

## Endoscopy (NCD 100.2)

<b>Policy Number</b>	100.2	<b>Approved By</b>	UnitedHealthcare Medicare Reimbursement Policy Committee	<b>Current Approval Date</b>	04/23/2014
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### IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THIS REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

This policy is applicable to UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Plans offered by UnitedHealthcare and its affiliates.

You are responsible for submission of accurate claims. This reimbursement policy is intended to ensure that you are reimbursed based on the code or codes that correctly describe the health care services provided. UnitedHealthcare reimbursement policies use Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®\*), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), or other coding guidelines. References to CPT or other sources are for definitional purposes only and do not imply any right to reimbursement.

This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on CMS 1500 forms and, when specified, to those billed on UB04 forms (CMS 1450). Coding methodology, industry-standard reimbursement logic, regulatory requirements, benefits design and other factors are considered in developing reimbursement policy. This information is intended to serve only as a general resource regarding UnitedHealthcare’s reimbursement policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, UnitedHealthcare may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to health care services provided in a particular case. Further, the policy does not address all issues related to reimbursement for health care services provided to UnitedHealthcare enrollees. Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors may include, but are not limited to: legislative mandates, the physician or other provider contracts, and/or the enrollee’s benefit coverage documents. Finally, this policy may not be implemented exactly the same way on the different electronic claims processing systems used by UnitedHealthcare due to programming or other constraints; however, UnitedHealthcare strives to minimize these variations.

UnitedHealthcare may modify this reimbursement policy at any time by publishing a new version of the policy on this Website. However, the information presented in this policy is accurate and current as of the date of publication.

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### Application

This reimbursement policy applies to services reported using the Health Insurance Claim Form CMS-1500 or its electronic equivalent or its successor form, and services reported using facility claim form CMS-1450 or its electronic equivalent or its successor form. This policy applies to all products, all network and non-network physicians, and other health care professionals.

The HCPCS/CPT code(s) may be subject to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits. This policy does not take precedence over CCI edits. Please refer to the CCI for correct coding guidelines and specific applicable code

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combinations prior to billing UnitedHealthcare. It is not enough to link the procedure code to a correct, payable ICD-9-CM diagnosis code. The diagnosis must be present for the procedure to be paid. Compliance with the provisions in this policy is subject to monitoring by pre-payment review and/or post-payment data analysis and subsequent medical review. The effective date of changes/additions/deletions to this policy is the committee meeting date unless otherwise indicated. CPT codes and descriptions are copyright 2010 American Medical Association (or such other date of publication of CPT). All rights reserved. CPT is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. Applicable FARS/DFARS restrictions apply to Government use. Fee schedules, relative value units, conversion factors, and/or related components are not assigned by the AMA, are not part of CPT, and the AMA is not recommending their use. The AMA does not directly or indirectly practice medicine or dispense medical services. The AMA assumes no liability for data contained or not contained herein. Current Dental Terminology (CDT), including procedure codes, nomenclature, descriptors, and other data contained therein, is copyright by the American Dental Association, 2002, 2004. All rights reserved. CDT is a registered trademark of the American Dental Association. Applicable FARS/DFARS apply.

### Summary

#### Overview

Endoscopy is a technique in which a long flexible tube-like instrument is inserted into the body orally or rectally, permitting visual inspection of the gastrointestinal tract. Although primarily a diagnostic tool, endoscopy includes certain therapeutic procedures such as removal of polyps, and endoscopic papillotomy, by which stones are removed from the bile duct.

#### Reimbursement Guidelines

Endoscopic procedures are covered when reasonable and necessary for the individual patient.

