

Reporting social drivers of health with a standard flat file

You can help connect your patients to the right resources and support programs when you share social drivers of health (SDOH) screening data with us. A standard flat file contains data in a plain, unstructured format. Each line in the file typically represents a single record, and fields within each record are usually separated by a delimiter, such as a comma (CSV), tab (TSV) or pipes (|).



How we use the data

By sharing social drivers of health (SDOH) screening data with us in a standard flat file, you can help connect your patients, who are our members, to the right resources and support programs. UnitedHealthcare uses SDOH screening data to improve treatment planning by giving a more complete picture of your patient's social needs.

The SDOH screening data is added to our SDOH team database and used in several ways:

- It supports population health initiatives, and helps shape benefit development
- Case managers and customer service representatives use this data to help address our members SDOH needs and inform them about any available value-added benefits if eligible
- We report the data to the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) to meet HEDIS® reporting requirements, including the Social Needs Screening – Electronically (SNS-E) measure



Easily share the data you're already collecting

To streamline data sharing, we recommend using our standard Excel flat file format. Key information typically includes:

- Basic patient demographic data
- Date of service
- Assessment questions asked and responses given
- Interventions provided or referrals made
- Relevant SDOH ICD-10 codes that correspond to specific SDOH needs
- LOINC codes for standardized screenings

Example file image

Field Name	Sample Data
Service Provider	MyProviderGroup
Member Last Name	Smith
Member First Name	Darryl
Member Dob	19210101
Member Gender	M
Member Home Address	123 Main Street
Member Home City	Littletown
Member Home State	MN
Member Home Zip Code	55111
Source Specific Data	Source Specific Data
Member Card ID	95800409400
MBI	
Medicaid ID	
Medicaid State	
Service/Screening Date	20220301
Record Type	IDN
ICD Code	ZTRAN1
Member Phone 1	1234567890



Get started

For specific file format requirements and data submission guidance, please email [UnitedHealthcare SDOH & Community Impact Team](#).

We'll guide you through the set-up process so you can use standard flat file reporting as part of your normal business practice. Together, we can reduce barriers, improve health outcomes and help your patients live healthier, more fulfilling lives.

HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).