



UnitedHealth Premium[®] Overview



Not all health care is equal, and that can affect the care you receive. According to a study in The New England Journal of Medicine, “adults receive the recommended medical treatment only 55 percent of the time¹.” That’s why UnitedHealthcare developed UnitedHealth Premium, which evaluates physicians for effective quality care and efficient quality care.

No two doctors are alike, and you probably think about many factors when choosing a physician. We offer tools and information to help you make more confident health care decisions. When you’re looking for a doctor, you can consider their Premium designation when making your choice. Physicians may also use these designations when referring patients to other physicians.

Premium Care Physicians are featured in our medical care directories (including on myuhc.com) with the following icon and description. All other physicians have no designation display.



Premium Care Physician

This physician meets the UnitedHealth Premium quality care criteria which includes safe, timely, effective and efficient care.

The fact that a physician does not have a Premium Care Physician designation does not mean that the physician does not provide quality health care services. All physicians in the UnitedHealthcare Network have met certain minimum credentialing requirements (separate from UnitedHealth Premium).

If a physician practices in a specialty that is not evaluated by UnitedHealth Premium or does not have enough health plan claims data to be evaluated by UnitedHealth Premium, then no designation is given. Insufficient health plan claims data is not an indicator of the total number of patients treated by the physician, nor the number of procedures performed by the physician, but rather reflects the statistical requirements for evaluation by UnitedHealth Premium.

In markets where tiered benefit plans are available, employers may choose to offer their employees a tiered benefit plan, with a lower member cost share for using a subset of Premium Care Physicians.

UnitedHealth Premium evaluates nearly 400,000 physicians across most **states**² and several **specialties**.³

Use the link below to view frequently asked questions about UnitedHealth Premium:

- [UnitedHealth Premium Frequently Asked Questions](#)⁴

Use the link below to view the detailed methodology available to physicians, which includes information about the data, measures and statistical methods used to determine a physician's designation:

- [UnitedHealth Premium Detailed Methodology](#)⁵

If you would like to provide feedback on UnitedHealth Premium, please send an email to PremiumProgram@uhc.com.



Important Notes about UnitedHealth Premium

UnitedHealth Premium is a resource for informational purposes only. Designations are displayed in UnitedHealthcare online physician directories at myuhc.com[®]. You should always visit myuhc.com for the most current information. **Premium designations are a guide to choosing a physician and may be used as one of many factors you consider when choosing a physician. If you already have a physician, you may also wish to confer with them for advice on selecting other physicians. Physician evaluations have a risk of error and should not be the sole basis for selecting a physician.** Please visit myuhc.com for detailed UnitedHealth Premium information and methodologies.

¹Asch, Steven M. et al. The New England Journal of Medicine. 2006 March 16; 354: 1147-1156.

The following UnitedHealth Premium materials may be viewed directly by entering the full web address in your web browser address line:

²For UnitedHealth Premium[®] availability: prod.member.myuhc.com/content/dam/projects/myuhc-legacy/en/member/prelogin/pdf/geoaccess/Premium_Program_Availability.pdf

³For the UnitedHealth Premium list of 16 Premium specialties representing 45 credentialed specialties: prod.member.myuhc.com/content/dam/projects/myuhc-legacy/en/member/prelogin/pdf/geoaccess/Premium_Program_Specialty.pdf

⁴For Frequently Asked Questions on UnitedHealth Premium: prod.member.myuhc.com/content/dam/projects/myuhc-legacy/en/member/prelogin/pdf/geoaccess/UnitedHealth_Premium_Program_FAQ.pdf

⁵For details on the UnitedHealth Premium methodology, including information about the data, measures and statistical methods used to determine a physician's designation: unitedhealthpremium.uhc.com/papi/content/download/document/Premium-Methodology-V17.pdf