



Ulcerative Colitis

Ulcerative colitis is a recurrent inflammation of the colorectum. It is characterized by bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever, anemia and weakness. It usually develops between the ages of 25 - 45 and 10 - 15% of cases have a family history of this disease. Inflammation limited to the rectum (ulcerative proctitis) is a more mild form of the disease when compared to inflammation of the entire colon. Those with ulcerative colitis have a higher incidence of colon cancer, especially if the disease has been present for more than 10 years. Regular checkups with colonoscopy are important. Treatment may include anti-diarrheal agents, 5-ASA compounds such as sulfasalazine, corticosteroids, immunosuppressive agents, or surgery. A total colectomy (removal of entire colon with or without colostomy) is curative.

Underwriting considerations for unoperated ulcerative colitis:

Unoperated, Time Since Diagnosis	
<6 months from diagnosis and/or any severe episode	Postpone
>6 mos - 2 yrs from diagnosis or any severe episode	Table B to C Higher rating is for pancolitis (involvement of the entire colon)
>2 years	Table B*
Single episode of ulcerative colitis >10 years ago and no medications for 5 years	Not Rated
Two severe episodes in the past year or 3 severe episodes in the past 2 years	Table F
Others, evidence of sclerosing cholangitis or dysplasia on biopsy	Decline

- One table credit if no significant episode and no medication except 5-ASA compounds for five years, colonoscopy within 2 years, and current normal LFT's.
- Additional one table debit for daily oral steroids (<10 mg Prednisone)

If a total colectomy was done and there were no complications, standard consideration is possible 6-month after surgery. Complications may include repeated surgery, weight loss, or other system involvement (such as sclerosing cholangitis) and lead to a higher rating or a decline depending on the severity of the complication. Surgery other than a total colectomy will be viewed by the unoperated schedule above.

Underwriting considerations for ulcerative proctitis:

Within one year of diagnosis	Table B
Thereafter if on daily oral steroids < 10mg prednisone	Table B
If on daily oral Steroids more than 10mg a day	Rated as ulcerative colitis
Otther	Nonrated

To get an idea of how a client with a history of ulcerative colitis disease would be viewed in the underwriting process, feel free to use the Ask "Rx" pert underwriter on the reverse side for an informal quote.

This material is intended for insurance informational purposes only and is not personal medical advice for clients.

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**Ulcerative Colitis - Ask "Rx" pert underwriter
(ask our experts)**

Producer _____ Phone _____ Fax _____

Client _____ Age/DOB _____ Sex _____

If your client has a history of Ulcerative Colitis, please answer the following:

1. Please list date of first diagnosis _____

2. Please note the type of inflammatory bowel disease present:

- Chronic Ulcerative Colitis
- Chronic Proctitis (inflammation in rectum only)

3. Is your client on any medications?

- yes, please give details _____
- no

4. Please check if your client has had:

- hospitalizations for this disorder (list dates) _____
- surgery for this disorder (list dates) _____
- colonoscopy (list dates of most recent) _____

5. Please note client's build:

Height _____ Weight _____

6. Has your client smoked cigarettes in the last 12 months?

- yes
- no

7. Does your client have any other major health problems (ex: heart disease, etc.)?

- yes, please give details _____
- no

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