

2026 Episodes of Care Payment Appendix – Threshold updates

2026 UnitedHealthcare episode acceptable and commendable thresholds

The Episodes of Care Payment Appendix thresholds and gain-share limits are listed in the following table.

| | 2026 acceptable threshold | 2026 UnitedHealthcare commendable threshold | 2026 UnitedHealthcare gain-sharing limit |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|
| Wave 1 | | | |
| Perinatal | \$9,265 | \$6,258 | \$2,320 |
| Asthma acute exacerbation | \$1,265 | \$985 | \$169 |
| Total joint replacement | \$14,014 | \$9,337 | \$5,079 |
| Wave 2 | | | |
| COPD | \$3,308 | \$1,948 | \$354 |
| Colonoscopy | \$1,666 | \$827 | \$278 |
| Cholecystectomy | \$6,325 | \$3,944 | \$2,246 |
| Acute PCI | \$16,521 | \$10,991 | \$2,981 |
| Non-acute PCI | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Wave 3 | | | |
| GI hemorrhage | \$3,916 | \$2,668 | \$278 |
| EGD | \$1,731 | \$925 | \$291 |
| Respiratory infection | \$199 | \$105 | \$18 |
| Pneumonia | \$2,222 | \$1,522 | \$325 |
| UTI - outpatient | \$191 | \$99 | \$21 |
| UTI - inpatient | \$9,018 | \$5,120 | \$873 |

| | 2026 acceptable threshold | 2026 UnitedHealthcare commendable threshold | 2026 UnitedHealthcare gain-sharing limit |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Wave 4 | | | |
| ADHD | \$744 | \$297 | \$35 |
| ODD | \$1,296 | \$194 | \$12 |
| CHF | \$10,093 | \$4,675 | \$436 |
| CABG | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Valve repair and replacement | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Bariatric surgery | \$10,010 | \$3,606 | \$2,550 |
| Wave 5 | | | |
| Breast biopsy | \$2,211 | \$1,300 | \$579 |
| Otitis media | \$229 | \$121 | \$20 |
| Tonsillectomy | \$3,821 | \$1,878 | \$879 |
| Wave 6 | | | |
| Skin and soft tissue infection | \$416 | \$170 | \$10 |
| HIV | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Pancreatitis | \$8,888 | \$5,500 | \$826 |
| Diabetes acute exacerbation | \$6,811 | \$5,312 | \$1,453 |
| Wave 7 | | | |
| Spinal fusion | \$28,466 | \$14,228 | \$5,679 |
| Spinal decompression | \$9,598 | \$5,282 | \$3,120 |
| Femur/pelvic fracture | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Knee arthroscopy | \$5,525 | \$3,118 | \$1,636 |
| Non-operative ankle injury | \$457 | \$258 | \$38 |
| Non-operative wrist injury | \$517 | \$255 | \$33 |
| Non-operative shoulder injury | \$552 | \$245 | \$38 |
| Non-operative knee injury | \$591 | \$304 | \$37 |
| Back/neck pain | \$592 | \$316 | \$32 |



| | 2026 acceptable threshold | 2026 UnitedHealthcare commendable threshold | 2026 UnitedHealthcare gain-sharing limit |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Wave 8 | | | |
| Acute seizure | \$2,393 | \$1,475 | \$229 |
| Syncope | \$851 | \$301 | \$31 |
| Acute gastroenteritis | \$1,073 | \$751 | \$59 |
| Bronchiolitis | \$1,030 | \$745 | \$81 |
| Pediatric pneumonia | \$1,327 | \$958 | \$188 |
| Colposcopy | \$750 | \$358 | \$63 |
| Hysterectomy | \$8,584 | \$4,457 | \$2,656 |
| GI obstruction | \$10,507 | \$5,804 | \$1,015 |
| Appendectomy | \$7,309 | \$4,496 | \$1,480 |
| Hernia repair | \$5,572 | \$3,280 | \$1,644 |
| Wave 9 | | | |
| Cystourethroscopy | \$1,947 | \$847 | \$129 |
| Acute kidney and ureter stones | \$1,332 | \$871 | \$301 |