
42 C.F.R. § 422.137

Medicare Advantage Utilization Management Committee.

- (a) *General.* An MA organization that uses utilization management (UM) policies and procedures, including prior authorization (PA), must establish a UM committee that is led by a plan's medical director (described in § 422.562(a)(4)).
- (b) *Limit on use of UM policies and procedures.* An MA plan may not use any UM policies and procedures for basic or supplemental benefits on or after January 1, 2024 unless those policies and procedures have been reviewed and approved by the UM committee.
- (c) *Utilization Management Committee Composition.* The UM committee must—
- (1) Include a majority of members who are practicing physicians.
 - (2) Include at least one practicing physician who is independent and free of conflict relative to the MA organization and MA plan.
 - (3) Include at least one practicing physician who is an expert regarding care of elderly or disabled individuals.
 - (4) Include members representing various clinical specialties (for example, primary care, behavioral health) to ensure that a wide range conditions are adequately considered in the development of the MA plan's utilization management policies.
 - (5) Beginning January 1, 2025, include at least one member with expertise in health equity. Expertise in health equity includes educational degrees or credentials with an emphasis on health equity; experience conducting studies identifying disparities amongst different population groups; experience leading organization-wide policies, programs, or services to achieve health equity; or experience leading advocacy efforts to achieve health equity.

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