### CPT/HCPCS Codes

Code	Description
43191	Esophagoscopy, rigid, transoral; diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing when performed (separate procedure)
43192	Esophagoscopy, rigid, transoral; with directed submucosal injection(s), any substance
43193	Esophagoscopy, rigid, transoral; with biopsy, single or multiple
43194	Esophagoscopy, rigid, transoral; with removal of foreign body
43195	Esophagoscopy, rigid, transoral; with balloon dilation (less than 30 mm diameter)
43196	Esophagoscopy, rigid, transoral; with insertion of guide wire followed by dilation over guide wire
43200	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, when performed (separate procedure)
43201	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with directed submucosal injection(s), any substance
43202	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with biopsy, single or multiple
43204	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with injection sclerosis of esophageal varices Injection Sclerotherapy for Esophageal Variceal Bleeding (NCD 100.10)
43205	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with band ligation of esophageal varices
43206	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with optical endomicroscopy
43211	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic mucosal resection
43212	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with placement of endoscopic stent (includes pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed)
43213	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with dilation of esophagus, by balloon or dilator, retrograde (includes fluoroscopic guidance, when performed)
43214	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with dilation of esophagus with balloon (30 mm diameter or larger) (includes fluoroscopic guidance, when performed)
43215	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of foreign body

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43216	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery
43217	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by snare technique
43219	Esophagoscopy, rigid or flexible; with insertion of plastic tube or stent (expired 12/31/2013-see 43212 for reporting)
43220	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic balloon dilation (less than 30 mm diameter)
43226	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with insertion of guide wire followed by passage of dilator(s) over guide wire
43227	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with control of bleeding, any method
43228	Esophagoscopy, rigid or flexible; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s), not amenable to removal by hot biopsy forceps, bipolar cautery or snare technique (expired 12/31/2013-see 43229 for reporting)
43229	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) (includes pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed)
43231	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic ultrasound examination
43232	Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic ultrasound-guided intramural or transmural fine needle aspiration/biopsy(s)
43233	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with dilation of esophagus with balloon (30 mm diameter or larger) (includes fluoroscopic guidance, when performed)
43234	Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy, simple primary examination (eg, with small diameter flexible endoscope) (separate procedure) (expired 12/31/2013-see 43235 for reporting)
43235	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, when performed (separate procedure)
43236	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with directed submucosal injection(s), any substance
43237	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic ultrasound examination limited to the esophagus, stomach or duodenum, and adjacent structures
43238	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic ultrasound-guided intramural or transmural fine needle aspiration/biopsy(s), (includes endoscopic ultrasound examination limited to the esophagus, stomach or duodenum, and adjacent structures)
43239	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with biopsy, single or multiple
43240	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transmural drainage of pseudocyst (includes placement of transmural drainage catheter[s]/stent[s], when performed, and endoscopic ultrasound, when performed)
43241	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with insertion of intraluminal tube or catheter
43242	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic ultrasound-guided intramural or transmural fine needle aspiration/biopsy(s) (includes endoscopic ultrasound examination of the esophagus, stomach, and either the duodenum or a surgically altered stomach where the jejunum is examined distal to the anastomosis)
43243	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with injection sclerosis of esophageal/gastric varices Injection Sclerotherapy for Esophageal Variceal Bleeding (NCD 100.10)
43244	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with band ligation of esophageal/gastric varices
43245	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with dilation of gastric/duodenal stricture(s) (eg, balloon, bougie)

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43246	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with directed placement of percutaneous gastrostomy tube
43247	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of foreign body
43248	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with insertion of guide wire followed by passage of dilator(s) through esophagus over guide wire
43249	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic balloon dilation of esophagus (less than 30 mm diameter)
43250	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery
43251	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by snare technique
43252	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with optical endomicroscopy
43253	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic ultrasound-guided transmural injection of diagnostic or therapeutic substance(s) (eg, anesthetic, neurolytic agent) or fiducial marker(s) (includes endoscopic ultrasound examination of the esophagus, stomach, and either the duodenum or a surgically altered stomach where the jejunum is examined distal to the anastomosis)
43254	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic mucosal resection
43255	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with control of bleeding, any method
43256	Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy including esophagus, stomach, and either the duodenum and/or jejunum as appropriate; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation) (expired 12/31/2013-see 43266 for reporting)
43257	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with delivery of thermal energy to the muscle of lower esophageal sphincter and/or gastric cardia, for treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease
43258	Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy including esophagus, stomach, and either the duodenum and/or jejunum as appropriate; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) not amenable to removal by hot biopsy forceps, bipolar cautery or snare technique (expired 12/31/2013-see 43270 for reporting)
43259	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic ultrasound examination, including the esophagus, stomach, and either the duodenum or a surgically altered stomach where the jejunum is examined distal to the anastomosis
43260	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, when performed (separate procedure)
43261	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with biopsy, single or multiple
43262	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with sphincterotomy/papillotomy
43263	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with pressure measurement of sphincter of Oddi
43264	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal of calculi/debris from biliary/pancreatic duct(s)
43265	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with destruction of calculi, any method (eg, mechanical, electrohydraulic, lithotripsy)
43266	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with placement of endoscopic stent (includes pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed)
43267	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with endoscopic retrograde insertion of nasobiliary or nasopancreatic drainage tube (expired 12/31/2013-see 43274 for reporting)

