </ul> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p><a href="#">Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Prosthetic Devices and Related Supplies (Including Orthotics)</b>	<p>The DME prosthetics and orthotics cost share applies for each medically necessary, Medicare-covered prosthetic or orthotic device, including replacement or repairs of such devices and related supplies. Coverage includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devices including, but not limited to, colostomy bags and supplies directly related to colostomy care, pacemakers, braces, prosthetic shoes, artificial limbs and breast prostheses (including a surgical brassiere after a mastectomy)</li> <li>• Certain supplies related to prosthetic devices and repair or replacement of prosthetic devices</li> <li>• Some prosthetic devices following cataract removal or cataract surgery</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Corrective Appliances/Orthotics and Medical Supplies – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p> <p><a href="#">Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Corrective Appliances/Orthotics and Medical Supplies – Grid</a></p>
<b>Radiation Therapy</b>	<p>A therapeutic radiology cost share per procedure or per visit applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For members with coinsurance, members will pay a percentage of the amount paid to the provider for all covered procedures.</li> <li>• For members with a copay, members will pay the applicable copay per visit.</li> </ul> <p>Examples include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brachytherapy</li> <li>• Radioactive implants (separate outpatient surgery cost share may be applied for placement of an interstitial device)</li> <li>• Conformal proton beam radiation</li> <li>• Therapeutic radiology or radiation (radium and isotope) therapy</li> </ul> <p>Note: Gamma knife and stereotactic procedures are covered as outpatient surgery with the applicable cost share.</p> <p><a href="#">Radiologic Therapeutic Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
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**Radiology Services**

Radiology cost sharing may vary for the following separate cost-sharing categories:

- Medicare-covered breast cancer screening mammography and bone mass measurement are Medicare-covered preventive benefits with no cost share. These services are covered at the same frequency as covered under Original Medicare and can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.
- Flat film X-rays, or a conventional X-ray that produces a two-dimensional planar image, are subject to a cost share (per image or per day depending on benefit filing) in addition to any applicable office visit cost share billed.

For other radiological diagnostic services, not including X-rays or separately identified preventive services:

- A copay or coinsurance cost share applies.
- Radiology services that require specialized equipment beyond standard X-ray equipment performed by specially trained or certified personnel, including:
  - Specialized scans: CT, SPECT, PET, MRI, MRA
  - Nuclear studies
  - Ultrasounds
  - Diagnostic mammograms (for cost share details, see Breast Cancer Screening on page 4)
  - Interventional radiological procedures, such as myelogram, cystogram, angiogram and barium studies
- The Medicare Part B cost share applies to injectable or infused drugs, such as contrast material dye and radioactive tracer and other cardiac medications given in conjunction with an imaging procedure, such as nuclear stress test and CT scan.

[Radiologic Diagnostic Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

[Radiologic Therapeutic Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

**Rehabilitation Services: Medicare-Covered Outpatient Rehabilitation, Including Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation, and Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapies**

Cost sharing may apply per session for Medicare-covered outpatient rehabilitation services, including:

- Cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation
- Physical, speech and occupational therapies

[Rehabilitation: Medical Rehabilitation \(OT, PT and ST, Including Cognitive Rehabilitation\) – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

[Rehabilitation: Cardiac Rehabilitation Services \(Outpatient\) – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)





Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
<b>Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) and High-Intensity Behavioral Counseling to Prevent STIs</b>	<p>Medicare covers STI screening for chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis or Hepatitis B when tests are ordered by a primary care provider for members who are pregnant or have an increased risk for an STI. These tests are covered once every year or at certain times during pregnancy.</p> <p>Medicare also covers counseling sessions to prevent members from contracting an STI if they're considered at increased risk, according to Medicare guidelines. Up to two individual 20- to 30-minute in-person counseling sessions are covered each year as a preventive service if they're provided by a primary care provider and take place in a primary care setting.</p> <p>All preventive services can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service.</p> <p><a href="#">Preventive Health Services and Procedures – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>
<b>Supervised Exercise Therapy (SET)</b>	<p>SET is covered for members who have symptomatic peripheral artery disease (PAD) and a referral for PAD from the physician responsible for PAD treatment.</p> <p>Up to 36 sessions over a 12-week period are covered if the SET program requirements are met.</p> <p>The SET program must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consist of sessions lasting 30–60 minutes, comprising a therapeutic exercise training program for PAD in patients with claudication</li> <li>• Be conducted in a hospital outpatient setting or a physician's office</li> <li>• Be delivered by qualified auxiliary personnel necessary to help ensure benefits exceed harms, and who are trained in exercise therapy for PAD</li> <li>• Be under the direct supervision of a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist who must be trained in both basic and advanced life support techniques</li> </ul> <p>SET may be covered beyond 36 sessions over 12 weeks for an additional 36 sessions over an extended period of time if deemed medically necessary by a health care provider.</p> <p>A copay or coinsurance applies per session.</p> <p><a href="#">Rehabilitation: Cardiac Rehabilitation Services (Outpatient) – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary</a></p>

Benefit	Copay and coinsurance guidelines
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**Vision Benefits**

Examinations for medical care, evaluation of a complaint or follow-up for an existing medical condition should be billed to the member's medical insurance plan.

Routine vision exams, screening for disease or updating prescriptions should be billed to the member's routine vision insurance benefit.

Medicare-covered vision

Medicare-covered, medically necessary vision care includes:

- Medical exams for non-screening diagnosis codes
- Glaucoma screening once per year for members at high risk of glaucoma, such as family history of glaucoma, diabetes, African-Americans (ages 50 and older) and Hispanic Americans (ages 65 and older). These can be provided any time during the calendar year in which the member is eligible to receive the service
- For people with diabetes or signs and symptoms of eye disease, eye exams to evaluate for eye disease
- For people with diabetes, screening for diabetic retinopathy is covered once per year:
  - Subject to cost sharing per the member's evidence of coverage. Cost sharing applies to this preventive service according to Medicare guidelines. However, many UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plans do not charge member cost sharing for this service. Separate cost sharing may apply to other services received during the same visit, including a medical or routine eye exam
- One standard pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses after each cataract surgery that includes insertion of an intraocular lens
- Corrective lenses or frames and replacements needed after a cataract removal without a lens implant

[Vision Services, Therapy and Rehabilitation – Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary](#)

Routine vision benefits (not available on all plans)

- Routine eye exam: Vision screening and vision refraction performed by an ophthalmologist or optometrist:
  - For members receiving vision screening services during an office visit, one copay applies
  - If vision refraction is performed in addition to vision screening during an office visit, only one copay applies

Limited to one exam every one or two years, depending on the member's benefits. Refer to the member's evidence of coverage for details

- Routine eye wear: Credit toward lenses and frames or contact lenses once every one or two years, depending on the member's plan, up to the allowed amount. Refer to the member's evidence of coverage for details