

# *UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of North Carolina* **Medical Policy Update Bulletin: March 2024**

Access a policy listed below for complete details on the latest updates. A comprehensive summary of changes is provided at the bottom of every policy document for your reference. To view a detailed version of this bulletin, click [here](#).

## **Medical Policy Updates**

<b>Policy Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Bariatric Surgery (for North Carolina Only)	Revised	May 1, 2024
Electrical Stimulation for the Treatment of Pain and Muscle Rehabilitation (for North Carolina Only)	Updated	May 1, 2024
Gastrointestinal Pathogen Nucleic Acid Detection Panel Testing for Infectious Diarrhea (for North Carolina Only)	Revised	May 1, 2024
Obstructive and Central Sleep Apnea Treatment (for North Carolina Only)	Revised	Mar. 1, 2024
Surgery of the Foot	Updated	Mar. 1, 2024
Transcatheter Heart Valve Procedures	Revised	May 1, 2024

## General Information

The inclusion of a health service (e.g., test, drug, device, or procedure) in this bulletin indicates only that UnitedHealthcare is adopting a new policy and/or updated, revised, replaced, or retired an existing policy; it does not imply that UnitedHealthcare provides coverage for the health service. Note that most benefit plan documents exclude from benefit coverage health services identified as investigational or unproven/not medically necessary. Physicians and other health care professionals may not seek or collect payment from a member for services not covered by the applicable benefit plan unless first obtaining the member's written consent, acknowledging that the service is not covered by the benefit plan and that they will be billed directly for the service.

**Note:** The absence of a policy does not automatically indicate or imply coverage. As always, coverage for a health service must be determined in accordance with the member's benefit plan and any applicable federal or state regulatory requirements. Additionally, UnitedHealthcare reserves the right to review the clinical evidence supporting the safety and effectiveness of a medical technology prior to rendering a coverage determination.

UnitedHealthcare respects the expertise of the physicians, health care professionals, and their staff who participate in our network. Our goal is to support you and your patients in making the most informed decisions regarding the choice of quality and cost-effective care, and to support practice staff with a simple and predictable administrative experience. The Medical Policy Update Bulletin was developed to share important information regarding changes to our Community Plan of North Carolina Medical Policies. When information in this bulletin conflicts with applicable state and/or federal law, UnitedHealthcare follows such applicable federal and/or state law.

## Policy Update Classifications

### *New*

New clinical coverage criteria have been adopted for a health service (e.g., test, drug, device, or procedure)

### *Updated*

An existing policy has been reviewed and changes have not been made to the clinical coverage criteria; however, items such as the clinical evidence, FDA information, and/or list(s) of applicable codes may have been updated

### *Revised*

An existing policy has been reviewed and revisions have been made to the clinical coverage criteria

### *Replaced*

An existing policy has been replaced with a new or different policy

### *Retired*

The health service(s) addressed in the policy are no longer being managed or are considered to be proven/medically necessary and are therefore not excluded as unproven/not medically necessary services, unless coverage guidelines or criteria are otherwise documented in another policy



The complete library of Medical Policies for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of North Carolina is available at [UHCprovider.com/NC](https://UHCprovider.com/NC) > Medicaid (Community Plan) > Current Policies and Clinical Guidelines > [UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of North Carolina Medical Policies.](#)