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43268	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with endoscopic retrograde insertion of tube or stent into bile or pancreatic duct (expired 12/31/2013-see 43274 for reporting)
43269	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with endoscopic retrograde removal of foreign body and/or change of tube or stent (expired 12/31/2013-see 43275 and 43276 for reporting)
43270	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) (includes pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed) (expired 12/31/2013-see 43277 for reporting)
43271	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with endoscopic retrograde balloon dilation of ampulla, biliary and/or pancreatic duct(s) (expired 12/31/2013-see 43278 for reporting)
43272	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) not amenable to removal by hot biopsy forceps, bipolar cautery or snare technique (expired 12/31/2013-see 43278 for reporting)
43273	Endoscopic cannulation of papilla with direct visualization of pancreatic/common bile duct(s) (List separately in addition to code(s) for primary procedure)
43274	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with placement of endoscopic stent into biliary or pancreatic duct, including pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed, including sphincterotomy, when performed, each stent
43275	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal of foreign body(s) or stent(s) from biliary/pancreatic duct(s)
43276	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal and exchange of stent(s), biliary or pancreatic duct, including pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed, including sphincterotomy, when performed, each stent exchanged
43277	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with trans-endoscopic balloon dilation of biliary/pancreatic duct(s) or of ampulla (sphincteroplasty), including sphincterotomy, when performed, each duct
43278	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s), including pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed
44360	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)
44361	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with biopsy, single or multiple
44363	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with removal of foreign body
44364	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by snare technique
44365	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery
44366	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with control of bleeding (eg, injection, bipolar cautery, unipolar cautery, laser, heater probe, stapler, plasma coagulator)
44369	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) not amenable to removal by hot biopsy forceps, bipolar cautery or snare technique

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44370	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation)
44372	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with placement of percutaneous jejunostomy tube
44373	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with conversion of percutaneous gastrostomy tube to percutaneous jejunostomy tube
44376	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, including ileum; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)
44377	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, including ileum; with biopsy, single or multiple
44378	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, including ileum; with control of bleeding (eg, injection, bipolar cautery, unipolar cautery, laser, heater probe, stapler, plasma coagulator)
44379	Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, including ileum; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation)
44380	Ileoscopy, through stoma; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)
44382	Ileoscopy, through stoma; with biopsy, single or multiple
44383	Ileoscopy, through stoma; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation)
44385	Endoscopic evaluation of small intestinal (abdominal or pelvic) pouch; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)
44386	Endoscopic evaluation of small intestinal (abdominal or pelvic) pouch; with biopsy, single or multiple

### References Included (but not limited to):

**CMS NCD**

NCD 100.2 Endoscopy

**CMS LCD(s)**

Numerous LCDs

**CMS Article(s)**

Numerous Articles

**CMS Claims Processing Manual**

Chapter 12; § 30.1 Digestive System (Codes 40000 – 49999)

**UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summaries**

Gastroesophageal and Gastrointestinal (GI) Services and Procedures

**UnitedHealthcare Medical Policies**

Endoscopic Therapies For Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

### History

Date	Revisions
09/09/2014	Removed liability modifier references
04/23/2014	Annual review
05/08/2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual review</li> <li>• MRP Committee approved</li> </ul>
04/11/2012	NCD Committee approved