

## **UHC Updates Physician Roster for its Premium Designation Program**

On April 1, 2009, UnitedHealthcare posted an updated list of physicians that meet the criteria for its Premium Physician Designation Program on its website. The insurer has added providers who met the programs' requirements and removed the names of those who did not continue to meet the criteria.

The UnitedHealth Premium® physician designation program evaluates physicians using claims data and measures the quality of care, sequencing of care, procedural effectiveness, and compliance with guidelines. Additionally, the program analyzes the physician's cost efficiency. It provides specific criteria for cardiologists including non-interventional, interventional, cardiothoracic surgery, and electrophysiology. The physician must achieve both the quality and cost efficiency designation to be included in the program.

Inclusion in the UnitedHealth Premium® Physician Designation exempts the physician from the UHC Radiology prior notification protocol for advanced diagnostic imaging procedures: CT, MRI, PET, and Nuclear Medicine/Cardiology.

The American College of Cardiology strongly encourages its members to carefully review their designations and appeal any inconsistent and inaccurate data. Physicians may review this information on the UHC Website: <http://UnitedHealthcareOnline.com> and click on *View Your UnitedHealth Premium Assessment Report*. These reports show which treatments or services were reviewed against practice guidelines. By conducting a review of the patients' charts and billing records, the physician can determine if there are any discrepancies between the care provided and the data used for assessment.

If reconsideration is necessary it is important to make corrections or changes to the report and provide comments on the patient detail report. This can be done by following the instructions on the Physician Designation Reconsideration section. This is located at: [UnitedHealthcareonline.com](http://UnitedHealthcareonline.com) > Clinician Resources > UnitedHealth Premium > UnitedHealth Premium Physician Designation > Physician Designation Reconsideration.

For additional questions on the UHC Premium Designation Program, feel free to contact UHC via phone: (866) 270-5588, email: [unitedpremium@uhc.com](mailto:unitedpremium@uhc.com) or web site: [www.UnitedHealthcareOnline.com](http://www.UnitedHealthcareOnline.com) > Clinician Resources > UnitedHealth Premium

The ACC is tracking member complaints or problems regarding this program and following up with the insurer. Please let us know your problem by calling Henry McCants at 800-435-9203 or logging it on the ACC Payer Hassle Form at [http://www.acc.org/advocacy/pmr/payer\\_advocacy.htm](http://www.acc.org/advocacy/pmr/payer_advocacy.htm).

The ACC does not endorse this physician designation program.